

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.

2019 was marked by continued reading successes! A whopping 99% of our students returned to school in the fall defeating the "summer slide" by maintaining or improving their reading levels! Out of the 105 students who enrolled in the summer program, 101 completed with a pre- and post- assessment, all of whom demonstrated improvement in reading - a record number of students to complete a summer program session!

Because of supporters like you, we once again ended the fiscal year with a budget surplus, increased attendance at our fundraising events, and volunteers dedicated over 3,000 hours in service. Our community partners are essential to the flourishing operations of our programs, giving students and families access to superb enrichment programs and services, incredible books, delicious snacks, and comfortable facilities where learning thrives.

Every year, it is my goal to further extend the impact of ENHE. Like the summer slide, during which many of our at-risk youth fall behind their peers, we observe a similar phenomenon when a child moves to middle from elementary school. It's called the **fourth-grade slump** because 4th grade is typically when reading instruction shifts to developing comprehension – reading to learn, not just learning to read. And, as with most challenges, research suggests it disproportionately impacts disadvantaged kids.

We are thrilled to announce that we've received a matching grant to launch **50K for 5th Grade**, a rising 5th grade pilot program. 5th grade is a critical transition year as kids head into middle school. Research indicates that the gap between those with lower and higher reading ability widens through the middle school years. ENHE is committed to providing children with the fundamentals for success by inspiring a passion for reading, learning and family engagement. In turn, this strengthens our community and helps change the lives of the children and families we support.

With this matching donation, we have a unique opportunity to build our program and help support more children in our community. Thank you so much for being a vital part of the solution and helping us raise \$50K for 5th grade in 2020!

Sincerely,



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.

SUMMER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Under the guidance of certified teachers, students explored the theme: “My family, My Community, My World,” through project-based learning, reporting on their experiences in their student-created newspaper.

Many Special Guests joined ENHE to share their areas of expertise with the students on site, including:

Guest Readers: This program welcomed 50 community based guest readers that we 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. 26 of the 50 Guest Readers were minority role models (52%) and the remaining 24 (48%) were Caucasian.



This year, we had a wonderful line-up of readers. Our guest readers included attorneys, doctors, professors, a real estate agent, government officials/politicians, authors, business leaders, a weatherman, engineers, a financial advisor, an accountant, a priest, a teacher, a school principal, sports figures, an editor, an electrician, restaurant owners, and students and parents.

Humanities Guests: Turnip Green Creative Reuse, Magic Wayne, Mr. Bond's Science Guys, Nashville Library Puppet Truck, Bringing Books to Life & a reading therapy dog

Outside the Classroom: Nashville Zoo Wildlife on Wheels, ENHE Lemonade Stand & Weekly Water Play

Guest Artists & Presenters: Zac & Dorinda Walker Dance, Ms. Lynn, Mr. Tyree, Ms. Starr, Emily Allison, Dr. Joseph Taylor & One Tough Cookie

Field Trips: Students took field trips to expand on their weekly sub-themes: a tour of the new Tennessee State Museum; The Frist Art Museum; running their own Lemonade Stand at St. Ann's Episcopal Church; Global Education Center (for Indian Classical Dance and Latin Drumming); and the Aquarium Restaurant at Opry Mills.

“My child loved to attend and the teachers were consistent.”

“I wish my kids could go to school with them all year.” - ENHE Parents

ACHIEVEMENTS

Summer Program

- 105 students enrolled at two locations. 101 students completed the program with both pre- and post-assessment.
- 99% 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 29 books.
- 98% of families would send their children to the program again next summer.

School Year Program

- 98% of students in the 2018-19 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.
- 97% of families attended at least one family engagement event in the summer.
- 92% of families regularly read with children & logged their minutes.





ENROLLMENT & PARTICIPATION

Student Enrollment Data:

- Students on Free/Reduced lunch: 88 of 100 (88%) who responded to the questionnaire
- African-American: 94 (93%); Caucasian: 5 (5%)
- Hispanic ethnicity: 2 (2%)
- Male students: 51 (50%); Female students: 50 (50%)

Family Participation:

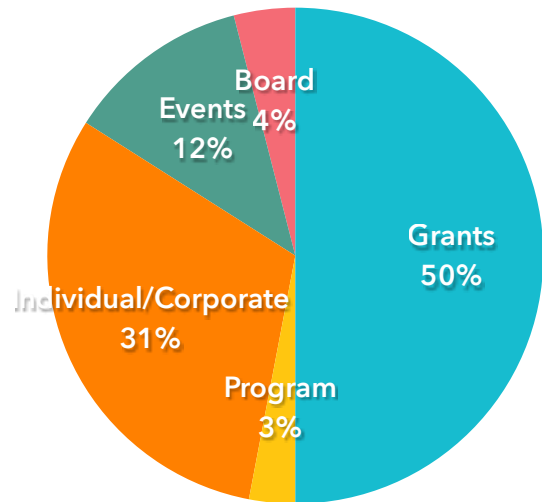
- Families attended weekly engagement workshops with family meals during the Summer Program.
- Parents/Caregivers active in the program: 77 families had 92 adults who regularly participated in the Summer Program.
- During the School Year Program, monthly Family Workshops presented a reading skills instruction/practice 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:

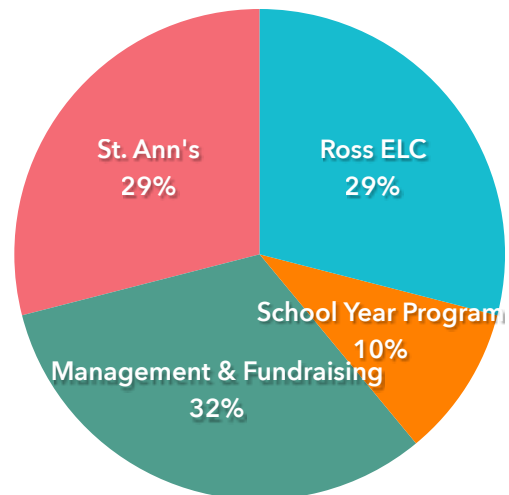
Volunteers are an essential part of the ENHE program, serving as Guest Readers, Reading Buddies, and Family Engagement food helpers. Recruiting volunteers and training them on a daily basis is an ongoing process. Not including extensive board support, volunteers logged thousands of hours this year, especially during the summer at: St. Ann's—1177 hours, Ross—1700 hours, Family Engagement—207 hours. Total: 3084 hours.

“I enjoy the individual help my daughter gets to improve her reading.” -Parent

2019 FINANCES



Total Income: \$204,780



Total Expense: \$197,885

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 2019 was \$145,849. The program was 29 days for 7 hours each day for a total of 203 hours. Therefore, the cost per child per hour for the 101 students who completed the program was \$7.11/child/hr.

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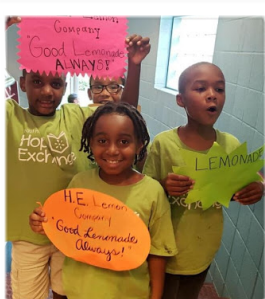
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Many thanks to all the individuals and businesses who support East Nashville Hope Exchange through the annual Booked for Dinner and Wine Tasting & Silent Auction events, especially our friends at St. Ann's Episcopal Church and our Table Sponsors (*above).



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