



SUMMER SEARCH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUMMER SEARCH TEAMS UP WITH CHRIS LONG, THE PHILADELPHIA EAGLES, AND MICHELLE OBAMA'S REACH HIGHER/BETTER MAKE ROOM INITIATIVE

January 17, 2018 – Today, The Chris Long Foundation and the Philadelphia Eagles have teamed up with former First Lady Michelle Obama's Reach Higher/Better Make Room initiatives and Summer Search, a youth development nonprofit, in support of FAFSA applications and college readiness.

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Student Aid, and it can be hard and intimidating to complete unless students are supported with the right help. Sometimes that's parents, sometimes it's a teacher or counselor, but the problem is, there are some communities with fewer resources, and students don't know how to complete the form, or where to start. This is especially magnified if they are the first in their family to attend college.

In fact, every year, millions of free federal aid dollars for college are left untouched, simply because students don't apply for it. Furthermore, students that complete their FAFSA and get financial aid are much more likely to attend college than those who don't.

That's why The Chris Long Foundation and the Philadelphia Eagles have teamed up with Reach Higher and Summer Search to help students apply for their FAFSA. The goal of their partnership is to help college aspiring students from low-income backgrounds across the nation to apply to college, get the financial aid they need, and find the support they need to graduate.

[Here's a video](#) where students can learn a little more about the partnership, and get on track for college success.



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Also, Reach Higher/Better Make Room has made it easy to apply on their site at bettermakeroom.org. Click on Up Next to learn how to sign up to get help on applying, receiving tips via text messages, and links to the FAFSA. Or, simply visit the FAFSA site to get started.

About Reach Higher & Better Make Room

Launched from the Obama White House in 2013, Reach Higher is former First Lady Michelle Obama's effort to inspire every student in the U.S. to take charge of their future by completing their education past high school, whether at a professional training program, a community college, or a four-year college or university. In 2015, Reach Higher launched Better Make Room, its student-facing campaign designed to reach students where they're at through social media, events such as College Signing Day, the Beating the Odds Summit, and Up Next, a free college access tool designed to notify students and their advisors on all things related to college. Visit www.bettermakeroom.org to learn more about Mrs. Obama's college access and completion work.

About the Philadelphia Eagles and Eagles Care

The Eagles Care program, built off of the belief that strong non-profits build strong communities, connects the team with local charitable organizations that specialize in various focus areas in the Greater Philadelphia region. Through these season-long strategic partnerships, the Eagles devote their attention, support and resources to each non-profit to ensure that their impact on the community is being enhanced and strengthened. The Eagles Care network has seen exponential growth thanks in large part to the positive results it has had on the region. At the end of the season, each non-profit partner becomes an extension of the Eagles Care family where they continue to work closely with the Eagles on community outreach events, while utilizing their newfound strengths to assist future Eagles Care partners. For more information, visit www.PhiladelphiaEagles.com/community.

About The Chris Long Foundation

The mission of The Chris Long Foundation is to support bright futures for communities and the individuals that make up those communities. We believe borders do not limit caring about our fellow neighbors. We engage in both international and domestic programs focused around clean water, military appreciation, homelessness and youth. Our programs strive to generate impactful results by creating opportunities and providing resources, financial support and meaningful experiences to those we serve. Visit www.chrislongfoundation.org to find out more about the foundation's work.

About Summer Search

Summer Search is a national youth development and college success organization dedicated to creating greater equity by increasing the number of students from low-income backgrounds who successfully enter and complete college. We provide high school and college students with developmental opportunities and resources to strengthen their college-going identities and readiness to become first-generation college graduates and socially responsible leaders. Learn more at summersearch.org.