

Responding to Challenges

Faith Network's four core initiatives came into being out of response to grim statistics reported by the Oakland Unified School District:

- 60% of Oakland 3rd graders read below grade level
- 55% of 5th graders score poorly in science
- 67% of students who depend upon school-supplied meals are undernourished on weekends
- 40% of Oakland high school students are dropping out

Succeeding by Reading



Faith Network developed the Succeeding by Reading program to address the literary crisis in our under-performing public schools, and close the academic achievement gap one student at a time. Research demonstrates that

children become readers when they have been supported in their own efforts to learn to read, saturated with age-appropriate books, and encouraged by positive role models.

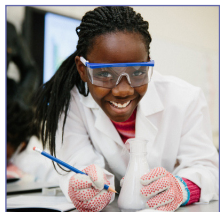
Excel Reading Clinics offering one-on-one tutoring sessions to students referred to us by school personnel. In the 2015-2016 school year, we staffed 20 Excel Reading Clinics with 130 trained tutors to serve 295 students. Post-test results showed that 65% of our full year students made two or more grade levels of gain.

Faith Network offers **Library Services** to school libraries that would otherwise be closed or have limited access due to lack of funding. In the 2015-16 school year, weekly and short term library volunteers supported 10 schools and served approximately 3,000 students. These volunteers provided 900 hours of service. Our staff and volunteers secured and processed books from donated sources to supplement the library. We partnered with the OUSD Head Librarian to channel resources and volunteers to the most underserved libraries.

Literacy Take-Home Bags allows children to take home books to read and encourages parent engagement and family literacy. We circulated 200 bags to 9 second grade classes. Students read an average of 20 minutes a day.

Science Horizons

Science Horizons is closing the achievement gap by providing TK – 8th grade students an opportunity for hands-on learning experiences. We develop learning environments that ignite student's passion for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Our programs are helping students develop the skills required for careers in STEM-related fields.



Our program served 1,000 students at 14 schools. We enabled fifth grade students from schools to participate in the 3-day Mission Springs Outdoor Education Science camp. The instructors are certified naturalists and the curriculum is in alignment

with the California Science Standards. In addition, several schools attended one-day field trips to local destinations such as Berkeley Labs and Audubon Canyon Ranch.

Over 600 TK-5th graders received engaging, hands on science lessons during school through our STEM Labs. A few examples of topics that the students were exposed to are ecosystems, aerodynamics, chemistry, computer coding and life sciences.

In addition, 60 2nd – 5th grade students received math tutoring one hour a week and 90 4th – 5th graders received financial literacy through PwC's Earn Your Future program.

Health4Kids

During the grant year, Health4Kids (H4K) helped make it possible for low-income students to receive adequate nutrition on weekends. H4K partnered with the Alameda County Community Food Bank (ACCFB) to distribute bags of nutritious food to elementary schools. We packed 2,050 bags of food each month during the school year for distribution to 13 schools in Oakland, Berkeley, Hayward and Livermore.

Faith Network also continued its partnership with the Kaiser Permanente Educational Theatre Program to bring performances, workshops and family presentations/dinners to several of our schools.



CareerBridge

We know that in schools just a few miles away, there is a world of difference in our youth's career prospects. CareerBridge is closing the opportunity gap and empowering communities through individual mentorship and on-the-job experience.



Students cannot change the zip codes they were raised in, but through CareerBridge, they can explore career options and develop professional skills while working closely with caring professionals that set high standards. Many struggling youth think they should settle for a low-paying job. What they need is a foot in the door – an entry point to discover and achieve their potential.

In 2015-16 we placed 22 students in internships with a stipend at agencies such as BART and CalTrans and several students started a culinary business. Half of the students were paired with a mentor who encouraged them and coached them through obstacles and new environments.

All students receive workshops focusing on business essentials, workplace etiquette, computer skills, and writing. 85% of our participants graduated from high school. 86% of interns completed the program and rate it highly and 80% of host partners want to repeat internship next year.

*"Do your little bit of good where you are;
it's those little bits of good
put together that
overwhelm the world"*

Desmond Tutu



Annual Report 2015-2016
at a glance

Faith Network is a collaboration of congregations, community-based organizations, individuals, businesses, educators and civic leaders mobilized to help vulnerable children reach their full potential and to strengthen the institutions that serve them. We are a non-sectarian 501(c)(3) and are open to the community at large.

Our mission

Faith Network’s mission is to give hope to vulnerable children in East Bay schools by surrounding them with a caring community, igniting their innate potential and helping them develop academic and life skills crucial to their growth and fulfillment. The goal is to prepare today’s youth for a life of serving others and contributing positively to their communities.

Who we serve

We served directly and indirectly over 6,000 students, ages 5 to 18, who are attending under-resourced urban schools. Most of these students come from low-income families, 70% of whom qualify for free/reduced priced meals. Demographically, these students are: 31% African American, 38% Latino, 15% Asian, 12% Caucasian, 1% Filipino, and 3% Other. Nearly a third of these students are learning English as a second language.



School and year partnership established

1.

Achieve/World Academy, 2007
2.

Allendale Elementary, 2012
3.

Bridges Academy@Melrose, 2015
4.

Burckhalter Elementary, 2004
5.

Colonial Acres Elementary, 2011
6.

Community United, 2004
7.

Downer Elementary, 2011
8.

East Oakland Pride, 2003
9.

Emerson Elementary, 2003
10.

Esperanza Elementary, 2005
11.

Franklin Elementary, 2011
12.

Fruitvale Elementary, 2001
13.

Futures Academy, 2004
14.

Garfield Elementary, 2015
15.

Global Family/Learning w/o Limits, 2011
16.

Grass Valley Elementary, 2006
17.

Greenleaf Elementary, 2005
18.

Hoover Elementary, 2006
19.

Horace Mann Elementary, 2008
20.

Korematsu Elementary, 2006
21.

La Escuelita Elementary, 2011
22.

Laurel Elementary, 2003
23.

Lincoln Elementary, 2009
24.

Longfellow Middle, 2006
25.

Malcom X Elementary, 2006
26.

Markham Elementary, 2010
27.

MLK, Jr. K-4 Elementary, 2005
28.

MLK, Jr. Middle, 2011
29.

McClymonds High , 2014
30.

Oakland International High, 2015
31.

Otis Elementary, 2014
32.

Piedmont Ave. Elementary, 2007
33.

Portola Elementary, 2009
34.

Prescott Elementary, 2009
35.

Ralph Bunche High, 2015
36.

RISE Community Elementary, 2014
37.

Roosevelt Middle, 2014
38.

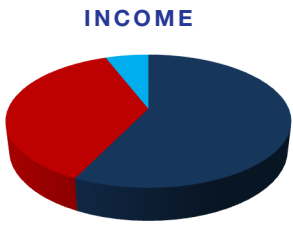
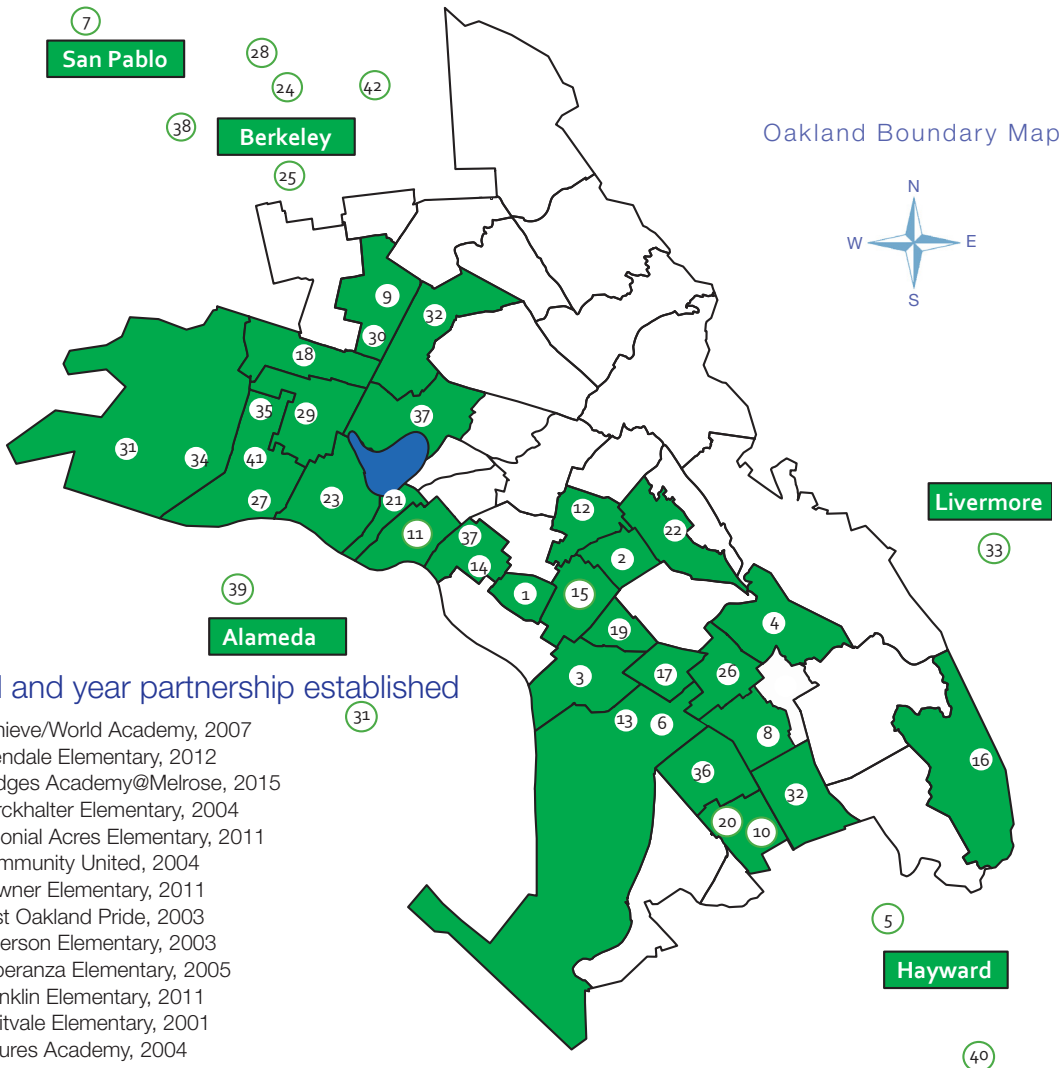
Rosa Parks Elementary, 2009
39.

Ruby Bridges Elementary, 2007
40.

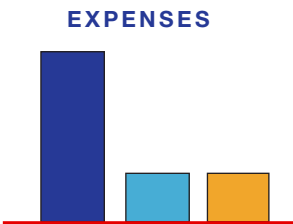
Tyrrell Elementary, 2011
41.

West Oakland Middle, 2008
42.

Willard Middle, 2011



Individual Donations	\$416,291
Corporate and Foundation Grants	\$269,400
Institutional Giving	\$42,398
Total Income	\$728,089



Program Expenses	\$500,361
General Admin.	\$102,503
Fundraising	\$100,746
Total Expenses	\$703,610
Carryover Revenue	\$24,479



DONOR DATA
2015-16

Total Number of Donors	430
Number of New Donors	106
Average Individual Gift Size	\$330