



# CHILDREN FIRST/COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT:

Research shows that when a student's **attendance**, **behavior**, and **coursework** are on track and their **parents** are engaged in their education (ABC+P), they are more likely to succeed in school and graduate. We focus on improving ABC+P so students have the tools they need to succeed in school and life.

## A ATTENDANCE

Chronic absenteeism increases achievement gaps, and attendance can be impacted by a lack of food, unstable housing, inaccess to healthcare and other barriers caused by poverty.

**200** families were provided resources like food, clothing and advocacy for housing & healthcare so children had what they needed to attend school.



## B BEHAVIOR

By the 3rd grade, students suspended once or more can be up to 9x more likely to drop out of high school. We teach resiliency and self management skills to K-6th graders.

Out of the 213 students that we provided one-on-one supports,

**175** students showed improvement in their behavior, which resulted in less suspensions from school.



## C COURSEWORK

By 3rd grade, students need to be reading at grade level or they are more likely to drop out of high school. We provide academic supports in school & afterschool to maintain or improve grades so students perform at grade level.

Out of the 213 students that we provided one-on-one supports,

**100%** were promoted to the next grade level.



## P PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Research shows that students with parents who are engaged tend to have fewer behavioral problems and better academic performance.

**293**

parents were provided with parenting classes & workshops that teach evidence-based techniques to strengthen their family.



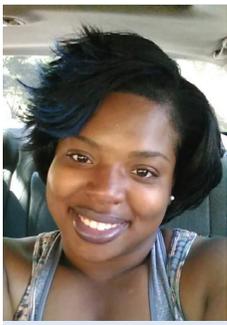
**4,422**

Kindergarten-6th grade children were served by our programs in schools and communities.



[www.childrenfirstcisbc.org](http://www.childrenfirstcisbc.org)





## A PARENT'S LETTER TO CHILDREN FIRST/CIS

**Starting over can be difficult, especially for a single mom of 4. That's my story.** When my kids and I moved to Asheville, we didn't have a lot. In fact, we had more bills than money. **Meeting the basics were a challenge most times.**

When my girls were enrolled in school, I asked the principal if the school could assist my family with clothes and shoes to start the school year because I couldn't afford them. **They directed me to the Children First/CIS Family Resource Center.**

**Not only did the kids get the clothing they needed, but we as a whole family got support.** From food boxes to toiletries, open arms and smiling faces were all there to greet us. They also offered great parenting workshops.

We were introduced to the Children First/CIS Student Support Specialist, who led my daughter to the free afterschool Learning Center Program. **My 4th grader at the time had help with homework, learned new things, and met new people. And summer camp was fantastic.**

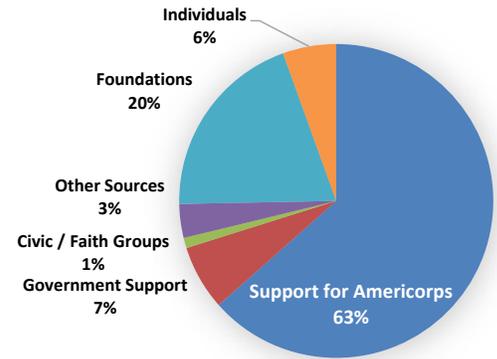
**All this wrapped up in a big, neat bow is what makes Children First/Communities In Schools a great gift for families.** Their warm, caring hearts and most definitely the resources and after-school program took the weight and worry off of me so that I could focus on moving us ahead.

**Again, change is difficult. But when you have something like Children First/Communities In School supporting you, it makes all the difference. My kids and I love them.**

**I'm truly grateful. Go team CFCIS !**  
*Natasha P.*

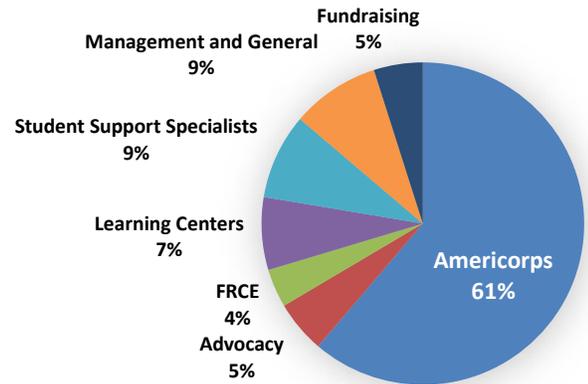


## YOUR SUPPORT



**TOTAL REVENUE: \$1,647,606**

## HOW YOUR SUPPORT IS INVESTED



**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$1,660,434**

## PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY

**Policy decisions also affect ABC+P.** If a child doesn't have housing, food, and medical care then it is difficult for them to attend school and focus on their academics.

Along with our direct services, we also work to improve access to affordable housing, healthcare & early childhood learning.

**YOUR voice counts for kids. Get involved at [www.sucsessequation.org](http://www.sucsessequation.org)**

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