



2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Milagro ("Miracle") Center Motivates & Empowers Economically-Challenged & Academically At-Risk Children & Teens to "Reach for the Stars" and Succeed in School and in Life.

OUR MISSION

Milagro Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to ensure the social and academic success of underserved children and youth through Cultural Arts, Living Values, Academic Support, and Mentoring.

OUR VISION

To be a center of creative cultural collaboration, engaging education and inspiration that dissolves social barriers, forms lasting connections, and sets the stage for future success.

LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR & OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

OUR INSPIRATION AND IMPACT

Dear Friends,

It's really quite simple: Milagro Center is inspired to improve our community's most underserved children's lives. Each day in our afterschool and summer camp programs we provide high quality arts education in visual art, music, dance, and theatre, together with mentoring, living values, and academic classes where everyone feels included, valued, and capable of greatness. Through our programs, these children are encouraged to dream big and consider the world beyond their limited circumstances; to reach their potential and develop their talents. And, each day, right before our eyes, we have the extreme pleasure and privilege of witnessing these children blossom and thrive socially and academically as they grow from Kindergarten through their senior year in high school. When they leave their "Milagro home" as high school graduates, they carry with them that sense of being part of a whole, being valued, and are prepared to make healthy and smart decisions for themselves and their futures, and contribute to the wellbeing of our community.

Without our programs, these underserved children would not have access to the arts and much needed academic support. Why is this so crucial? Studies show the arts keep children motivated and engaged, and low-income youth who regularly participate in the arts are five times more likely to stay in school than their low-income peers. And, with the national high school dropout rate among underserved youth as high as 50% in recent years, the children in our community need the arts and academic support now more than ever. The driving force behind everything we do is the conviction that our innovative integration of the arts and academics works! Milagro Center helps level the educational playing field by teaching creative and cognitive skills to students struggling to overcome economic, ability, or literacy barriers that will better equip them to be competitive and successful people.

What started in 1997 as the dream of several local artists to provide art classes to our neighborhood children has now become a nationally accredited and widely regarded organization providing exemplary arts and academic programs that now serves more than 200 children each year. The 2018 fiscal year – Milagro Center's 21st Anniversary year - continued to see unprecedented growth, both in terms of the organization's financial performance and the impact of its programs on those we serve. Our funding stream now includes more federal and state grants, additional family foundation grants, and increased individual donor gifts. Milagro Center's dream of opening our 3rd Center, a Center dedicated to the specific needs of Middle School Youth, will officially become a reality in early 2019 as we successfully completed the capital campaign this past year to raise the necessary money for this major renovation project. The new "Virginia and Harvey Kimmel Milagro Junior Teen Center" will officially open in April 2019, increasing our overall capacity to serve more underserved youth in our local Delray Beach community. Also in 2018, our S.T.A.R.S. k – 5th grade program's curriculum was bolstered by the addition of both a robotics and a theatre arts program. Our Teen Leadership Program for high school youth offered an increased focus on career readiness, college and trade school preparation, and offered internships and apprenticeships for our teens with local companies so that they can gain valuable work experience. The Junior Teen Leadership Program is thriving with support from our local middle schools and the influx of our graduating S.T.A.R.S. And, Milagro Center's Mentoring Miracles Program has grown to include more than 52 active mentors who make an incredible impact on their mentees each week and an impact that will last a lifetime.

Once again, 2018 marked another year in which Milagro Center stayed true to its mission of enabling our children and teens to succeed in school as we achieved 100% annual grade promotion for all of our

enrolled students and successful high school graduation for our seniors – almost all of whom are the first in their families to earn a high school diploma. What's more, our Milagro graduates are moving forward on a new and exciting path – breaking the repeated cycle of poverty - by entering college, attending trade schools, enlisting in the military, and taking on job training opportunities. Each and every year, Milagro Center is empowering more youth and creating better futures.

The past year was also a year of proud recognition for Milagro Center. In 2018, the Cultural Council celebrated 40 years of supporting arts and culture in Palm Beach County. Their Muse Awards honor outstanding organizations, artists, educators, and supporters for their contributions to the cultural community, and the Palm Beach County Cultural Council named Milagro Center as the 2018 Outstanding School Committed to Arts Integration. We are thrilled to receive this Muse Award, an honor that recognizes the quality and impact our robust cultural arts enrichment program has on the success of our children.

Lives transformed, not just merely touched, that's the measure of our impact. The past year was filled with opportunities for children and youth to build the creative and character tools they need to become whatever they dream. And with your ongoing support, Milagro Center will continue to provide our arts and academic-rich education programs that endow young minds and spirits with self-confidence, ability, and the drive, will, and tools to succeed. We are forever grateful to you all - our supporters, community partners, and friends - for the generosity of your time, talent, and resources over the past year. Milagro Center continues to be a vibrant and dynamic organization making major and long-lasting impact. Please continue to join us for our exciting, gratifying, and miracle-making journey into 2019 and beyond!

Yours in gratitude,

Kurt Knaus

Barbara J. Stark



Kurt Knaus
Board Chairman



Barbara J. Stark
President & CEO

"Milagro Center is committed to providing artistic and educational opportunities for the underserved children and youth in our community. We understand the power of education and how equally important it is that these children have an outlet for creativity and self-expression. Milagro Center plays an essential role in building these academically at-risk children's self-confidence and equipping them for success in school, on the job, and in life. I am proud and honored to provide my leadership in safeguarding and advancing the arts and education in our community as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Milagro Center." - Kurt Knaus



OUR UNIQUE, AWARD WINNING PROGRAMS:

CHANGING LIVES & BUILDING FUTURES

S.T.A.R.S. “STANDING TOGETHER ACHIEVING RECOGNITION & SUCCESS”

Our S.T.A.R.S. program for Kindergarten through Fifth Grade children provides a superior and uniquely integrated platform of cultural arts instruction, Living Values education, and academic enrichment in a daily afterschool, summer camp, and school break environment to 43 children of families who are living at or below the federal poverty level. These children are most often at risk of school failure, drop-out, and cyclical poverty. Young children in low income neighborhoods gain the most from quality afterschool and summer camp programs. Milagro Center gives these children the opportunity to experience daily art, music, dance, musical instrument instruction, and academic enrichment in literacy and math in individual and small group settings that encourages creativity, learning, and acceptance and builds an indestructible sense of self-worth in our innovative year-round program. Each year, we prepare the most interested and talented students in art, music, and dance for admissions auditions at the BAK Middle School of the Arts.

JUNIOR TEEN LEADERSHIP

Responding to the desperate need in Palm Beach County for quality out-of-school time enrichment programs dedicated specifically for economically-challenged middle school youth, Milagro Center launched its “Junior Teen Leadership” program last year. This new afterschool and summer camp program is uniquely structured for the needs of youth in grades 6 through 8 and provides a full 38-week afterschool program and 14 weeks of full-time camp program (10 weeks of summer camp, 2 full weeks of full-day winter break camp, 1 week of full-day spring break camp, and 1 week full-time Thanksgiving holiday camp). Providing academic classes, tutoring, cultural arts (dance, art, musical instrument lessons), mentoring, enrichment activities, and life skills to our community’s most vulnerable and academically at-risk teens aged 12 – 14, this program is now at full capacity, serving over 40 youth with more than a dozen on the waiting list for admission. Our S.T.A.R.S. graduates move seamlessly into this program and once they become of high school age, will transition to the Teen Leadership program, allowing Milagro Center the unique and extraordinary opportunity to shape our community’s most underserved youth from ages 5 through 18 and prepare them for successful futures. The new Virginia and Harvey Kimmel Milagro Junior Teen Center will be opening in the spring of 2019, giving a new home to the Junior Teen Leadership program adjacent to the Milagro Teen Center.

TEEN LEADERSHIP

Our Teen Leadership program serves 50 economically-challenged high school youth, grades 9 – 12, in an afterschool and summer camp setting located at our Milagro Teen Center on SW 6th Avenue in Delray Beach. The Teens receive daily homework assistance and literacy and math tutoring, art and music instruction, Living Values education, career development and planning, ACT/SAT preparation, life skills, and other resources year-round to help them succeed in school, achieve high school graduation, and prepare them for post-graduation schooling or training that will enable them to become productive, self-sufficient members of our community, taking them out of the repeated cycle of poverty. The Teens mentor younger students at our STARS and Junior Teen Leadership programs and receive community service hours as they develop their leadership skills. Since the inception of the Teen Leadership Program at Milagro Center 6 years ago, 100% of the Teens who attend have graduated from high school and are on paths to success!



MENTORING MIRACLES

The on-site mentoring component at Milagro Center truly makes miracles happen for our children and youth. Milagro Center’s Mentoring Miracles program involves adult volunteers whom we match to each individual student in our S.T.A.R.S. and Junior Teen Leadership Programs. In 2018, we achieved another record year of successfully matching each of our 43 S.T.A.R.S. children with a mentor and are now focused on matching each of our Junior Teen Leadership program students with a mentor. Our highly effective mentor program connects youth with positive adult role models and fosters long-term nurturing, supportive, intergenerational relationships that are essential to building a child’s self-esteem. Mentors are required to make a minimum one-year commitment to the program and participate in weekly hour-long visits with their mentees which are held on-site at Milagro’s S.T.A.R.S. and Teen Centers. More than 45% of our mentors have been with their mentee for more than two years and 95% have passed their 1-year commitment. All mentors undergo extensive background screenings and participate in thorough orientations and ongoing mandatory trainings and workshops to ensure the highest level of performance.

ARTreach

Furthering Milagro Center’s commitment to introduce and engage at-risk children, youth, and the underserved community to the arts, Milagro Center opens its doors to neighboring community-based childcare centers, schools, and youth activity centers and invites them to bring their children and students to our in-house professional art gallery, “The Blueprint Gallery at Milagro Center”. The children and youth are introduced to the impactful art exhibits featuring a variety of visual art forms created by local professional artists. Following the exploration of the gallery exhibit, the children then participate in creative, hands-on artistic projects instructed by Milagro Center’s Director of Cultural Arts. The ARTreach program has proven to be a very effective means of providing economically-challenged children an art gallery experience and have them explore and embrace their artistic capabilities.

MILAGRO CENTER : BY THE NUMBERS

- ☆ **100%** of the children and teens we serve live at or below the poverty level.
- ☆ The community in which we operate has a **25.06%** poverty rate with **34%** of the children living in poverty homes (U.S. Census).
- ☆ **Less than 70%** of economically-challenged Florida students graduate from high school, generally continuing the cycle of poverty in their families. (U.S. Department of Education)
- ☆ The unemployment rate for the local 33444 zip code area, which we primarily serve, was at **4.4% in 2018**, which is the highest in Delray Beach.
- ☆ Research reveals that reading proficiency by third grade is the most important predictor of high school graduation and career success. Yet, in Delray Beach, **2/3 of the 3rd graders** in our local schools are currently reading below grade level.
- ☆ High school drop-outs cost our community in multiple ways. An at-risk youth who becomes a career criminal costs society between **\$1.4-\$1.7 million** over his/her lifetime. The average drug abuser can cost society more than **\$1 million**. Even those who don't turn to crime often cost society more than a quarter of a million dollars individually over the course of their lifetimes.

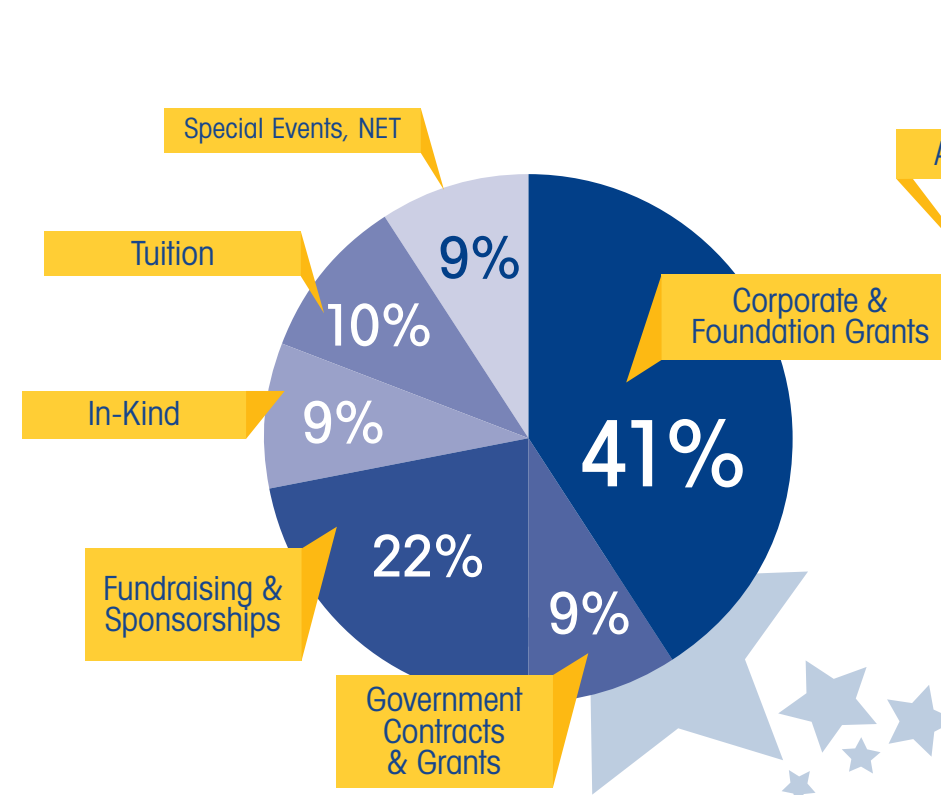


OUR RESULTS

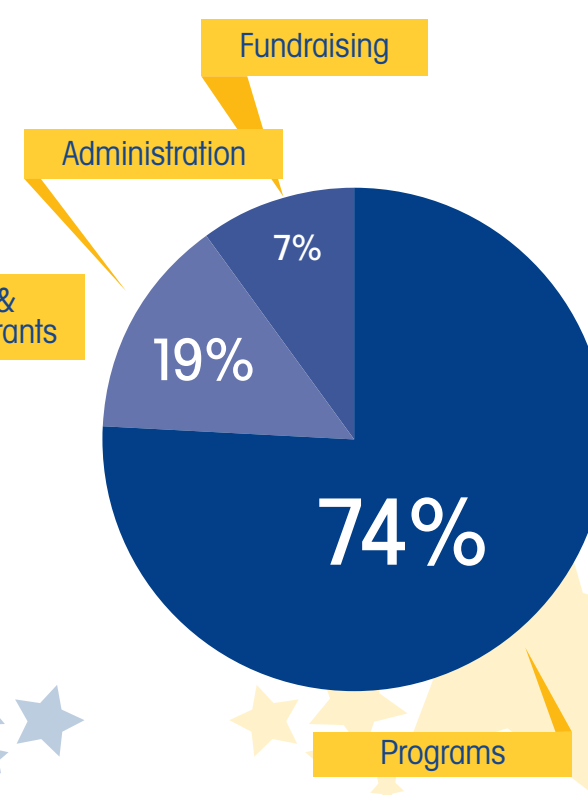
- ☆ More than **450 children and youth** in Palm Beach County were exposed to cultural arts, academic enrichment, and Living Values lessons through Milagro Center's programs in 2018.
- ☆ We continue to operate our licensed and accredited S.T.A.R.S. (K-5th grade) program at **100% maximum enrollment capacity** with a perpetual waiting list.
- ☆ Our S.T.A.R.S. students have a **9-year 98%** average for successful annual grade promotion. Our Teens have had **100% grade promotion in each of the last 7 years**.
- ☆ Approximately **97%** of 43 total post-tested students gained 1 reading level after 40 instruction hours.
- ☆ **100%** of the high school seniors who regularly attend our Teen Leadership Program achieve high school graduation and are involved in post-secondary education and training.
- ☆ **100%** of our students demonstrate increased knowledge of and abilities in the arts.
- ☆ **100%** of our students demonstrate improved self-esteem, self-confidence, and life skills.
- ☆ **100%** of our S.T.A.R.S. students involved in the summer learning program returned to school reading at or above their previous term's reading level, experiencing no summer learning loss.
- ☆ Our programs' benefits to the community include the promise of future productive residents; parents who are engaged in their children's lives and futures and can maintain their own employment knowing their children are in a safe, nurturing, enriching environment after school and during summer breaks. There is also growth and exposure to the arts in the community and diminished costs in terms of social services related to homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, teen pregnancy, general crime, and law enforcement. **Milagro Center children and teens succeed.**

**THE NUMBERS SPEAK VOLUMES:
MILAGRO CENTER'S CHILDREN AND TEENS SUCCEED!**

2018 REVENUES

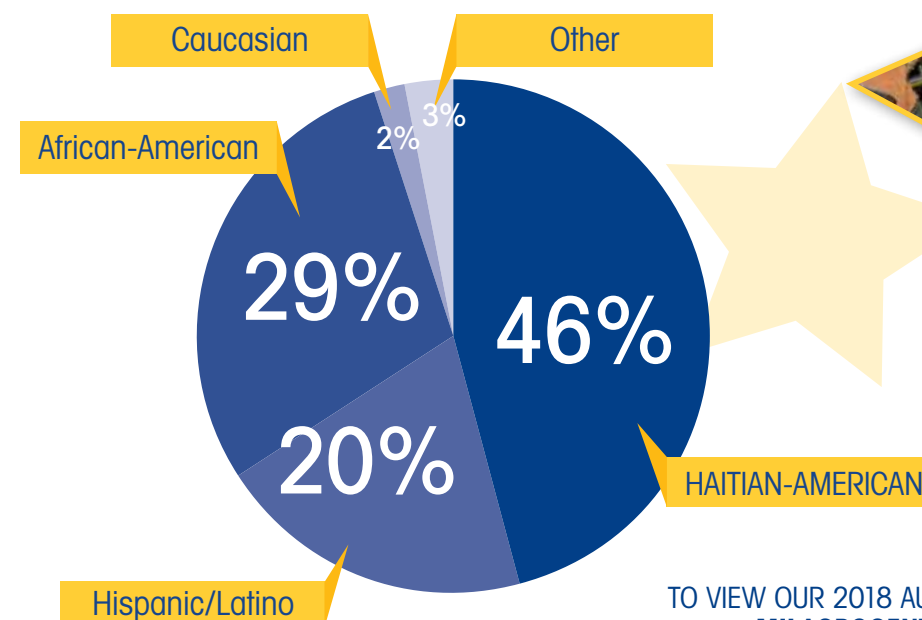


2018 EXPENSES



2018 DEMOGRAPHICS OF POPULATION SERVED

S.T.A.R.S. & TEEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS



TO VIEW OUR 2018 AUDITED FINANCIALS AND 2018 990, PLEASE VISIT:
MILAGROCENTER.ORG/ABOUT-US/#AVAILABILITY-FINANCIALS

2018 COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Milagro Center truly believes it takes a village to raise a child. We are proud of our remarkable ability to create strong community partnerships and collaborations that infuse and enrich our quality programs, further engaging and fostering the success of our at-risk children and youth. It is with much appreciation that we acknowledge and say “thank you” to the following organizations, companies, and individuals - our “village” – that helped make our miracles happen in 2018!

4Girls Foundation
Afterschool Programs, Inc.
Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness
Allstate
American Heritage School
American Red Cross
Arts Garage
Atlantic Avenue Magazine
Atlantis Skateway
AutoNation Chevrolet
AVDA
Best Buy
B’Nai Torah Congregation, Boca Raton
Blaze Pizza
Bluegreen Vacations
Boca Greens Country Club
Boca Museum of Art
Boca Pointe “Clowns on Call”
Boca Raton Observer
Boca Raton Resort
Capital One
Capital One Café Delray Beach
Career Source Palm Beach County
Caridad Center
Carver Middle School
Catherine Strong Splash Park
Center for Creative Education (CCE)
CenterState Bank
Charity Strikes
Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at FAU
Chick-fil-A
Children’s Services Council
Chipotle
Christine’s Hope for Kids
City of Delray Beach
Club Singers of Delray Beach
Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc.
Comcast

Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties
Community Greening
Cool Clothes Closet
Cornell Art Museum
CreditGuard of America
Cultural Council of PBC
Delray Art League
Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce
Delray Beach Children’s Garden
Delray Beach Elks Lodge
Delray Beach Fire Rescue
Delray Beach Forum
Delray Beach Golf Club
Delray Beach Initiative (DBI)
Delray Beach Magazine
Delray Beach Orchid Society
Delray Beach Pineapple Newspaper
Delray Beach Playhouse
Delray Beach Police Department
Delray Beach Public Library
Delray Community Wellness Center
Delray Magazine
Delray Morning Live
Delray Newspaper
Digital Vibez
DPR Construction
Drowning Prevention Coalition of PBC
Early Learning Coalition
Educational Excellence
Extraordinary Charities
Families First
FAU Schmidt College of Medicine
FAU School of Business
FAU Tech Garage
First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach
Florence Fuller Child Development Centers
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Barber Academy
Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County
Florida Power & Light
Forum for Non-Profits Radio Show
Frank’s Bowling
Genesis Community Health & Dental
Green Arrow Marketing & Media Group
Grieco Automotive Group
Grieco Youth Soccer program
Hair Cuttery
Healing Through Expressive Arts
Healthier Delray Beach

Hollander Sleep Products Company
Hyatt Place, Delray Beach
Jack and Jill of America, Inc. (Palm Beach chapter)
Jingle Jolly Holiday Elves
Junior League of Boca Raton
Katz Yeshiva High School of South Florida
Keller Williams Realty
KidSafe Foundation
Kiwanis Club Delray Beach
Lake Ida Park
Leadership Delray
Leadership Palm Beach County
LexisNexis
Lifestyle Media Group
Lord & Taylor, Boca Raton
Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
Lynn University
Marc Julien Homes
Masterful Living
Merrill Lynch
MindBody Expo
Moe’s
Morikami Museum
Morningday Community Solutions
My Brother’s Keeper
My Life My Power (MLMP)
National League of American Pen Women
NCCI
Nerd Alert
Nerdy Cares
Newell Brands (Jarden Consumer Solutions)
Norton Museum
Office Depot
Office Depot Foundation
Old School Square Crest Theatre
Pace Center for Girls
Palm Beach Arts Paper
Palm Beach County Coalition on Human Trafficking
Palm Beach County Government
Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition
Palm Beach County Substance Awareness Coalition
Palm Beach County Youth Services Department
Palm Beach Daily News
Palm Beach Flagler Rotary Club
Palm Beach Historical Society
Palm Beach Philanthropy Tank
Palm Beach Post
Palm Beach School for Autism
Palm Beach State College
Palm Beach Zoo
Palm Greens Women’s Club
Papas Tapas, Delray Beach
Photo Pro Boca

Pine Crest School
Place of Hope
PlanIT
Prediq Media
Prime Time Palm Beach County
Printer’s Choice
Publix
Quiet Waters Park
Ready, Set, Grow Academy
RN Network
Rose Marcom
Rotary Club of Delray Beach
Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Services
Safety Council of Palm Beach County
Saint Andrews Academy
Salt7, Delray Beach
Seagate Beach Club
South Florida Fairgrounds
SouthTech Academy
Sow Share
Space of Mind
Spady Cultural Heritage Museum
Spirit of Giving Network
Stuart & Shelby Development
Suits for Seniors
Sunflower Creative Arts
Sun-Sentinel
Synovus
TADA (The Alliance of Delray Arts)
Target
The Breakers, Palm Beach
The Club Singers of Delray Beach
The Coastal Star
The Corner Bakery
JX Foundation
The “Knit Givers”
Toshiba
Town of Palm Beach United Way
Twin-Star International
United Way of Palm Beach County
University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine
Urban League of Palm Beach County
Village Academy
Wish A Book
Women’s Club of Delray Beach
Women’s Foundation of Palm Beach Community Giving Circle
WPTV
YMCA of South Palm Beach County
Young Singers of the Palm Beaches
Zimmerman Advertising



2018 MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Afterschool Advocacy Committee, Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc.
After School Programs (ASP)
Amazon Smile Program
Center for Creative Education (CCE)
Center for Strategic Philanthropy & Civic Engagement
Chamber of Nonprofit Health & Human Services Providers in Palm Beach County
Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University
Charity Navigator
Children's Services Council Palm Beach County
City of Delray Beach Education Advisory Board
CiviCore
Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties
Council on Accreditation (COA)
Cultural Council of Palm Beach County
Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce
Delray Beach Chamber Nonprofit Council
Directors of Volunteer Services of Palm Beach County
DOVS Palm Beach County
Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
Extraordinary Charities
Family Central, Inc.
Florida Atlantic University (FAU)
Florida Association of Nonprofit Organizations (FANO)
Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF)
Florida Department of Health

The Giving Library
Great Nonprofits
GuideStar
Hands on Tzedakah ("H.O.T.")
Health Council of Southeast Florida
Inter-Agency Network of Palm Beach County
Leadership Delray Beach
Leadership Palm Beach County
Lynn University
Mentor
MentorCore
National Association of Nonprofit Organizations & Executives (NANO)
Nonprofit Chamber
Nonprofits First Palm Beach County
Palm Beach County Directors of Volunteer Services (DOVS)
Palm Beach County Youth Services Department
Palm Beach State College
Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc.
Prime Time Palm Beach County Rising Leaders
Rewards for Causes
Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM)
Spirit of Giving Network
Sunbiz.org
Town of Palm Beach United Way
United States Department of Agriculture Afterschool Program
United Way of Palm Beach County
United Way of Palm Beach County Mentor Network
VolunteerMatch

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Kurt Knaus
Board Chair
PNC Bank
Silvia Evans
Board Treasurer
Palm Beach Accounting and Financial Service, LLC
Lisa Cody
Board Secretary
Twin-Star International

BOARD MEMBERS:

Brad Straka
CreativeDrive
Cindy Schneider
Community Volunteer
Joseph Sontz
Community Volunteer
David Kissell
Zimmerman Advertising
Alex Oliveira
Prediq Media
Mary Olsen
Delray Beach Police Department
LaToya Dixon
Village Academy
Nancy Singer
Community Volunteer
Will Kennedy
DPR Construction
David Worthington
Keter

2018 EXECUTIVE STAFF

Barbara J. Stark M.A.,
President & CEO
Eugenia Harding PHR, SHRM-CP,
Director of HR and Operations
Anthony Bacchus
Teen Leadership Program Director
Glenn Mueller, M.B.A.
Director of Grants Administration
Jamie Leigh Griffiths
Cultural Arts Director
Jeaneen West, B.S.
Director of Curriculum Development
Jennifer Tompkins
Director of Volunteers & Mentors
Kelsy Timot,
Junior Teen Leadership Program Director

Ken Arfa
Music Director
Kendra Williams FLDOE,
S.T.A.R.S. Program Director
Ralph Fano,
Accountant

2018 AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ☆ Celebrated 21st year of providing exceptional afterschool and summer camp programs to the community's most at-risk children and youth.
- ☆ Recognized as the 2018 Cultural Council of Palm Beach County Muse Award Winner for "Outstanding School Committed to Arts Integration".
- ☆ Awarded the PNC Arts Alive Grant for the "Take the Show on the Road" mobile stage project.
- ☆ Major fundraising effort undertaken – and accomplished - to raise funds to renovate the soon-to-be Virginia and Harvey Kimmel Milagro Junior Teen Center.
- ☆ Renovation commenced on the Junior Teen Center in October; facility expected to open in Spring 2019.
- ☆ Grew and expanded the major donor cultivation initiative, attracting individual major gifts and contributions.
- ☆ Recognized as an "Extraordinary Charity" in the 2018 Charitable Giving Directory.
- ☆ Selected by the Delray Beach Initiative as the beneficiary of the October 2018 "Hoedown" fundraising event.
- ☆ Achieved successful reaccreditation by Nonprofits First; renewed Palm Beach County Health Department license; renewed The Florida Solicitation of Contributions registration from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; continued accreditation by the Council on Accreditation (COA).
- ☆ The S.T.A.R.S. program retained its maintenance level achievement and the Junior Teen Leadership Program maintained its high QIS scoring in the Palm Beach County Afterschool Quality Improvement System (QIS).
- ☆ Our Mentoring program maintained its status as a National Mentoring Quality Program through United Way of Palm Beach County. We managed greater than 45 active Mentor/Mentee matches throughout 2018.
- ☆ Selected for the 7th year in a row as a Palm Beach County non-profit organization to participate in the Great Charity Challenge.
- ☆ For the fifth straight year, Milagro Center was selected by FAU's Schmidt College of Medicine as a community site for the 2nd year medical students' service learning projects.
- ☆ Greater than 450 underserved and academically at-risk children and youth living in South Palm Beach County were exposed to cultural arts, academic enrichment, and Living Values lessons through Milagro Center's programs in 2018.
- ☆ Our S.T.A.R.S. students continue to maintain a 9-year 98% average for successful annual grade promotion. Our Teens have had 100% grade promotion in each of the last six years and 100% high school graduation.
- ☆ Milagro Center and Village Academy piloted the "Pick and Play" joint music program project in which weekly private music lessons were provided at Milagro Center's new Middle School Center for interested Village Academy middle school students.
- ☆ Keller Williams 2nd annual volunteer "Red Day" at Milagro Center was held in May.
- ☆ Community Drum Circle and Open Mic events held throughout the year at Milagro's Teen Center.
- ☆ Milagro Center become an official "Little Kids Rock" accredited program (the first program which is not a public school).
- ☆ Continued to grow our investment account to build an operating reserve fund that will help with future sustainability and the renovation of the soon to open Junior Teen Center.
- ☆ Held our 6th Annual Haircuts for the Holidays Event, a successful community outreach and service day for families of the children and youth attending our programs.
- ☆ Our 2018 "Cue the Confetti" event was very successful and exceeded our fundraising goal.
- ☆ Our "100 for 100" Annual Appeal raised greater than its goal of \$10,000.
- ☆ Attracted record number of volunteers (corporate groups and individuals) to become engaged with Milagro Center.

- ☆ Key staff attended the 2018 National Mentor Summit in Washington DC.
- ☆ All front-line staff earned and/or maintained the required DCF 40-hour Child Care Certification, Staff Credential, and completed mandatory in-service state trainings, including classes in child care, CPR and First Aid, and Florida Statutes relating to licensed child care facilities.
- ☆ Art created by youth participating in Milagro Center's Teen Leadership and S.T.A.R.S. programs was exhibited at the Boca Museum of Art, Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, The Blueprint Gallery at Milagro Center, the Delray Art League, Delray Beach Public Library, and Delray Beach City Hall.
- ☆ Our innovative individual and ensemble musical instrument instruction program continued to expand by offering lessons to greater than 80% of enrolled students with additional instrument choices. More than 35% of our students are proficient in more than one instrument.
- ☆ Successfully secured ongoing funds to support the ACT/SAT Prep course for our Teen Leadership Program.
- ☆ The Blueprint Gallery at Milagro Center hosted five professional art exhibits in 2018 and welcomed more than 300 people.
- ☆ Featured as a highlighted non-profit organization on the Forum for Nonprofits Radio Show.
- ☆ Maintained eligibility for the Federal Hot Meal Program, sponsored by After School Programs (ASP), allowing Milagro Center to offer daily nutritious meals to our STARS program children.
- ☆ Named a beneficiary of the Leadership Palm Beach 2018 Toy Drive, in addition to being a recipient of First Presbyterian Church 2018 Holiday Toy Drive,

- Spirit of Giving Network 2018 Holiday Gift program participant, Town of Palm Beach United Way & Daily News 2018 Holiday Toy Drive recipient, and Palm Beach County Government.
- ☆ Awarded United Way of Palm Beach County's Mentoring Micro-Grant.
- ☆ Ongoing professional development for staff included DiSC Assessment Training, Conflict Management, and Team Building workshops facilitated by Andrea Hoffer of AHA! Business Consulting and funded through Nonprofits First.
- ☆ Executive Staff member was a graduate of the Nonprofits First Rising Leaders Class of 2018.
- ☆ Executive Staff member participated in the Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce's 2018 Leadership Delray Class.
- ☆ S.T.A.R.S. Program Director earned her Florida Child Care and Education Program Advanced Director Credential.
- ☆ President & CEO maintained both her National and Florida Child Care and Education Program Advanced Director Credential.
- ☆ Maintained an active marketing and social media presence which has successfully gained visibility for the organization.
- ☆ Junior Teen Leadership and Teen Leadership programs students both earned 1st place in the City of Delray Beach's "Spellabration" Spelling Bee.



MILAGRO CENTER CULTIVATES CREATIVE CHILDREN WHO SUCCEED!

OUR RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

1. We Prepare the Soil by providing a safe space for independence, and creative expression where every child is respected and individual differences are celebrated.
2. Sprinkle the Seeds with care and nurture each child’s strengths while encouraging new growth.
3. We Choose the Right Tools by engaging impassioned teachers and positive adult role models who inspire each child by shining a bright light on learning.
4. We Fertilize Our Garden with Living Values that help our children sprout into strong human beings.
5. We Enjoy the Harvest and celebrate each child’s accomplishments, unbridled self-esteem, and the development of a growing, insightful, creative mind.



“MILAGRO MIRACLES” : THE FACES OF OUR SUCCESS

Milagro Center has helped create success stories for hundreds of at-risk children and teens. Here are just three:



LAISHA

Laisha came to Milagro the summer before kindergarten. Five years later, she is the vice president of the Youth Advisory Council (YAC). Laisha also plays ukulele and sings in the band. She’s a dancer and an A student in school. Laisha is also Milagro’s ambassador, greeting and welcoming potential volunteers, mentors and supporters to the Center with an endearing smile and solid handshake!



JAYDEN

A child of immigrant parents, Jayden started attending Milagro Center the summer before kindergarten, barely 5 years old. His older siblings Christoher and Mildred attend Milagro’s Teen Leadership program. Both his mom and dad suffer from debilitating illnesses. Thanks to his art experiences at Milagro, Jayden is now an A student in sixth grade at the Bak Middle School of The Arts. He has high hopes for his future with aspirations to attend college and then graduate school to become an architect or mechanical engineer.



BARBARA

After her mother suffered a stroke and her living conditions deteriorated, Barbara began coming to Milagro Center the summer before 8th grade. Now in 11th grade, Barbara is thriving. In addition to being called “The Little Mother” because of her willingness to help others, Barbara has a part-time job at a local fast food restaurant and an internship with a major construction company thanks to recommendations and assistance from Milagro Center. She helps with the family’s finances, all while maintaining an A average in school. Barbara is determined to succeed so her mother will be proud!

OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

OUR SUPPORT

Milagro Center is extremely grateful for the support granted by these community-minded foundations, individuals and funding organizations. Together, we are truly making miracles and we **thank you!**





Growing Together



If a child lives with tolerance,
She learns to be patient.
If a child lives
with encouragement,
He learns confidence.
If a child lives with praise,
She learns to appreciate.
If a child lives with fairness,
He learns justice.
If a child lives with security,
She learns to have faith.
If a child lives with approval,
He learns to like himself.
If a child lives
with acceptance
and friendship,
She learns to find love in the world.

— Anonymous



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