What: **Funders Initiative** – The CDF Freedom Schools® Funders Initiative is an intensive, one-day professional development and outreach seminar designed to provide investors, philanthropists, social entrepreneurs, K-12 educators, community organizers, members of the business community, and CDF Freedom Schools program alumni with an opportunity to evaluate this dynamic program, and strategize how to seed and sustain it in local communities throughout the country. *This event will prepare organizations, institutions, and individuals interested in sponsoring the CDF Freedom Schools program to plan, fund, implement, and sustain this innovative educational enrichment program that is changing the lives of children throughout the country.* Special emphasis will be placed on public-private community partnerships, resource and relationship development, and long-term strategic planning around program sustainability. Participants will learn about various components of the CDF Freedom Schools program, visit CDF Haley Farm, and engage dynamic speakers on the subjects of social entrepreneurship and how to build successful partnerships between families, communities, schools, and diverse stakeholders in education. Participants will also have an opportunity to hear Marian Wright Edelman, Founder and President of CDF, speak about the role of children and youth as agents of change. Ultimately, the Funders Initiative will encourage, equip, and empower participants to become leaders in the CDF Freedom Schools movement. Please join us in Knoxville, TN as we explore the CDF Freedom Schools program together.

When: Thursday, June 6, 2013. The **Online Registration Deadline** for this event is Monday, May 20, 2013. **Register online at** [www.tinyurl.com/CDFFundersInitiative](http://www.tinyurl.com/CDFFundersInitiative). **Online registration must be submitted by May 20** to ensure your participation.

Where: CDF Haley Farm, the Sheraton Hotel and the Knoxville Convention Center (KCC) in **Knoxville, TN**.

Who: **CDF Freedom Schools** alumni, philanthropists, investors, educators, business leaders, educational institutions, community organizers, social entrepreneurs, community development stakeholders.

Costs: All participants must cover the costs of their own travel and accommodations. The **CDF Freedom Schools** program will provide participants with breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Thursday, June 6, 2013. We will also provide ground transportation to and from the airport, and all local destinations included in the program agenda. **We strongly encourage participants to reserve hotel accommodations at the Holiday Inn of Downtown Knoxville World’s Fair Park.** A limited number of rooms have been allocated for program participants. Please contact the Holiday Inn to book your reservations today, and identify yourself as a “CDF Funders Participant.” Holiday Inn Knoxville Downtown Fair Park - (865) 522-2800.

Features: After attending the **CDF Freedom Schools Funders Initiative** interest meeting, participants will:

- Comprehend the dynamism, scope, and **positive impact** of CDF Freedom Schools on **student achievement**.
- Be **equipped and prepared** to seed and sustain **CDF Freedom Schools** programs in their local communities.
- Serve as a resource for colleagues and peers who are interested in **sponsoring local programs**.
- Lead potential funders and community stakeholders in the development of **strategic partnerships**.
- Be able to design and implement a strategic plan for **program development and sustainability**.
- Understand the **history** of the **CDF Freedom Schools** program in relationship to **the Civil Rights Movements**.

**Thank you** for your interest in the **CDF Freedom Schools** program. Please contact **Ms. Dana Hall** for more information about how to **register** for the 2013 **CDF Freedom Schools Funders Initiative**.