



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Report date: March 18, 2016

Brandy Fenderson, Executive Director

“Spending time on homework and reading is not something I can do.” This is the sentiment from one parent before beginning a recent Family Workshop. “It’s a struggle just to get here today.”

The workshop focus was Stress Management and Test Taking. While the children enjoyed a musical performance and then talked about their stress, the families' session discussed ideas on reducing stress in their children, especially at test-taking time.

At the end of the workshop, the families joined their children to go over the topic. “I’m really glad I made the time to come today,” said the parent. “I didn’t realize how much stress my child is under too, and now I can help him. I learned from other parents’ ideas in the meeting.”

East Nashville Hope Exchange is built on the idea of an “exchange” of ideas and community support. Building relationships with children, caregivers, teachers and the community is at the core of our values. As this parent said, “I have made new friends here.” The instruction is not only from certified teachers, but also from our guest readers, reading buddies and families, coming together to improve the lives of the children through literacy.



East Nashville Hope Exchange

East Nashville Hope Exchange (ENHE) is a non-profit organization focused on improving literacy of at-risk children in East Nashville. ENHE offers an intensive 6-week summer program staffed by certified teachers and community volunteers, as well as a strong follow-up program during the school year, which includes monthly workshops, home visits, in-school tutoring and progress monitoring with schools. ENHE provides a supportive, structured and safe environment where children can learn and have fun. ENHE serves children from schools in the Stratford and Maplewood clusters.

Mission: To strengthen literacy of at-risk children in East Nashville.

Vision: Reading for Life.

Core Values: We are passionately committed to:

- Building **relationships** – with children, families, teachers and the community
- Delivering **high-quality** programming
- Championing a life of **success** for each child

Purpose of Annual Report

This annual report is intended to provide a summary of the activities, successes, and challenges of the East Nashville Hope Exchange program for Calendar Year 2015. As a program, ENHE holds itself accountable to its stakeholders—its generous donors, the supportive East Nashville community, its many volunteers, and the children and families who participate. We continually strive to learn and grow as a program through an ongoing cycle of evaluation and analysis of the program's accomplishments and shortcomings.

2015 Objectives at a Glance

(A checkmark indicates that the objective was met)

Enrollment/Participation

1. Enroll at least 70 children in the 2015 summer program and ensure that participants enrolled in the summer program meet at least one of the following at-risk categories: (a) identified by school as struggling with literacy skill development, (b) low-income, as evidenced by eligibility for free/reduced lunch, (c) single-parent family, or (d) minority. ✓
2. Summer program student attendance will be at least 90% and families will participate in the School Year Program by attending monthly family workshops and engaging with ENHE staff for monthly follow-up. ✓

Literacy Development

3. At least 70% of families will read and record in a log regularly (at least 50% of the days of the program) with their children during our summer program. ✓
4. At least 90% of participants in the summer program will maintain or show positive gains in at least 3 out of 4 adopted literacy assessments (sight words, phonics, fluency, and instructional text-level). ✓
5. At least 90% of families in the school year program will report in a survey that they are better able to help their children read as a result of participating in East Nashville Hope Exchange. ✓

Community Connections

6. Engage volunteers from the community in the summer program as readers, guest artists, and general program support and partner with community organizations for programming and services. ✓

Detailed Performance on Objectives

Enrollment:

ENHE enrolled 78 students in 2015. 74 students attended an East Nashville school (Maplewood or Stratford Cluster). Four students attended schools outside the two clusters: Eakin (Hillsboro cluster), Hull-Jackson (Pearl Cohn cluster) and Cumberland (Whites Creek cluster). Each student met at least one criteria of 'at-risk' status.

- Free/reduced lunch: 76 students (97%)
- Children from Single Parent Households: 57 (73%)
- Minority: 76 students (97%)
 - African-American: 66 (85%)
 - Hispanic: 10 (13%)

<u>Stratford Cluster</u>			<u>Maplewood Cluster</u>		
Ross	15	19%	Caldwell	6	12%
Warner	13	17%	Hattie Cotton	6	12%
Kirkpatrick	12	15%	Rocketship	5	6%
East End Preparatory	5	6%	Glenn	4	5%
Rosebank	2	3%	Chadwell	3	4%
Total	47	~60%	Tom Joy	2	3%
			Schwab	1	1%
			Total	27	~35%

Participation:

Summer Program Student Participation: Average daily attendance was 71 students, or 91%. There were many obstacles to good student attendance this summer including students going on vacation, parenting getting a job that kept them from being able to bring the child, custody transfers, and family illness. We consider 4 or more absences to be detrimental to student progress.

Summer Program Family Participation: The 58 Summer Program families had 78 adults who actively participated in the summer program by attending workshops, volunteering in the program, and reading nightly with their children. Attendance at family engagement workshops ranged from 47% - 83% of families at each workshop.

School Year Program Participation (students and family): 65 ENHE students and their families participated in the School Year Program through attendance at our monthly workshops. In addition, a pilot group of four ENHE students received in-school tutoring during the fall.

Literacy Development:

Summer and School Year Program students showed progress in literacy development, and families reported they are receiving the support they need through ENHE's programs.



Summary of Student Assessment Results:

- 74 of 78 (95%) students either maintained their current level or showed gains in at least 3 areas of assessment.
- 68 of 78 (87%) showed gains in at least 3 out of 4 areas of assessment.



Summary of Family Reading:

- 71% of the 58 families read and logged in their Home Learning Folder on a regular basis (at least 50% of the time).
- Families read a total of 2,465 books during the summer



Parent Survey Results, Summer Program:

Families rated the overall ENHE Summer Program a 3.9 out of 4.

When asked what they liked best about the Family Engagement program, parents replied,



Parent Survey Results, School Year Program

100% of families in the School Year Program said that they are better able to help their children learn to read as a result of participating in the East Nashville Hope Exchange program.

When asked what they have learned from the ENHE School Year Program, parents replied:



Community Connections:

Volunteers: In 2015, ENHE had 194 volunteers, including 7 volunteers from student families, contributing a total of 3451 hours. Volunteers served in the areas of planning and development, material preparation, reading buddies, guest readers, field trip chaperones, family engagement meals/snacks, clerical/office support, records management, lunch and snacks, and general tutoring.

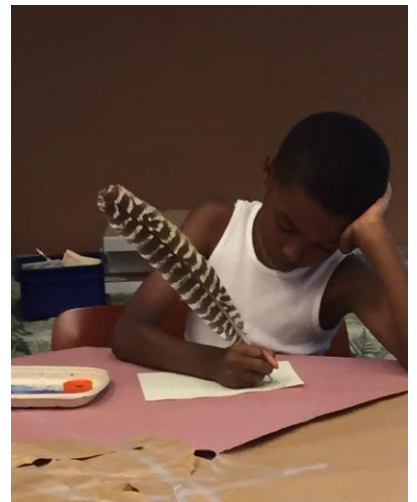
Compared to 2014, the number of volunteers increased by 80 (up 72%) and volunteer hours were up by 1435 (up 81%). This increase in volunteers is attributed to the increase in enrollment and the program running at two locations.

Guest Readers: We had a wonderful line-up of 54 Guest Readers this year which included authors, politicians, business leaders, human rights activists, a weatherman, a postman, a barber, firemen, an attorney, leaders in education, student family members, the Mounted Police, community volunteers, social activists, and a newspaper reporter. 27 of the 54 Guest Readers were African-American (50%) and the remaining 27 (50%) were Caucasian.



Community Partners: ENHE partnered with a variety of sources to help make the 2015 program effective. Six MNPS schools in East Nashville (Ross, Warner, Kipp Kirkpatrick, Caldwell, Glenn, and Hattie Cotton) helped identify students who are good candidates for the program. The following community organizations helped with food, book acquisitions, field trips, volunteers and arts/humanities activities:

- Week of Hope (national program)
- First Book (national program)
- Street Theatre Company
- Eric Dozier Music and Education
- Community in Schools
- Flowerpot Press
- Sierra Club
- Second Harvest
- Fifty Forward
- Plant the Seed
- Nashville Ballet
- Nashville Library Puppet Truck



Additional Program Information

“My Family, My Community, My World”

The 2015 programs were organized around the theme “My Family, My Community, My World.” Students learned about and discussed their role in civic life. Daily discussions focused on our theme and were informed by the children’s experiences in reading excellent children’s literature, interacting with community Guest Readers, participating in project-based learning, and taking field trips to seek first-hand knowledge.

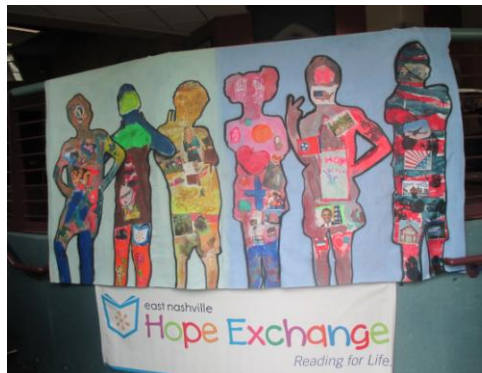
Curriculum

- Teachers used **theme books** as a springboard for exploring essential questions tied to the theme: My Family, My Community, My World.
- The **A-Z curriculum** for phonics and leveled readers was used in leveled reading groups and independent reading times.
- The **FCRR curriculum**, which is free and research-based, was used by teachers during center time and was very effective.
- **Technology:** IpadS funded by the Dollar General Literacy Corporation allowed teachers to meet individual needs, such as practicing letter/sound identification, phonics, sight words/high frequency words, and writing. The devices were also used to research topics studied. IPads were used in whole group, small leveled groups, and in one-on-one settings.



Arts/Humanities Projects

- Colin Walsh wrote an E. Nashville based story with the children about a dog who gets loose in the neighborhood and goes on an adventure.
- Terry Kevlin of TWIG (Tennessee Women In Green) presented on urban hens.
- Turnip Green Creative Reuse made journals with the students, planted seedlings in egg cartons and led a 'Reuse Village' with the students where they created multiple items from reused materials.
- Joy Mayfield of Sierra Club/Audubon Society presented on birds, nests, and writing quills.
- Susannah Fotopulos helped students to create pinecone bird feeders.
- Brandon Donahue worked with students on the 'Silhouette Cypher' program to create 6 large canvases with their life-size silhouettes filled with their ideas of family and community.
- Nashville Puppet Truck performed The Little Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings and Sky Bear.
- Street Theatre Company worked with students to write an original script based on books they read this summer and then rehearse/perform the script for our Program Finale.
- Eric Dozier led workshops for the 4th grade students on African American culture and worked with the whole program to learn songs and perform songs in the finale.
- Street Theatre performed their youth musical 'Big Bad Musical.'
- Nashville Ballet performed Ferdinand the Bull and Carnival de los Animales with an interactive Ballet workshop
- Sharon Nowlin led a tomato art project with students.
- Plant the Seed led a gardening class/food preparation class with students.



Field Trips

Week 1: East Nashville Tour/Cumberland Water Park

Week 2: Owl's Hill Sanctuary

Week 3: City Hall/State Capitol

Week 4: Vanderbilt Athletics

Week 5: Global Education Center

Week 6: On-site Water Fun Day with large inflatables, magician/balloon artist, etc.



Social Skills/Behavior

The character education program and behavior management system ENHE implemented in 2014 continues to be effective. ENHE uses positive behavior management, relationship building and a strengths-based approach in all of its work to foster positive youth development.

ENHE uses the 40 building blocks of healthy development outlined by the Search Institute in The Developmental Assets® as its framework for helping families with their children's development. The 40 assets are research-based positive qualities that influence young people's development, helping them to succeed in life. At each of our School Year Program workshops, families have an exchange of ideas on ways to build the 40 assets in their children's lives.

Building/Location

In 2015 we expanded our program to two sites: St. Ann's Episcopal Church and Ross Early Learning Center. St. Ann's continues to be a wonderful place to call home! The beautiful, welcoming building creates a warm, comfortable environment for nurturing relationships with families. Ross ELC is also an amazing location that provides enhanced recreational facilities, age-appropriate classroom furniture, and a lot of space for our program to grow.

Summary of Key Improvement in 2015

- Program expanded to include 78 students (compared to 41 in 2014) at 2 different locations.
- Program expanded to include kindergarten and fourth grade students.
- We increased the number of program iPads from 22 to 29.
- We offered two summer family engagement sessions per week: one in the evening and one during the day.
- Implemented a new word study program for students who have mastered the first 300 sight words.
- Thematic programming from outside agencies/guest activity teachers occurred every day at St. Ann's.

Financials

January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

Income

Grants/Foundations	\$110,492	60%
Private Contributions – Individual and Corporate	\$48,341	26%
Wine tasting/Silent Auction Special Event	\$23,094	13%
Program Income	\$1705	1%
Total Income	\$183,632	

Expenses

Summer Program at St. Ann's location	\$72,525	42%
Summer Program at Ross ELC location	\$36,189	21%
School Year Program	\$19,115	11%
*Program Expansion/Development	\$23,802	14%
General Management and Fundraising	\$19,336	11%
	\$170,967	

*In November of 2014, the ENHE Board of Directors expanded the Executive Director position from part-time to full-time for the year 2015. In addition to continuing the high-quality Summer and School Year programs, ENHE increased its impact in the community by expanding to two East Nashville locations in Summer 2015.

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***A special thank you to all the individuals and businesses who support
 ENHE through the annual Silent Auction and Wine tasting event.***
