



Freedom School Partners

2012 Annual Report



I AM FREEDOM SCHOOL



Preparing children for success through
summer literacy programs led by college student role models
in collaboration with community partners

freedom-schoolpartners.org

OUR VISION: Freedom School for every child who needs one.



"It's truly amazing that in only six weeks you can see such a HUGE difference in the kids and in turn, yourself. The relationships that Freedom School gave me are unique and will continue to impact who I am."

– Providence Day Intern



"I had a scholar who was very reserved and guarded. As the summer progressed, he began to open up and share his feelings. He revealed that he always felt like his mom wasn't proud of him and Freedom School allowed him to realize that he was worthy and special and gave him the courage to express those things to his mom."

– Regional Site Coordinator

"One student did not want to read at all and had no interest in any books, but by the middle of the program she always asked if we could read or when we would have DEAR time."

– Ashley Park Intern



"I AM Freedom School and hopefully I'll be back next year."

– Freedom School scholar



"Before Freedom School, it would always be me that had to bring the book to her, now she's always coming to me with something she wants to read to me and I'm loving it!"

– Billingsville Parent



One little boy did not want to stay on the first day so I promised him that if by lunchtime he still didn't want to stay I would call his mom. By lunch time he ran to me and told me he loved Freedom School! – Johnson C. Smith University Intern



"I love Freedom School because it treats everybody equally and never gives up on anyone..." – Freedom School scholar

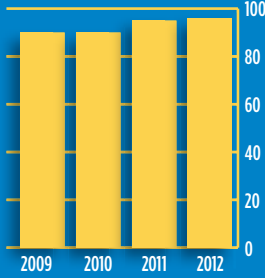
OUR IMPACT: Improving academic achievement • Increasing resiliency

OUR MISSION: Engage, educate and empower children to succeed in school and in life through quality, year-round educational enrichment opportunities.

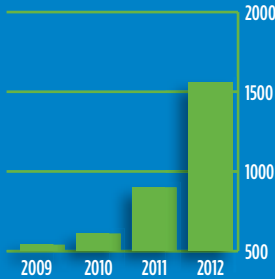
Save the Date!
Freedom School Jubilee
July 12, 2013
at Noon



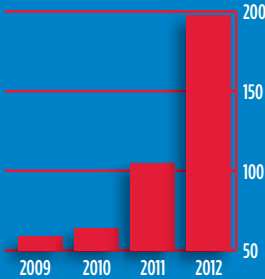
Reading Levels Gained or Maintained (%)



Children Served



Student Leader Interns Employed



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- Julian Wright (Co-Chair)

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 10/01/2011 – 9/30/2012

CONTRIBUTIONS

Foundations	\$921,610	(34%)
Faith Groups	\$695,366	(26%)
Individuals & Families	\$391,600	(15%)
Corporations	\$383,822	(14%)
Collaborative Agencies	\$287,211	(11%)
TOTAL	\$2,679,609	(100%)

OPERATING EXPENSES

Programming	\$2,289,502	(86%)
Administration	\$202,519	(7%)
Fundraising	\$180,150	(7%)
TOTAL	\$2,672,171	(100%)

Freedom School Partners is a 501(c)(3) organization. Financial information about the organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 919.807.2214. The license number is SL002429. The license is not an endorsement by the State. A copy of the complete audited financial statement will be finalized in January and will be available at freedomschoolpartners.org.

Together, WE ARE FREEDOM SCHOOL...

With the support and generosity of so many individuals in our community, almost 1,600 children experienced the magic of Freedom Schools in summer 2012. THANK YOU! Children, called scholars, enjoyed almost three hours a day of literacy instruction, participated in field trips for fun and cultural enrichment and built fantastic relationships with volunteers. As a result, over 90% of our scholars beat summer learning loss!! Some highlights from this summer's evaluation:

- 63% of children posted gains in reading comprehension, and
- 30% maintained reading comprehension (compared to losing 2-3 months as many children do)
- 1,075 families participated; 94% of parents reporting that they saw an increase in their child's confidence in reading
- 198 interns representing 49 colleges and universities impacted young lives; over 35% were first generation college students.



One story to share: A scholar in critical need of Freedom School moved 30 minutes away from her site with no transportation options. A retired church member offered to drive the distance, round trip, and did so every day so this child could attend the Christ Lutheran Freedom School. At the end of summer, a fellow scholar asked, "Is that your grandpa?" She replied, "No, but I wish he was." The church member now attends services regularly and volunteers on a weekly basis. Freedom School spreads into the community far beyond impacting our scholars. Important partners to our work are:

- Volunteers who spend hundreds of hours with children leading afternoon activities, reading at Harambee, chaperoning field trips and sharing experiences.
- Interns who report life changing summers — recognizing their impact on the lives of young people.
- Parents who become more engaged in their child's education.
- Partners who extend their support to make sure summer is a time of growth and positive experiences for low-income children.

There are still many children who need Freedom School. The Foundation For The Carolinas estimates that only 10% of children who need quality summer programming are being served. We appreciate your support and thank you for standing with us and saying — WE ARE FREEDOM SCHOOL!

Mary Nell McPherson, Executive Director

Burch Mixon, Board of Directors, Chair

THANKS to our Partners!

10/01/2011 - 09/30/2012

\$150,000 and Above

Bank of America Foundation
Myers Park Presbyterian Church
Project L.I.F.T.

\$100,000 to \$149,999

Myers Park United Methodist Church
The Leon Levine Foundation
Leon and Sandra Levine

\$60,000 to \$99,999

Elevation Church
UNC Charlotte College of Education
Wells Fargo Foundation

\$25,000 to \$59,999

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Christ Lutheran Church
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Forest Hill Church
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Mecklenburg County Department
of Social Services
Merancas Foundation
Snyder's-Lance
Sisters of Mercy of NC Foundation

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Alpha & Omega Foundation
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Beacon Partners
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Duke Energy Foundation
Foundation For The Carolinas
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
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Julian and Amy Wright
Ralph and Sara Yarberry

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our donor list. If you feel a listing is incorrect, please call Gigi Harris, 704.371.4922.

Freedom School Partners provides Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools® through a collaborative network of community-based support in an effort to prevent summer learning loss and boost resiliency. We do this through a commitment to two generations of youth: K-8th grade children and college-level Servant Leader Interns who serve as role-models and teachers in a paid, workforce development environment. Programs are centered on literacy and life enrichment.

Thank you to our **site partners who make Freedom School a reality for children in need:**

- Avondale Presbyterian Church, in partnership with Church at Charlotte and Sharon Elementary
- Bethlehem Center at Winterfield Elementary
- Billingsville Elementary in partnership with Myers Park Presbyterian Church
- Christ Lutheran Church, in partnership with Christ Episcopal Church
- C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church
- Eastover Elementary, in partnership with Eastover Community
- Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, in partnership with Project LIFT
- The Grove Presbyterian Church
- Highland Renaissance Academy, in partnership with Covenant Presbyterian Church
- Johnson C. Smith University
- Montclair Elementary, in partnership with Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian and St. Andrews United Methodist Churches
- Providence Day School
- Quail Hollow Middle School, in partnership with Forest Hill Church
- Sedgfield Elementary, in partnership with Myers Park United Methodist Church
- Seigle Point, in partnership with Elevation Church
- Shalom Park
- University of North Carolina Charlotte

Schools served in partnership with Project LIFT:

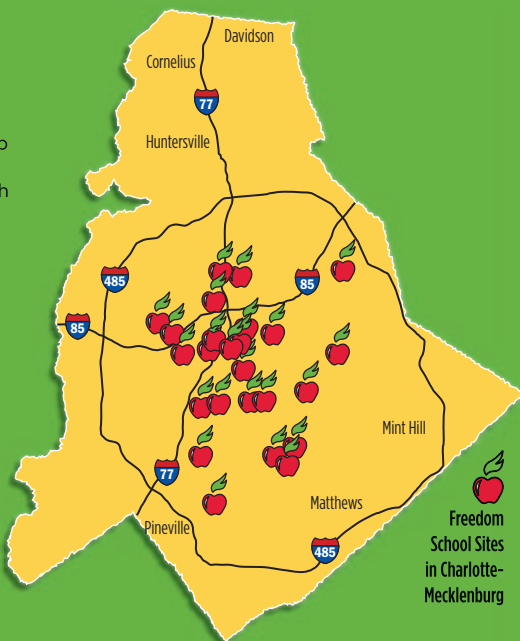
- Allenbrook Elementary
- Ashley Park PreK-8
- Bruns Academy
- Walter G Byers PreK-8
- Druid Hills Academy
- Ranson Middle
- Statesville Road Elementary
- Thomasboro Academy

Our **community makes it work:**
We stand on the shoulders of our strong and committed community partners.

**TOGETHER,
WE ARE FREEDOM SCHOOL!**



Our **broad scope:**
Freedom School sites are located throughout Charlotte.



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**For more information visit
freedomschoolpartners.org**

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