



Horizons Atlanta

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



**HORIZONS
ATLANTA**

Inspiring Minds • Building Community • Transforming Lives

2017: A YEAR OF GROWTH

Dear Friends, Families, and Supporters,

At Horizons Atlanta, we have a laser-like focus on ensuring all students have access to the high-quality educational and enrichment opportunities they need to lead lives of choice and purpose. 2017 was an incredible year of growth and improvement for Horizons, and on behalf of our more than 650 students, I am pleased to share our achievements with you.

As one regional network of Horizons programs, we cast 2017 as one of phenomenal growth. We launched two high school programs which means, for the first time ever, we enrolled a class of students who will have a complete K-12th pipeline of summer learning opportunities. We added a ninth program site in partnership with Purpose Built Schools. And we continued our organic growth by adding grade levels at seven of our existing sites. More important, our students showed tremendous growth academically, gaining months' of skill in reading and math-- and we are so proud of their outstanding efforts.

We continued to leverage our network's best leadership and program practices to show improved results. We introduced new tools to better our performance management, communication, operations, and engagement practices. We think--and hope you agree-- that our sustainers and advocates became involved in more meaningful opportunities than ever before. We're excited to see where this takes us in 2018 and beyond.

As we celebrate the successes of our year, we do so knowing that our greatest impact is ahead of us as our students today move closer to building a better tomorrow for us all. And we do so knowing that it wouldn't be possible without you. Thank you for your continued belief in us, and for making our mission yours.

With gratitude,



John F. Brock



John F. Brock, Board Chair

Mission

Horizons Atlanta believes that every child in Atlanta, regardless of their background, should have the same chance at making a positive impact on his or her community. We provide this opportunity by eliminating the critical barriers to success that many of our children face, thus putting them on a path to:

- Read proficiently by the end of third grade
- Graduate from high school
- Receive higher education and
- Become globally competitive professionals.

Model

We accomplish this by providing a tuition-free summer learning program and complementary school year activities. Horizons' educational model combines academics with arts, sports, and cultural enrichment – a combination that has been confirmed by extensive research as the most effective approach to summer learning programs addressing the opportunity gap. Plus, every child learns to swim!

Vision

Horizons Atlanta will become the region's leading organization in innovative instructional practices and program development of summer learning for economically disadvantaged students.



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OUR WORK



Horizons Atlanta is a network of transformational, community-centered, educational programs proven to close the opportunity gap. Our students attend a six-week summer program on the campuses of independent schools, colleges and universities, and receive additional support throughout the year. In small classes led by professional educators, students dive into curricula with a focus on literacy, STEAM and Project-Based Learning. Swimming and other enrichment activities break down barriers to success and expose children to new opportunities.

Students join the summer after Kindergarten and return each year through the summer after 8th grade. Our target population consists of children in underserved communities across Metro Atlanta. While students from these areas typically experience 2-3 months of learning loss during the summer, a summer with Horizons leads to 2-3 months of growth.

Horizons Atlanta was established in 2013 as its own 501c3 as part of Horizons National's Community Focused Expansion initiative. Since then, we have grown from two sites to nine – making us the largest concentration of Horizons programs in the country.



OUR 2017 IMPACT

660

Students served in
summer 2017

9

Host Institutions
across metro Atlanta

Welcome Purpose Built Schools!

We're excited to announce our newest collaboration with Purpose Built Schools, who joined us as our ninth site in Summer 2017.

The program was designed to serve students from the Thomasville Heights neighborhood. Taking the lead as site director is LaVasia Bullard, a former Atlanta Public School's Teacher of the Year. Purpose Built Schools celebrated an accelerated program launch with 46 students across three grades.

98% of students
qualify for Free and
Reduced Lunch

93%

average daily student
attendance

81%

Student retention
from Summer 2017



HOLY INNOCENTS'
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

WOODWARD
ACADEMY
ESTABLISHED 1900

Georgia
Tech



ATLANTA
TECHNICAL
COLLEGE



CLARK ATLANTA
UNIVERSITY



GeorgiaState
University



PURPOSE
BUILT
SCHOOLS
Innovating schools. Inspiring minds.

WATCH US GROW

Horizons programs effectively address the achievement and opportunity gaps between low-income students and their more economically advantaged peers by engaging students throughout their primary and secondary school years, teaching skills needed to succeed in school, and exposing students to a full-spectrum of life opportunities.

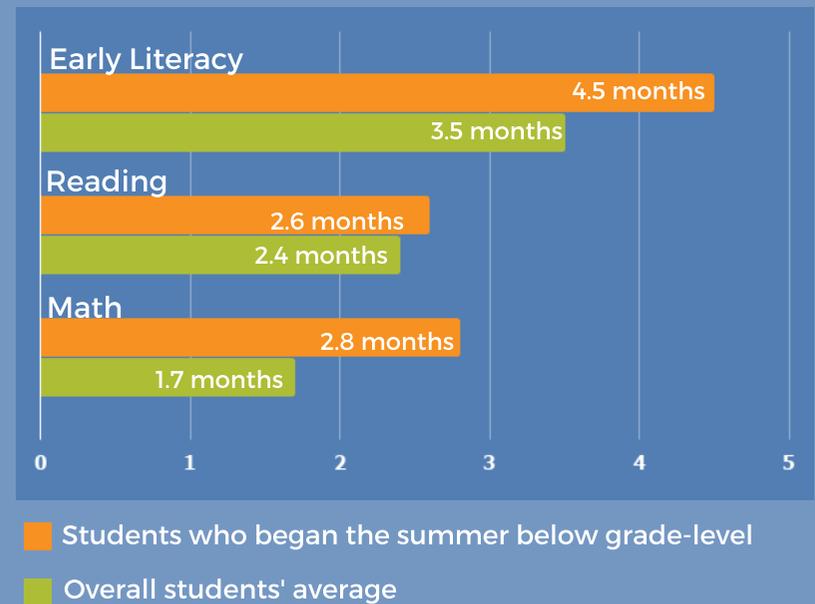
3rd Grade Reading Proficiency

Research shows that children who can't read proficiently by the end of third grade are more likely to experience poor health, have discipline problems, become teen parents, and drop out of high school. As adults, they're more likely to spend time in prison, struggle with unemployment, and face shorter life expectancy.

But Horizons is changing that!

We're excited to report that in Summer 2017, our rising 4th grade students progressed to achieve grade level reading proficiency! On average Horizons Atlanta began the summer at a 3.5 grade level equivalency and ended at 3.9-- hitting the mark for 3rd grade reading proficiency and readiness for 4th grade!

2017 Average Monthly Growth Over
Our Six-week Program



HORIZONS HIGH SCHOOL

A FULL K-12 CONTINUUM

Horizons at Georgia Tech launched its high school program this summer, officially marking the start of Horizons Atlanta's full K-12 continuum. The graduating class of 8th grade students stayed on into their 9th grade fall semester and began a monthly program which consists of academic and life skills mentoring from current Georgia Tech students. The program will include a summer component focused on servant leadership, college applications, financial aid, and study skills.

BROADER HORIZONS

This summer, Horizons at Holy Innocents' Episcopal School conducted its first high school program. Eight 9-12th grade Horizons alumni came back to campus for a week of programming focused on college visits and advanced topics, like writing and technology. The program was a resounding success and will be replicated in 2018 and expanded to two weeks. The design and implementation was led by Emily Hannan, a HIES high school Horizons volunteer!

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

SPRING TRAINING

Every year, teachers and staff from all Horizons Atlanta sites gather at Georgia Tech for a full day of professional development. This year, more than 100 individuals engaged with one another in breakout sessions tailored to the various Horizons core focus areas like project-based learning and STEAM. A special highlight in 2017 was an inspiring keynote speech from Ron Clark Academy's co-founder Kim Bearden, member of the National Teachers Hall of Fame.

SWIM COMPETITION

Rising 4th graders from six of our programs competed against one another in our annual summer swim meet at Woodward Academy. Students loved showing off their skills and cheering on their classmates. Afterwards, students enjoyed playing with one another at a nearby park where they shared lunch, popsicles, and summer memories to last forever.



All about
ME

NAME
Terrence Brown

PETS
Fish

HOBBIES
I rug track.




favorite CANDY
Starburst


favorite MOVIE/TV show
Cars 3

FAMILY: how many?
Brothers 0
Sisters 1
Are you the oldest, youngest or middle
youngest

favorite PLACE
home


favorite COLOR


favorite MUSIC
rap


your BIRTHDAY
October 19 2009


favorite BOOKS to read
Fit girl


favorite VACATION
Panama city


favorite SUBJECT in school
math


favorite FOOD
chicken
at fredo


SPONSOR A STUDENT



WELCOME TO THE CLUB!

The Horizons Atlanta 100% Club was designed for donors interested in developing a benefactor relationship with one or more students by making a strong personal commitment of support. Donors who participate in the 100% Club are matched to a Horizons student and commit to funding their summer experience at an annual cost of \$2,500, the average per student cost of our signature six-week program.

Through their sponsorship of \$2,500 or more, 100% Club members

- Have a lasting impact on one or more of our students, sponsoring 100% of program costs for a six-week summer learning experience that can't be replicated elsewhere
- Help us reach our goal of 100% of students reading proficiently by the end of 3rd grade, graduating high school, receiving higher education, and competing in a global economy
- **Make a statement to the community that 100% of students matter.**

100% Club Founding Members

Chairman's Circle

Tom & Jennifer Bell
John & Mary Brock
Pat & Lindsey Carroll
Pete & Ada Lee Correll

Duncan & Jennifer O'Brien
John and Kay Parker
Jim & Stacy Scott
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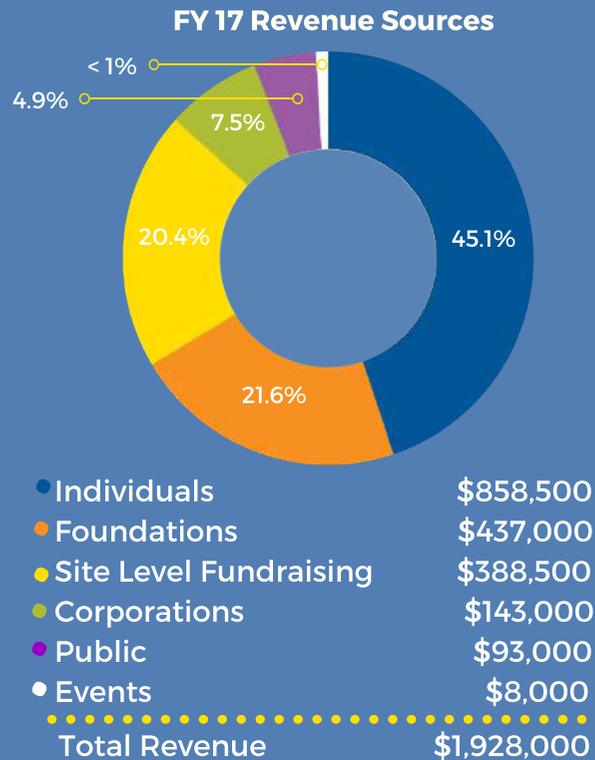
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United Way of Greater Atlanta
WellsFargo Foundation
Woodward Academy
Zeist Foundation



Funding provided in part by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners under the guidance of the Department of Housing and Community Development CSP Program

2017 FINANCIALS

Horizons Atlanta is proud to offer our programs to families tuition free. We are funded through registration fees of no more than \$50/student and a mix of philanthropic support from individuals, corporations, foundations, civic organizations, and local public grants. Additionally, Horizons Atlanta relies on our partner host institutions to provide their campuses to us in-kind and fundraise a portion of their program's operating budget each year.



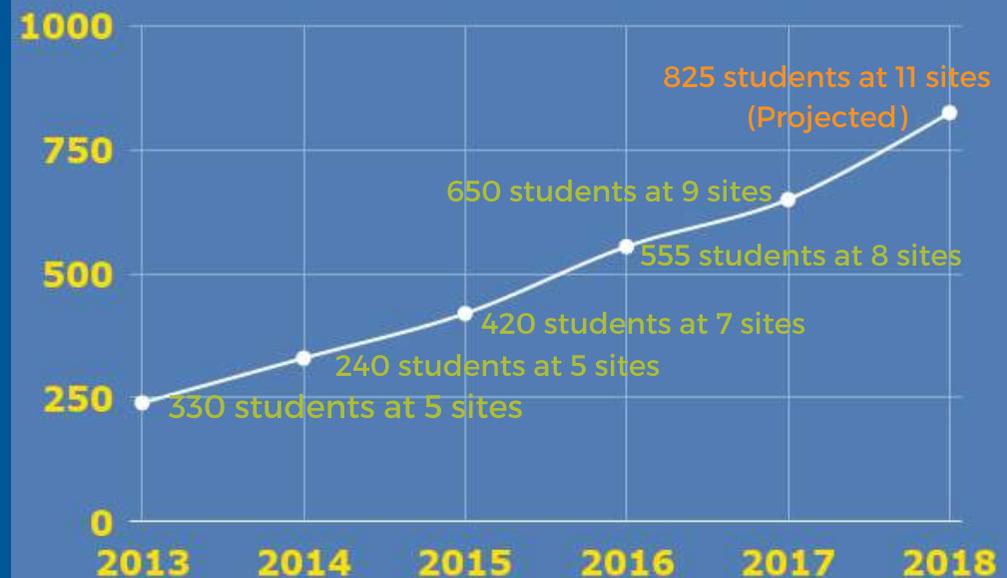
We are excited to present a new way to communicate about the true costs of our summer learning programs and the vital importance of strong organizational infrastructure. The True Program Costs diagram demonstrates how our Core Mission Support Functions--strategic financial functions, good governance, and the development of key funding partnerships-- are vital to a strong, sustainable organization. The growth and effectiveness of our mission work depends on having a solid core at the center of what we do. We're grateful for our supporters who invest not only in our students, but also in our infrastructure.

Revenue and expenses presented are a pre-audit version

EXPANDING HORIZONS

Our model is one that promotes growth. 2017 captured that perfectly as we both added a new site, Horizons with Purpose Built Schools, and grew organically as most of our program sites added a new grade level on their way to full K-8 program maturity.

In addition to growth in our core program serving the elementary and middle grades, Horizons Atlanta is growing strategically as we add a high school program component to select sites. As you can see, our impact across Atlanta is deepening each year, allowing us to expand horizons for more deserving students.





MEET OUR SITE DIRECTORS

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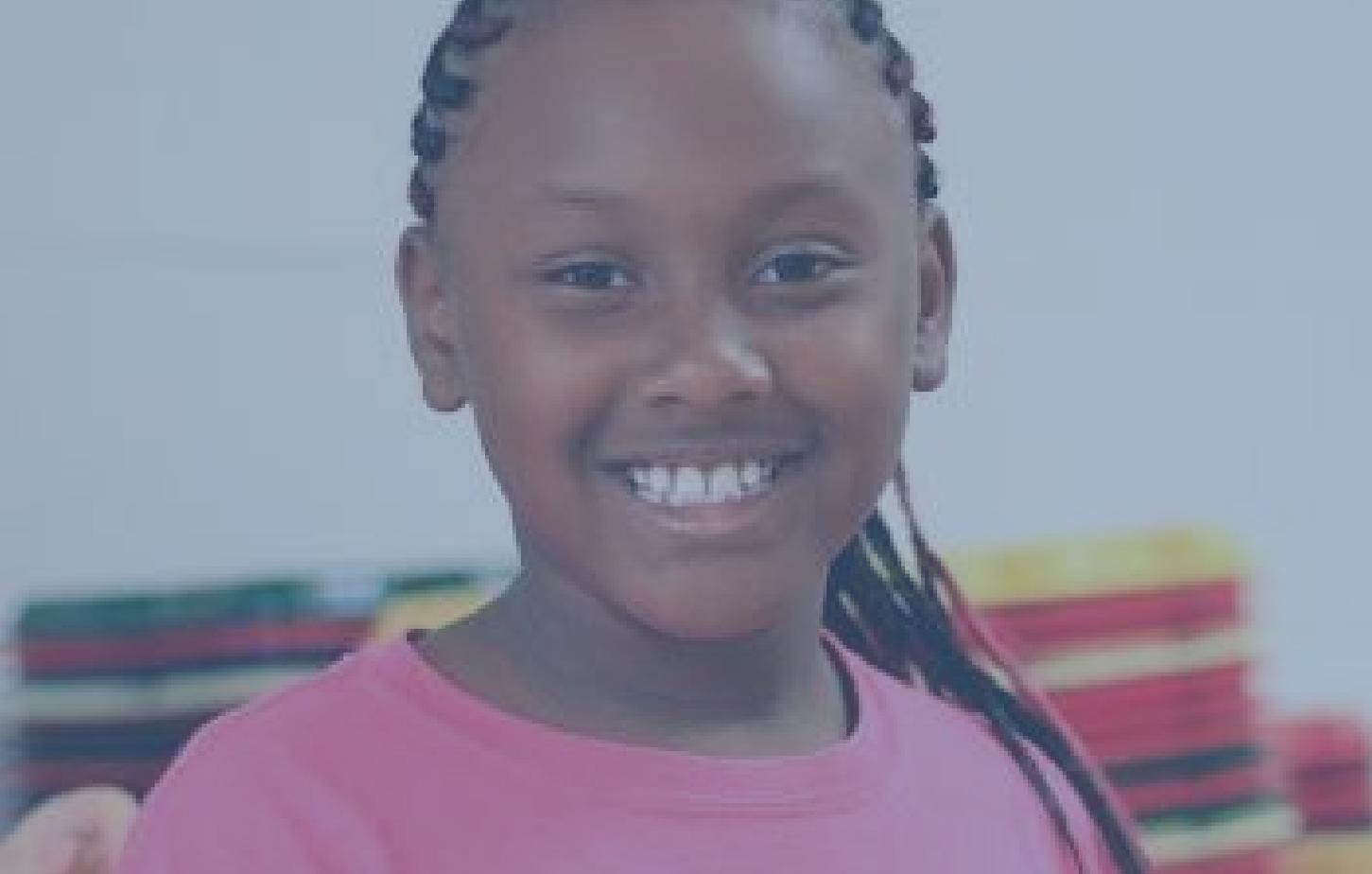
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SEE YOU THIS
SUMMER!

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