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east nashville

Hope Exchange

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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.

Letter from the Executive Director

Ameshica Linsey, M.Ed.

2017 was a year of great results for ENHE students and families! We improved program retention, developed great partnerships, secured additional space, supported new readers, and added a new successful fall fundraiser, *Booked for Dinner!* Out of the 107 students who enrolled in the summer program, 87 completed with a pre- and post-assessment, all of whom demonstrated improvement in reading! In addition, daily program attendance increased significantly.

We celebrated as students learned new sight words and increased reading levels, families developed new strategies and tools to better assist their children at home, we increased visibility in our community by becoming a first-time vendor at the Tomato Art Fest, and we engaged more of our neighbors at other community events.

All of this was supported by more than 100 amazing volunteers who dedicated over 2,000 hours in service and our invaluable community partners who provided space, books, services, snacks, and much more which greatly attributed to the success of our high-quality literacy program. While we weren't fully funded, we have great initiatives and plans for additional funding in 2018. Our corporate sponsors have already increased their sponsorships, we have cultivated relationships with some amazing new grantors, and our individual donor base has increased remarkably.

Your support makes this possible. You create **hope** and **opportunity** for students and families in our community.



Thank you so much for making an impact. We are looking forward to an amazing year in 2018!

Sincerely,

Ameshica Linsey

Programs at a Glance

East Nashville Hope Exchange serves children in elementary schools in the Stratford and Maplewood clusters through:

Summer Program

Six-week intensive full-day program built around literacy and community involvement.



School Year Program

Includes whole families in monthly workshops, continued literacy support, and community resource assistance.



Tutoring

Literacy focused tutoring provided during evening programs.



Book Libraries

Students receive free books to take home to build their own personal libraries.

A special thank you to all the individuals and businesses who support East Nashville Hope Exchange through the annual Booked for Dinner and Wine Tasting & Silent Auction events, especially our friends at St. Ann's Episcopal Church and our Table Sponsors (*above).



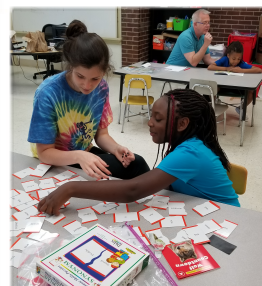
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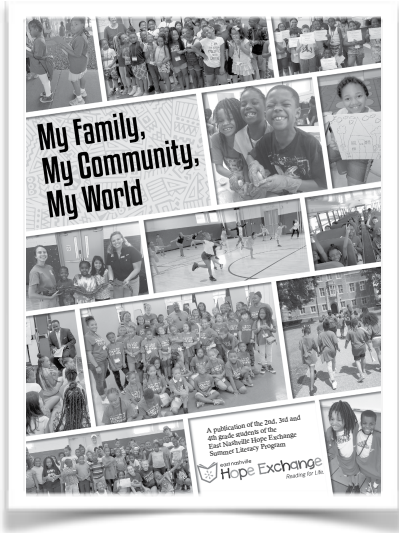
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SUMMER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Along with gains in literacy, hope blossoms in the exchange of ideas, inspiration, and support with the broader community. Under the guidance of certified teachers, students explored the theme “My Family, My Community, My World” through diverse interactions and project-based learning, reporting on their experiences in their student-created newspaper:



Special Guests shared their areas of expertise with students on-site, including:

Guest Readers: This program welcomed 41 community-based guest readers and was integrated with thematic instruction. Students learned about their guests beforehand, considered how their essential questions related to the guests, and reflected on their guest readers in morning meeting and journal writing. 22 of the 41 Guest Readers were minority role models (54%) and the remaining 19 (46%) were Caucasian.

We had a wonderful line-up of readers this year, including attorneys, doctors, professors, a real estate agent, government officials/politicians, authors, business leaders, a weatherman, an urban radio personality, engineers, a financial advisor, an accountant, a priest, a school principal, a teacher, sports figures, an editor, a restaurant owner, environmentalists, student family members, the Mounted Police, and several newspaper reporters.

Humanities Guests: Turnip Green Creative Reuse, African American Music Museum, Nashville Library Puppet Truck, & Bringing Books to Life.

Outside the Classroom: Nashville Predators, Nashville Zoo, Mama Moo of Misty Hill Farm & Weekly Water Play

Guest Artists: Michael McBride, Linda Ragsdale, Ann Krafft & Katie Binkley

Field Trips: Students took field trips to expand on their weekly sub-themes: a Jefferson Street tour, including Jefferson Street Sound Office, Heritage Park, Nashville Farmer’s Market, and Bicentennial Mall; a Fisk University Art Experience at the Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery, John Hope & Aurelia E. Franklin Library, and Cravath Hall; running their own ENHE Lemonade Stand at the East Nashville Turnip Truck; Global Education Center (for African & Latin American Culture and Dancing); and Nashville Zoo’s Wildlife on Wheels.



ENROLLMENT & PARTICIPATION

Student Enrollment Data:

- Students on Free/Reduced lunch: 66 of 77 (86%) who responded to the questionnaire
- African-American: 79 (91%); Caucasian: 8 (9%)
- Hispanic ethnicity (of either race): 6 (7%)
- Male students: 47 (54%); Female students: 40 (46%)

Family Participation:

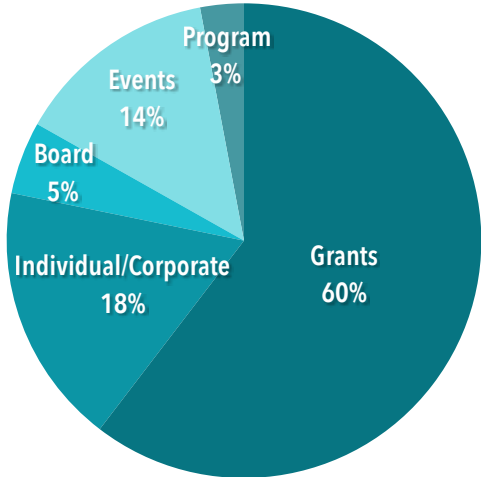
- Families attended weekly engagement workshops with family meals during the Summer Program.
- Parents/Caregivers active in the program: 66 families had 101 adults who regularly participated in the Summer Program.
- During the School Year Program, monthly Family Workshops presented a reading skills instruction/practice and introduced a strengths-based exchange of ideas on developing the 40 Building Blocks of Healthy Development as outlined by the Search Institute in The Developmental Assets®.

Volunteer Participation:

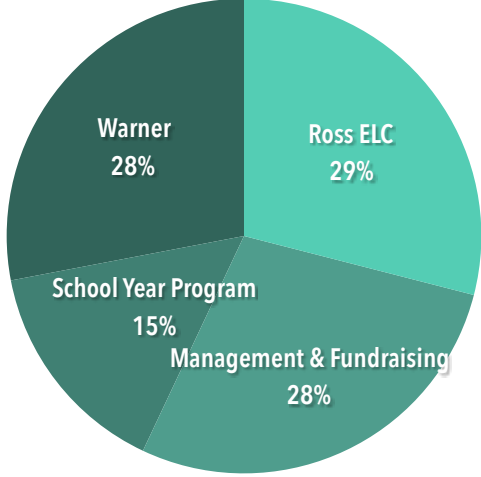
Volunteers are an essential part of the ENHE program, serving as Guest Readers, Reading Buddies, and Family Engagement food helpers. Recruiting volunteers and training them on a daily basis is an ongoing process. Not including extensive board support, volunteers logged thousands of hours this year, especially during the summer at: Warner—835 hours, Ross ELC—618 hours, St. Ann’s Family Engagement—175 hours.

“They really take the time out for each individual child.”
- ENHE Parent

2017 FINANCES



Total Income: \$170,269



Total Expense: \$189,713

A 2011 study by the RAND Corporation, “Making Summer Count. How Summer Programs Can Boost Children’s Learning,” reported the national range of costs for summer reading programs is \$7-\$14 per hour per child. The East Nashville Hope Exchange summer program budget for 2017 was \$146,534. The program was 28 days for 7 hours each day for a total of 196 hours. Therefore, the cost per child per hour for the 87 students who completed the program was \$8.59/child/hr.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Summer Program

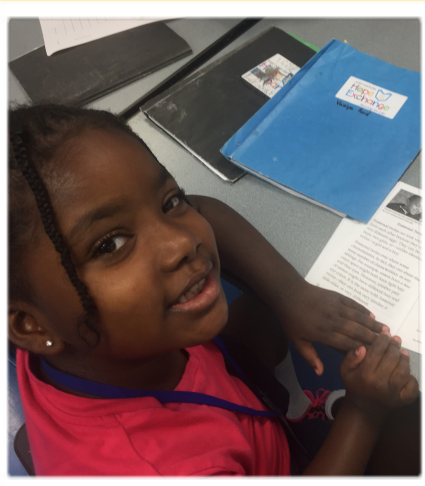
- 107 students enrolled at two locations. 87 students completed the program with both pre- and post-assessment.
- 98% of students either maintained their current level or showed gains in at least 3 areas of literacy assessment.
- Every student took home at least one book each day of the program for a total of at least 28 books.
- 95% of families would send their children to the program again next summer.

School Year Program

- 98% of students in the 2016-17 School Year program showed improvement in their text-level data markers.

Whole-Family Support

- 97% of families in the Summer Program and 98% of families in the School year program reported they are better able to help their children learn to read as a result of participating in East Nashville Hope Exchange.
- 92% of families attended at least one family engagement event in the summer.
- 79% of families regularly read with children & logged their minutes.



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