



Our Mission

Horizons Atlanta is a transformational, community-centered, summer learning program proven to close the opportunity gap. We believe that every child in Atlanta, regardless of background, should have the same chance at making a positive impact on their community. We provide this opportunity by eliminating the critical barriers to success that many of our children face, thus putting them on a path to:









Read proficiently by the end of third grade Graduate from high school

Receive higher education

Become globally competitive professionals

Our Model

The Horizons summer learning program model has a 50-year track record for producing positive and consistent results. We invite students from Atlanta's underserved communities to attend a six-week summer program on the campus of an independent school, college, or university, and receive additional support throughout the year. Our project-based educational model is designed to fuel a life-long passion for learning, using a blend of high-quality academics with cultural enrichment and confidence-building activities like swimming, arts, and sports. In small classes led by professional teachers, students dive into a rich curriculum with a focus on literacy and STEM. Outcomes include measurable gains in reading, math, swim skills and water confidence, social skills, self-esteem, school-year attendance, and high-school graduation rates, as well as stable individuals, families, and communities.



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Alex Wan Executive Director

Dear Friends, Families, and Supporters,

At Horizons Atlanta, we have a laser-like focus on ensuring all students have access to the high-quality educational and enrichment opportunities they need to lead lives of choice and purpose. 2018 was an incredible year of growth and improvement for Horizons, and on behalf of our more than 820 students, I am pleased to share our achievements with you.

Last year was a transformational year for Horizons Atlanta with the appointment of Alex Wan as Executive Director. We are confident that Alex's leadership will take the organization where it needs to go and grow. In addition, Chris Brodnan joined the regional office as Regional Program Director, bringing with her invaluable experience as a site director at Horizons Atlanta at Holy Innocents' Episcopal School.

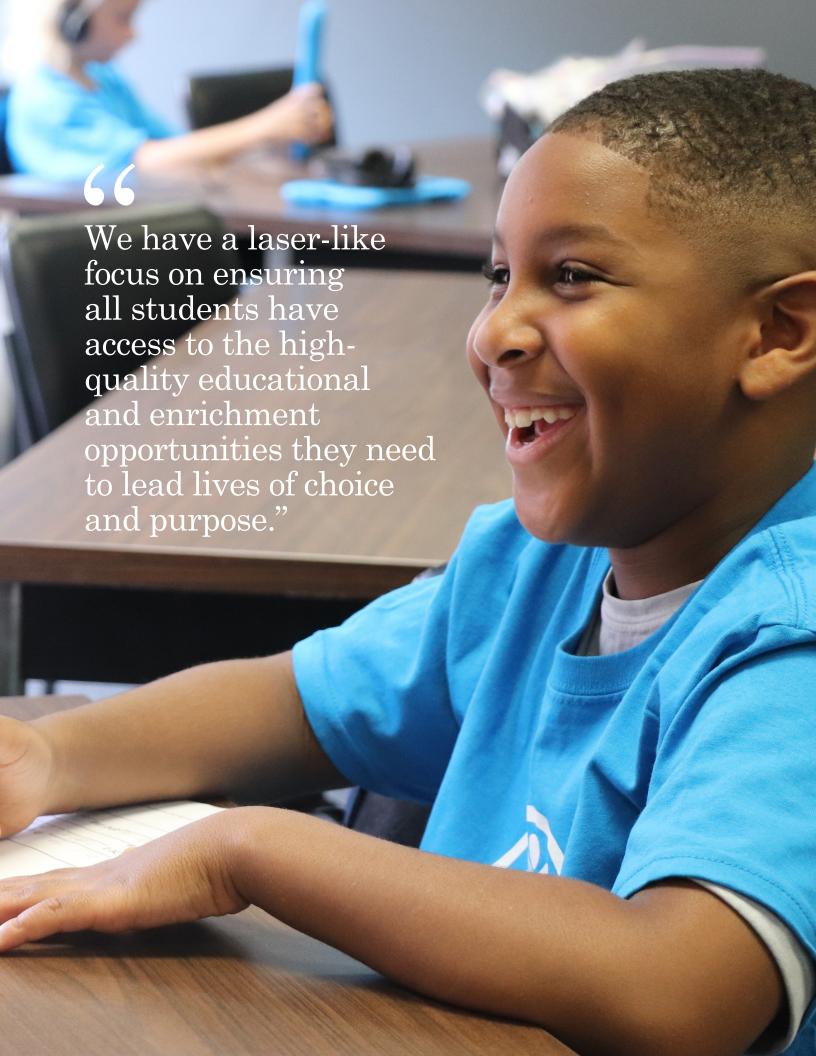
We further expanded our seat capacity and reach within the Atlanta community by launching a second (parallel) cohort set at two of our sites — Horizons Atlanta with Purpose Built Schools and Horizons Atlanta at Georgia Tech — allowing us to serve more students in need than ever before. The students that we serve continue to show tremendous growth academically, gaining months of skill in reading and math. 95% of Horizons students learn to swim and this year, for the first time, students from all nine sites came together to demonstrate their skills at a Regional Swim Meet.

We're excited to see where our growth in 2018 takes us and we look forward to sharing our progress with you. As we celebrate another successful year, we do so knowing that our greatest impact is ahead of us as our students today move closer to achieving their dreams and building a better tomorrow for us all. And we do so knowing that it wouldn't be possible without you.

Thank you for your continued belief in us, and for making our mission yours.

With gratitude

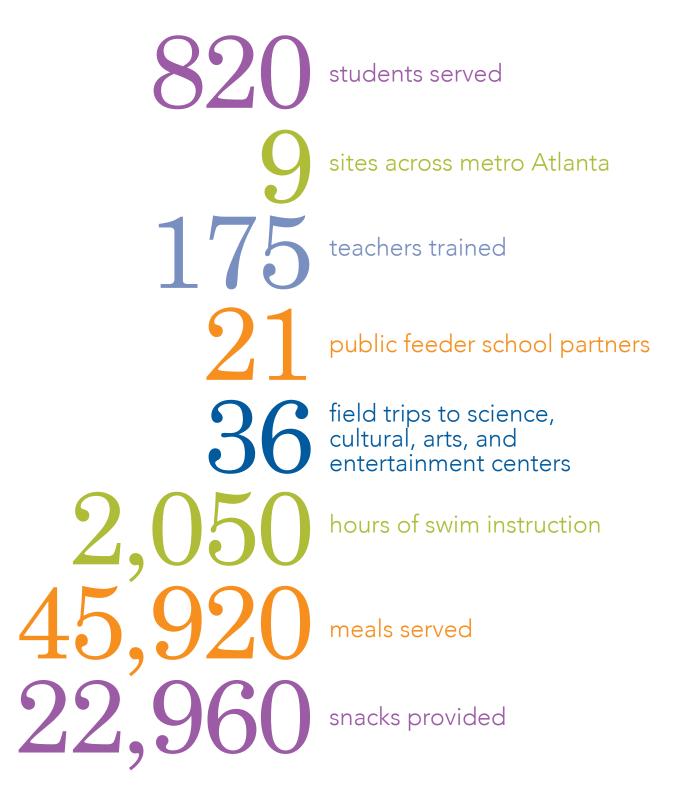






Our Impact

across Metro-Atlanta in 2018



Beyond Summer

In addition to our signature six-week summer learning program, several Horizons Atlanta sites have begun to offer school-year programming to better serve our Horizons Atlanta students, families, and communities.

- Horizons Atlanta at Georgia Tech launched a weekly afterschool program serving Grady High School, Drew Charter School, and Hollis Innovation Academy.
- Horizons Atlanta at Holy Innocents' Episcopal School offers
 "Super Saturdays" for students to receive homework help,
 participate in hands-on STEM activities, and build community with
 one another.
- Horizons Atlanta at Woodward Academy launched their "Swim & STEM Saturday" to enhance their scholars' school-year learning.
- Horizons Atlanta at Atlanta International School holds monthly afterschool tutoring sessions for their scholars who attend Garden Hills Elementary School.













Our Work Continues

In 2018, Horizons Atlanta's Board of Directors undertook a strategic planning process to guide the organization's growth over the next three years. The board convened a group of 13 individuals representing the board, staff, and host institutions to serve as the strategic planning committee. With the help of the University of Georgia's J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development, the committee identified critical issues and opportunities moving forward.

From that review, our 2019-2021 strategic plan was adopted on November 29, 2018, and includes four main priorities:





High-Quality Programs

Provide consistent, high-quality programming to students from underserved communities in metro Atlanta.



Human Capital

Develop the board, regional office, and site organizational capacity to support Horizons Atlanta's mission.



Sustainability

Ensure the current and future financial sustainability of our organization.



Growth

Pursue sustainable internal and external growth opportunities.

This strategic plan — informed by and crafted alongside our valued stakeholders — will guide our activities over the next three years so that we can deliver, in a sustainable way, high-quality academics and support to as many children and families as possible.



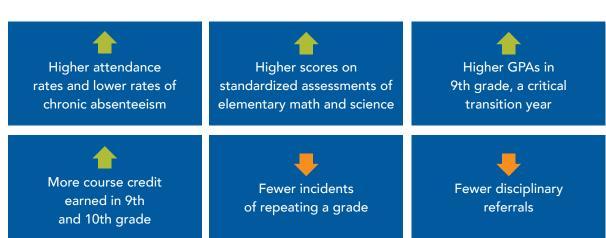


Long-Term Benefits

In 2018, Horizons National commissioned a retrospective study to measure the cumulative impacts of our summer enrichment programs on our scholars. By comparing the outcomes of long-term Horizons students with similar non-participants, the research confirmed statistically significant improvements in academic performance and behaviors as a result of students participating in our program.

The study also produced promising evidence that these positive effects accumulate as students progress through school and become even more pronounced into middle and high school.

Here at Horizons Atlanta, we are building a similar analytical framework using both our assessment tools and data being made available to us through our partnerships with the public school systems we serve. As programs at our various sites continue maturing to capacity, we hope to continue mirroring these same results and will use this insight to further refine our programming.









ATLANTA

95% of students learn to swim 96% average daily attendance of students come back each year

93% parent satisfaction

89% of students demonstrate improvement in SEL skills

NATIONAL

98% of Horizons students graduate high school 94% attend post-secondary training

AVERAGE MONTHLY GROWTH - HORIZONS ATLANTA

2016-2018 Aggregated





66

Using the mood meter taught our scholars to talk about their feelings more with each other as well as with their teachers."

Horizons Atlanta teacher

Social and Emotional Learning

Horizons Atlanta's mission centers around eliminating barriers to success many of our scholars face. While the core components of our program focus on academic achievement, we have become increasingly aware of the need to support the social and emotional well-being of our scholars as well. Many scholars face emotional and psychological challenges in the communities where they live. many bring these stresses with them from their communities into the classroom, and they are often not in a mental space conducive to learning.

To meet these needs, we partnered with Horizons National and the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence to pilot RULER (an acronym for Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, and Regulating emotions), an evidence-based approach for integrating social and emotional learning (SEL) into the classroom, at three of our Horizons Atlanta sites. RULER applies "hard science" to the teaching of what have historically been called "soft skills."

Site directors and instructors are reporting encouraging progress from this initiative. By providing increased professional development to support scholar emotional well-being, we hope to increase our staff's ability to support our scholars' emotional intelligence, vocabulary, and ability to describe and regulate their feelings, as well as engagement in the Horizons program.



CHARTER

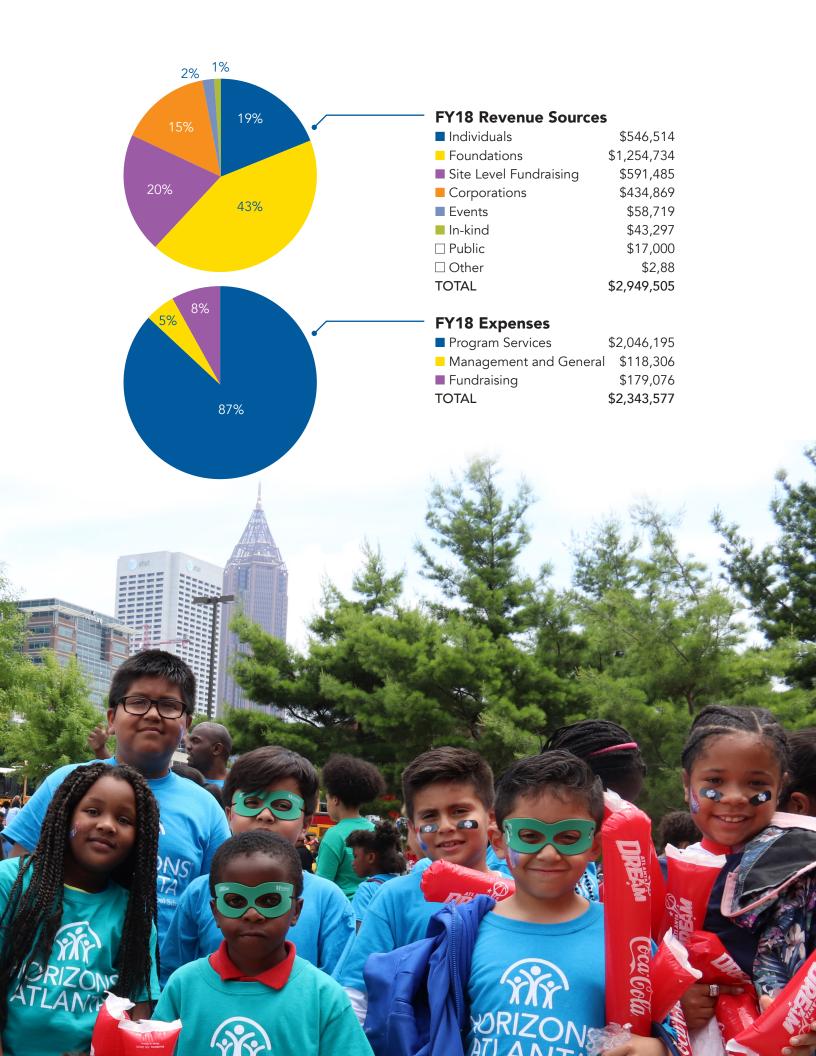
A mission statement, developed collaboratively, that reflects the desired emotions in the school, classroom, home. The process includes identifying feelings everyone wants to experience (e.g., valued, inspired), generating the corresponding behaviors that foster them (e.g., being respectful), and regular, reflective and activities to continuously promote a positive climate.



MOOD METER

A tool for developing emotional intelligence skills by helping stakeholders build greater self- and social awareness (e.g., emotional vocabulary) and emotion regulation strategies. It also enhances student engagement by helping teachers link specific emotions to different learning activities.







Host Partners



ATLANTA **TECHNICAL** COLLEGE

















Atlanta International School Kelsey Bunker and Chris Rhue, Site Directors kbunker@horizonsatlanta.org crhue@horizonsatlanta.org

Atlanta Technical College Sharron McIntyre, Site Director smcintyre@horizonsatlanta.org

Clark Atlanta University Dr. Rebecca Dashiell-Mitchell, Site Director rdashiellmitchell@horizonsatlanta.org

Georgia State University Greer Powell, Site Director gpowell@horizonsatlanta.org

Georgia Tech Sirocus Barnes, Site Director sbarnes@horizonsatlanta.org

Holy Innocents' Episcopal School Kate Kratovil, Site Director kkratovil@horizonsatlanta.org

Kennesaw State University Beth Garrett, Site Director bgarrett@horizonsatlanta.org

Purpose Built Schools LaVasia Bullard, Site Director Ibullard@horizonsatlanta.org

Woodward Academy Kristin Jackson, Site Director kjackson@horizonsatlanta.org

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Institutional Partners

Arby's Foundation Atlanta Dream

Atlanta Foundation

Atlanta International School

Atlanta Public Schools

Atlanta Retirement Group

Atlanta Technical College

Atlantic Capital Group

Camp-Younts Foundation

Carroll Organization

Clark Atlanta University

Cousins Foundation

Creating Connected Communities

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First American

Frances Hollis Brain Foundation

Fulton County

Fulton County Schools

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Georgia Power Foundation

Georgia State University

Georgia Tech

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IHG

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The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta

The Home Depot Foundation

The Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation TW Price Gilbert Jr. Charitable Foundation

United Way of Greater Atlanta

WellsFargo Foundation

Woodward Academy

Zeist Foundation

100% Club

The Horizons Atlanta 100% Club celebrates our mission and commitment to ensuring that 100% of children have the opportunity to make an impact in their community.

Donors commit to funding 100% of one student's summer experience with a donation of \$2,500 or more, helping us reach our goal of 100% of students reading proficiently by the end of 3rd grade, graduating high school receiving higher education, and competing in a global economy because we believe 100% of students matter.



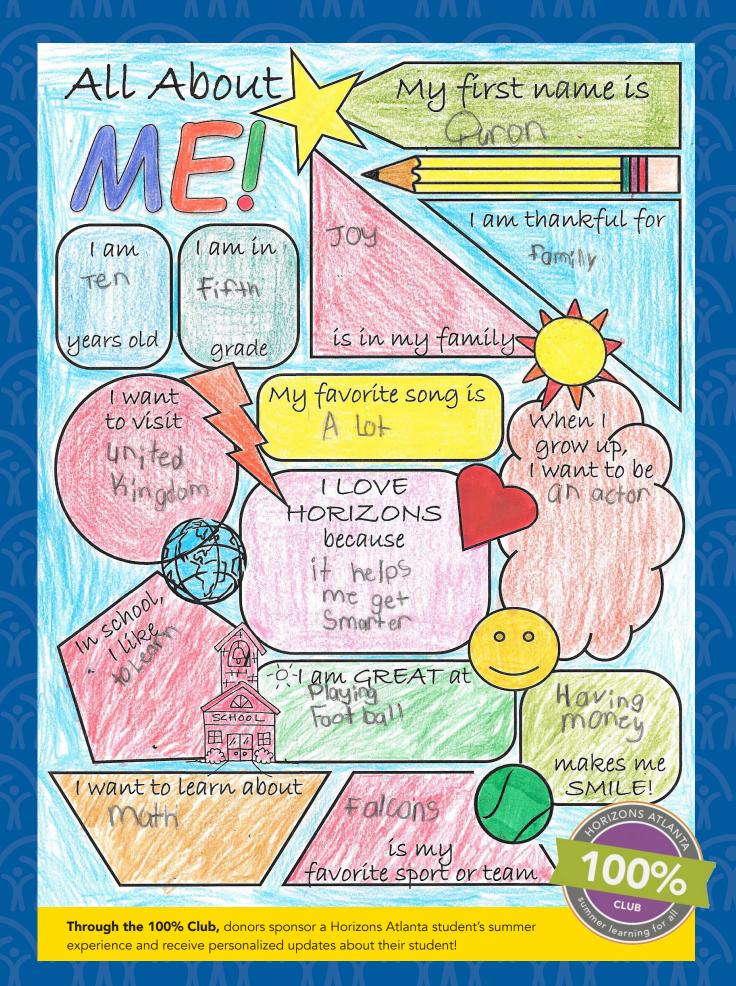
Thank you to our 100% Club Members!

Dave Fedewa and Christy

Lisa and Peter Aman Mike and Andreane Anderson Sarah and Lamar Anderson Paul and Leanne Barton Brenda Bell Tom and Jennifer Bell Scott Bernstein and Melissa Knowles Betsy and Roger Birkholz Frank Bishop Tori and Erik Bjerke Jim and Sarah Borders Rafael and Patricia Bras John and Mary Brock David and Kris Brown Kevin and Elizabeth Brown Paul and Lisa Brown Andrew and Linda Bruner Mark and Heather Buffington Tiffany and Joe Burns Steve and Tracy Cahillane Karen and David Calhoun Pat and Lindsey Carroll Meria Carstarphen Jeff and Wendy Clark Jennifer Collins Pia Colon and Kees Wurth Pete and Ada Lee Correll David Dase and Jacqueline Flake Chris and Rosalyn Devine Lucian and Josephine Dillingham Bill and Lisa Douglas Brandon and Lindsey Downs Walt Ehmer Natalie and Tom Epperson Frank and Karen Fallon

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