Impact Report 2025











Impact

Overall, 81% of scholars maintained or improved in their reading ability.

19,710 books to build at-home libraries.

After attending Freedom School, 91% of surveyed families reported that their child(ren) enjoyed attending.



Servant Leader Interns

95 Summer Staff

73 Servant Leader Interns

Partners

11 Freedom School Sites

1,734 Volunteers provided

8,985

Scholars

600 Scholars Served

Voices of Freedom School





FSP Parents

"Each year, I can say my scholar's confidence in reading and understanding has been enhanced, and her EOG score has increased to a 3 or higher!"

"They all enjoy reading much more. This has been a significant change over the years."



FSP Servant Leader Interns

"Freedom School has strengthened my leadership by encouraging me to model servant leadership and uplift scholars through intentional relationship-building. It also sharpened my classroom and time management skills by requiring me to maintain structure and engagement in a fast-paced, high-energy environment. The experience has taught me to be flexible and responsive, adapting quickly to meet both student and team needs."



"Some specific highlights of working in Freedom School include the powerful sense of community, the joy of watching scholars grow in confidence and literacy, and the daily energy of Harambee. Also, afternoon activities. It's rewarding to build strong relationships with both students and staff while being part of a mission-driven program rooted in empowerment, cultural pride, and social justice."

Our Mission To inspire our scholars to love reading and learning, believe in themselves, and create extraordinary futures.

Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools are six-week summer literacy and character-building programs serving children who most need and can least afford summer learning opportunities. FSP utilizes the Integrated Reading Curriculum (IRC), which provides age-appropriate books reflective of our scholars' history and heritage.



