



2019 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 AND OUR PRESIDENT & CEO:

Dear Milagro Center Supporters and Friends,

From fairytales to Hollywood blockbusters, “the rule of three” principle suggests things that come in threes are inherently more satisfying and effective than any other number.

That rule could not be more golden than in the case of Milagro Center in 2019 when we were able to achieve our longstanding dream of establishing a 3rd Milagro Center - the Virginia and Harvey Kimmel Milagro Junior Teen Center – which joined our elementary school S.T.A.R.S. Program Center and our high school Teen Leadership Program Center.

Thanks to a magnanimous lead gift from the Kimmels and numerous individual and corporate commitments, on April 15th we cut the ribbon for our new middle school Center, just a few steps away from the Milagro Teen Center. We opened the doors to a whole new world for our underserved and at-risk middle school students – one that includes a formal academic classroom, a dance studio, music room, art studio and individual spaces for tutoring and mentoring.

We are proud to report that almost immediately upon the Center’s opening, the Junior Teen Leadership Program reached its full student capacity, providing afterschool, out-of-school time and summer camp programs specifically tailored for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Most importantly, our dedicated, accredited staff is keenly focused on the unique social and emotional needs of each and every youth, making sure they gain the confidence and skills necessary to transition to Milagro’s Teen Leadership Program and then, as high school graduates, grow into successful, productive, self-driven adults.

This fairytale blockbuster was the highlight of yet another highly successful year at Milagro Center. In 2019, our 22nd year of operations, we expanded our capacity to serving greater than 140 students per day among our three programs. Our operating budget grew to more than \$1 million for the first time ever. As a result, dreams were realized, impact was deepened, and our commitment to the underserved community was extended in a very big way.

Adding to 2019’s successes, Milagro Center achieved successful reaccreditation by the Council on Accreditation (COA). In addition, the Florida Department of Children and Families renewed Milagro Center’s Gold Seal Quality Care Accreditation; Milagro achieved the successful 4-year reaccreditation by Nonprofits First for Sound Nonprofit Management; the Palm Beach County Health Department license was renewed; the S.T.A.R.S. program retained its maintenance level achievement and the Junior Teen Leadership Program maintained a high QIS scoring in the Prime Time Palm Beach County Afterschool Quality Improvement System (QIS); our Mentoring Miracles program maintained its status as a National Mentoring Quality Program through United Way of Palm Beach County; and Milagro Center was once again recognized as an “Extraordinary Charity” in the 2019 Charitable Giving Directory. All of these accreditations, certifications, and recognition exemplify Milagro Center’s commitment as an afterschool provider that successfully implements high performance standards and delivers the highest quality services to all of its underserved children, youth and families.

We’ve come a long way since our founding in 1997! From our original S.T.A.R.S. Center to the establishment of our Teen Leadership Center in 2012, to the opening of our Junior Teen Center this year, we have fulfilled a long-time vision wherein every child receives the very best shot to succeed in school – and in life – through our year-round after-school and summer camp programs. This collective commitment to children from K–12th grade has ensured our continued success, not just in leveling the playing field, but offering enrichment and support academically, creatively and socially. If miracles could be measured, then Milagro Center holds the tape, maintaining an annual goal of 98% grade advancement and 100% high school graduation.

Our newfound trifecta can only thrive when built a solid foundation of volunteer and professional leadership. They say it takes a village and ours is made up of an engaged Board of Directors, an executive leadership team and staff of passionate, committed education and cultural arts professionals, a deep and involved group of mentors and volunteers and a fabulous network of community partners. All remain true to our mission and vision.

We are grateful all of those individuals, corporations and foundations who continue to support Milagro Center’s growth and vision. In addition to our capital campaign for the new Middle School center, we generated substantial support through our Annual 100 for 100 “Faces” Campaign. This additional funding went a long way in helping Milagro Center advance its mission by supporting our many vital programs. Our additional fundraising and friend-making events also included our successful Annual Gala and Fall Hoedown.

We also thank our Milagro families for entrusting us with their prized possessions – their children – whom we embrace each day with care, understanding and support. Each and every day, they remind us of the importance of our mission through their hard work and respect for each other.

So to our children, families, supporters, leadership, mentors and staff that together help Milagro Center succeed... We have enjoyed every moment serving as your President/CEO and Board Chair and offer our endless gratitude for your trust in our leadership. Milagro Center is on an exciting trajectory and we look to the future with boundless energy, bright hope, and unbridled inspiration.

Together, we can now address the ever-evolving needs of our students at all levels – elementary, middle and high school – and proudly declare the legendary Latin phrase “omne trium perfectum” - everything that comes in threes is perfect! We ARE Milagro Center!

Yours in gratitude,

Kurt Knaus



Kurt Knaus
Board Chairman

Barbara J. Stark



Barbara J. Stark
President & CEO



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. Milagro Center's S.T.A.R.S. program enjoys a remarkable 98% annual grade promotion rate. And, 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, and following 5th grade graduation, our S.T.A.R.S. students transition to our Junior Teen Leadership program where academic support, cultural arts enrichment, and mentoring continue.

JUNIOR TEEN LEADERSHIP

Responding to the desperate need in Palm Beach County for additional quality out-of-school time enrichment programs for economically-challenged middle school youth, Milagro Center expanded its “Junior Teen Leadership” program this past year and officially opened the new Virginia and Harvey Kimmel Milagro Junior teen Center, located adjacent to Milagros’s Teen Center at 346 SW. 6th Avenue in Delray Beach. This afterschool and summer camp program is uniquely structured for the academic and social emotional needs of youth in grades 6 through 8. This “Junior Teen Leadership” program is a full 38-week afterschool program and 14-week 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 of 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 now serves over 40 youth and enrollment continues to grow. Our S.T.A.R.S. graduates seamlessly “move up” to this program and remain through their middle school years. Once they become of high school age, they transition to Milagro Center’s Teen Leadership program, allowing Milagro Center the unique and extraordinary opportunity to shape our community’s most vulnerable youth from ages 5 through 18 and prepare them for successful and productive futures.

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 at 340 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, college prep, ACT/SAT preparation, life skills, and other resources 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. The Teens mentor younger students at our S.T.A.R.S 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 8 years ago, 100% of the Teens who attend this program have graduated from high school (many are the first in their families to earn a high school diploma) and are on the path to success, entering college and trade school, becoming apprentices to local professionals, and entering into military service. The Milagro Teen Leadership Program is involved in our local community and our Milagro Teens often contribute their musical and artistic talents to local festivals, fairs, and events, building confidence and self-assurance.



MENTORING MIRACLES

This on-site mentoring program 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 2019, we achieved another record of successfully matching each of our 43 S.T.A.R.S. children with a mentor and, in addition, we expanded the Mentoring Miracles program to now include 9 mentor matches with our Junior Teens. 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 Junior Teen Centers. More than 50% 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 vigorous orientations and ongoing mandatory trainings 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 students to our in-house professional art gallery, “The Blueprint Gallery at Milagro Center”. Milagro Center engages local emerging artists to exhibit their work in The Blueprint Gallery which hosts 5 exhibits each year. The local community's children and youth explore these impactful art exhibits featuring varieties of visual art forms and participate in creative, hands-on artistic projects that relate to these art exhibits. The ARTreach program has proven to be an effective approach to providing economically-challenged children with an art gallery experience and have them explore and embrace their artistic capabilities. In 2019, we were gratified to welcome dozens of underserved children in our ARTreach program and witness their wonder and joy as they embrace art.

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 **6.67% in 2019**, 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 22% who don't turn to crime often cost society more than a quarter of a million dollars individually over the course of their lifetimes.

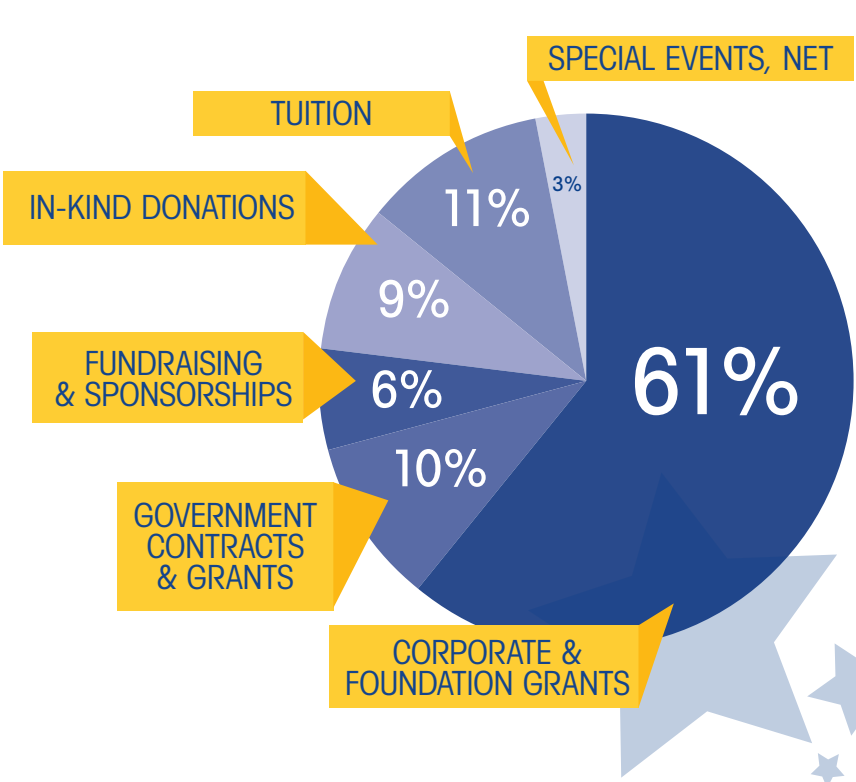


MILAGRO CENTER'S RESULTS

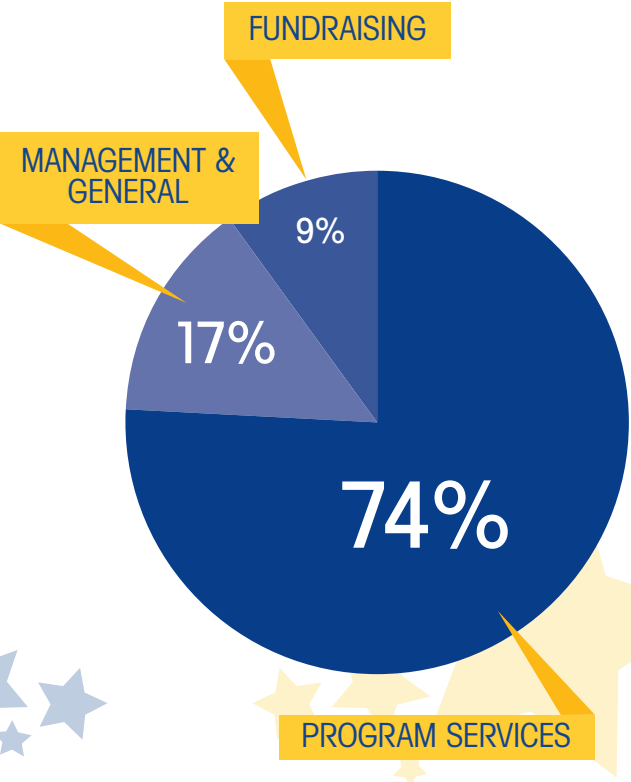
- ☆ More than **450 children and youth** in Palm Beach County were exposed to cultural arts, academic enrichment, and Living Values lessons through Milagro Center's programs in 2019.
- ☆ We continue to operate our licensed and accredited S.T.A.R.S. (K-5th grade) program at **100% maximum enrollment capacity** with a perpetual waiting list.
- ☆ Our S.T.A.R.S. students have a **10-year 98% average** for successful annual grade promotion.
- ☆ Our Teens have had **100% grade promotion** in each of the last 8 years.
- ☆ Milagro Center has paired **52 of our students** with adult mentors (43 at our S.T.A.R.S. K-5 Center and 9 Middle School students).
- ☆ **100%** of our students are maintaining satisfactory school attendance by being absent fewer than 10 days.
- ☆ **100%** of the students in our Teen Leadership Program have increased their college and career preparation skills.
- ☆ **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 school and 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.

2019 REVENUES

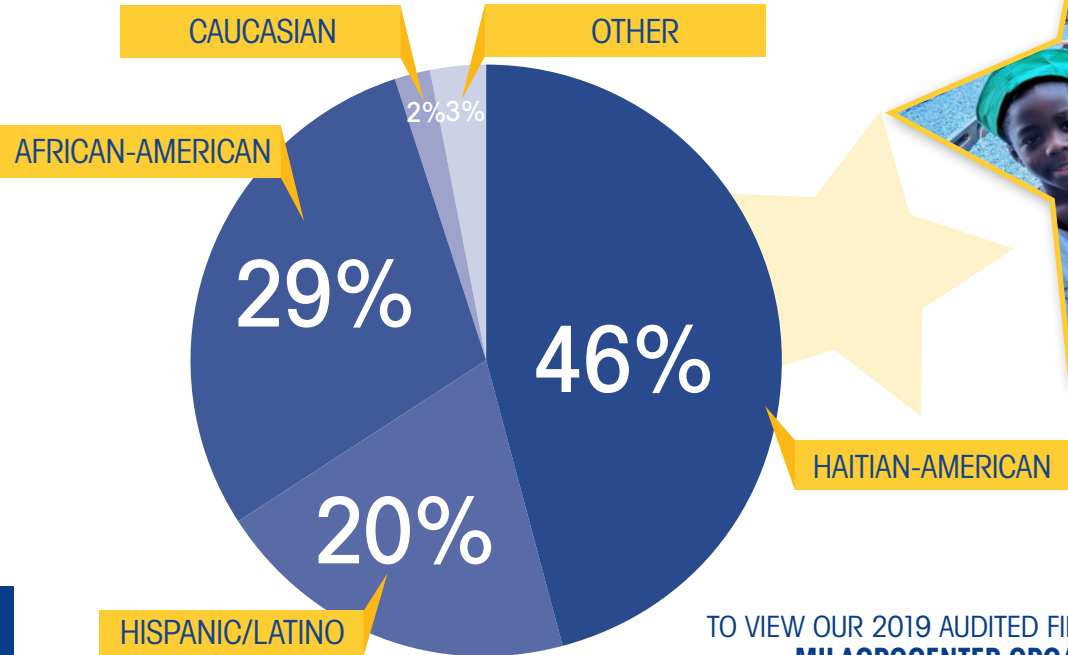


2019 EXPENSES



2019 DEMOGRAPHICS OF POPULATION SERVED

S.T.A.R.S., JUNIOR TEEN LEADERSHIP, TEEN LEADERSHIP, & ARTREACH PROGRAMS



THE NUMBERS SPEAK VOLUMES: MILAGRO CENTER'S CHILDREN AND TEENS SUCCEED IN SCHOOL AND IN LIFE!

TO VIEW OUR 2019 AUDITED FINANCIALS AND 2019 990, PLEASE VISIT: MILAGROCENTER.ORG/ABOUT-US/#AVAILABILITY-FINANCIALS

2019 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 again in 2019!

- 4Girls Foundation
- ABC Institute
- ACHIEVE Palm Beach County
- Afterschool Programs, Inc.
- Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness
- Allstate
- American Heritage School
- American Red Cross
- Atlantic Avenue Magazine
- AVDA
- B’Nai Torah Congregation, Boca Raton
- Bell Rock Capital
- Best Buy
- Blaze Pizza
- Bluegreen Vacations
- Boca Greens Country Club
- Boca Museum of Art
- Boca Pointe “Clowns on Call”
- Boca Raton Observer
- Boca Raton Resort
- Bond Street Cafe
- Capital One
- Capital One Café Delray Beach
- Carabba’s
- 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 Manalapan
- Community Greening
- Cool Clothes Closet

- Cornell Art Museum
- CreditGuard of America
- Cultural Council of Palm Beach County
- Danie Spikes, Relationship Coach/motivational speaker
- Debilzan Gallery
- 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 Vibe
- DPR Construction
- Drowning Prevention Coalition of PBC
- Early Learning Coalition
- Eat Better, Live Better
- Educational Excellence
- Extraordinary Charities
- Families First
- FAU Schmidt College of Medicine
- FAU School of Business
- FAU Tech Garage
- Feeding South Florida
- First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach
- Flipany
- Florida Association of Women Lawyers
- 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
- Freedom Chiropractic
- Genesis Community Health & Dental
- Green Arrow Marketing & Media Group
- Grieco Automotive Group
- Grieco Youth Soccer program
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hair Cuttery
- Healing Through Expressive Arts
- Health Council of Southeast Florida
- Healthier Delray Beach
- Hessler Paint

- Hollander Sleep Products Company
- Home Depot
- Hyatt Place, Delray Beach
- Iberia Bank
- In Jacob’s Shoes
- Jack and Jill of America, Inc. (Palm Beach chapter)
- Jingle Jolly Holiday Elves
- Joshua’s Heart Foundation
- Junior League of Boca Raton
- Katz Yeshiva High School of South Florida
- Keller Williams Realty
- Kianga ART
- KidBox
- KidSafe Foundation
- Kiwanis Club Delray Beach
- KOP Mentoring Network
- Lake Ida Park
- Leadership Delray
- Leadership Palm Beach County
- LexisNexis
- Lifestyle Media Group
- Live Nation
- Lord & Taylor, Boca Raton
- Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
- Lynn University
- Marc Julien Homes
- Marshall’s
- Masterful Living
- Merrill Lynch
- Miami Children’s Health Plan
- 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)
- Nonprofits First
- Norton Museum
- 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 Food Bank
- 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
- Plastring Insurance
- Porcaro Law Group
- 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
- Saint Andrews Academy
- Salt7, Delray Beach
- Seagate Beach Club
- Social House
- South Florida Fairgrounds
- SouthTech Academy
- Sow Share
- Space of Mind
- Spady Cultural Heritage Museum
- Spirit of Giving Network
- State Farm Insurance
- Stuart & Shelby Development
- Suits for Seniors
- Sunflower Creative Arts
- Sun-Sentinel
- Synovus Bank
- Target
- The Breakers, Palm Beach
- The Club Singers of Delray Beach
- The Coastal Star
- The Corner Bakery
- The Institute for Regional Conservation
- Toshiba
- Touch a Heart Foundation
- Town of Palm Beach United Way
- Twin-Star International
- United Way of Palm Beach County
- UM, Miller School of Medicine
- Urban League of Palm Beach County
- Village Academy
- Village at Delray
- Wayside House
- Wise Tribe
- 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 Engineers
- Young Singers of the Palm Beaches
- Zimmerman Advertising



2019 MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

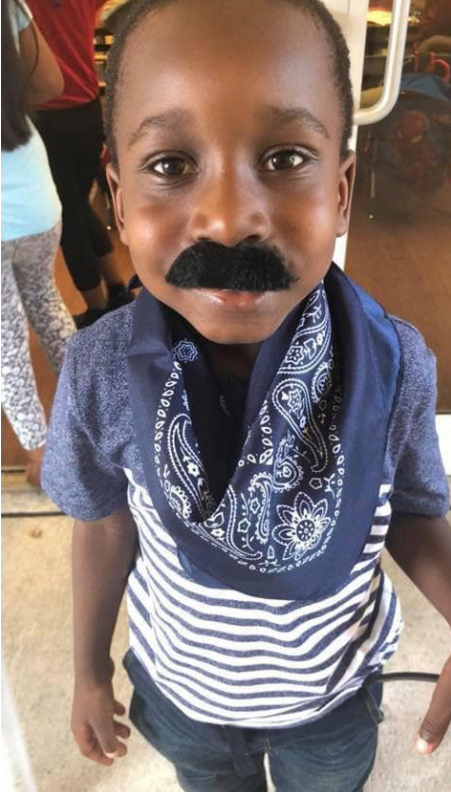
- Afterschool Alliance
After School Programs (ASP)
Amazon Smile Program
Blacktie South Florida
Center for Creative Education (CCE)
Center for Strategic Philanthropy & Civic Engagement
Chamber of Nonprofit Health & Human Services
Providers in Palm Beach County
Charity Navigator
Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University
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
Directors of Volunteer Services of Palm Beach County
Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
Extraordinary Charities
Family Central, Inc.
Florida Association of Nonprofit Organizations (FANO)
Florida Atlantic University (FAU)
Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Tech Runway/
TechGarage
Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF)
Florida Department of Health
Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)
Florida Office of Early Learning
Great Nonprofits
Greater Delray Beach Chamber Nonprofit Council
Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce
Greater Delray Chamber Education Fund
- 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
Little Kids Rock
Lynn University
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
PayPal Giving Fund
Prime Time Palm Beach County Rising Leaders
Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc.
Rewards for Causes
Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM)
Spirit of Giving Network
Sunbiz.org
The Giving Library
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
Volunteers of the Palm Beaches

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Community Volunteer
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Community Volunteer
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2019 EXECUTIVE STAFF

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Cultural Arts Director
- Jennifer Tompkins,
Director of Volunteers & Mentors
Jeaneen West, B.S.,
Sr. Director of Education and Innovation, JTL and TL Programs
Kendra Williams, FLDOE,
Sr. Director of Education and Innovation, S.T.A.R.S. Program



2019 AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Celebrated 22nd year of providing exceptional afterschool and summer camp programs to the community's most at-risk children and youth.

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 2019.

On April 15, 2019, Milagro Center was proud to host the grand opening & ribbon cutting of the new Virginia & Harvey Kimmel Milagro Junior Teen Center, dedicated to providing Middle School youth with quality academic and cultural arts enrichment, mentoring, and life skills in afterschool and out-of-school time sessions.

With the addition of the Virginia & Harvey Kimmel Milagro Junior Teen Center to the S.T.A.R.S. and Teen Centers in 2019, Milagro Center's 3 Centers now provide a seamless and continuous opportunity for a child to attend Milagro Center's programs from Kindergarten through their senior year in high school.

Milagro Center was proud to be selected as a finalist for the prestigious Impact 100 Men's Grant in 2019.

Milagro Center received a grant from the Jack and Jill Foundation to start a College Readiness Program at the Junior Teen Center.

Milagro Center was once again recognized as an "Extraordinary Charity" in the 2019 Charitable Giving Directory.

In 2019, Milagro Center received a grant from the Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties to create a community art garden on the land between our Junior Teen Center and Teen Center.

Seven of our neediest families were selected to receive a check for \$7,000 through The Mary Alice Fortin Foundation's "Christmas in July" Program.

For the sixth 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.

Our S.T.A.R.S. students continue to maintain a 10-year 98% average for successful annual grade promotion. Our Teens have had 100% grade promotion in each of the last seven years and 100% high school graduation.

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.

The Blueprint Gallery at Milagro Center hosted five professional art exhibits in 2019, including a collaborative exhibit with Wayside House. By the end of the year, more than 350 people from around the community attended the gallery.

Milagro Center maintained its eligibility for the Federal Hot Meal Program, sponsored by After School Programs (ASP), allowing Milagro Center to offer daily nutritious meals to our S.T.A.R.S. program children.

Our 2019 "Gala of Light" fundraising event was very successful and exceeded our fundraising goal.

Our "100 Faces" Annual Appeal greatly exceeded its revenue goal.

Milagro Center partnered with the Delray Beach Elks Lodge and hosted the "Delray Country Hoedown" fundraising event, raising ample funds.

Held our 7th Annual Haircuts for the Holidays Event, a successful community outreach and service day for families of the children and youth attending our programs.

Selected for the 8th year in a row as a Palm Beach County non-profit organization to participate in the Great Charity Challenge.

Through a generous grant from The Fisher Foundation, Milagro Center founded a Dramatic Arts Program at our S.T.A.R.S. Center. All 43 of the children enrolled in our S.T.A.R.S. Program completed the entire curriculum and had the opportunity to participate in two live performances, including an original play, "the Relative's Came." Our students wrote the script, blocked out scenes, and even designed the backdrops themselves.

Our S.T.A.R.S. students participated in the countywide spelling bee put on by Palm Beach County's Youth Services Department. Our very own 4th grader Joanna won second place in her division.

Milagro Center's Teen Leadership Program Director Anthony Bacchus was the proud recipient of PrimeTime Palm Beach County's "Above and Beyond Award." Milagro student Jayden Lux was also nominated for the "Rising Star Award!"

Joanna from our S.T.A.R.S. Program was accepted to the prestigious BAK Middle School of the Arts. She also received a scholarship for private lessons at Boca Ballet Theater.

Milagro Center received a Great ideas Initiative grant from the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County that enabled us to partner with Tech Garage at Florida Atlantic University to offer robotics instruction at each of our three Centers. Our Teen robotics team had the opportunity to compete in a national robotics competition in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina... and they came home with two awards. The HIGHEST ROOKIE SEED AWARD celebrates the highest-seeded rookie team at the conclusion of the qualifying rounds, and the ROOKIE INSPIRATION AWARD celebrates a rookie teams' outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering and engineers, both within their school, as well as in their community.

Milagro Center partnered with the City of Delray Beach, area private businesses, and other nonprofit organizations to introduce middle school girls to career opportunities in the construction industry through our "Girls Go Build" Program.

The Department of Children and Families renewed Milagro Center's Gold Seal Quality Care Accreditation.



MILAGRO CENTER CULTIVATES CREATIVE CHILDREN WHO SUCCEED!

Here is our “5-Step 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. We “Sprinkle the Seeds” with care and nurture each child’s strengths while encouraging new growth.
- 3. We “Stimulate the Seedlings” by employing 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, tolerant, and caring human beings.
- 5. We “Enjoy the Harvest” and celebrate each child’s accomplishments, unbridled self-esteem, and the development of a growing, insightful, creative, and productive 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:



S.T.A.R.S. Program Success Story: Miguel

Miguel was a shy and quiet 1st grader when he walked through the doors of Milagro. You could barely hear him speak when he was asked to share in class. His older brother Alejandro was adjusting well to being in a new space with new peers yet Miguel struggled to fit in. Milagro students constantly invited him to play on the playground in various little groups to play Beyblades or shoot basketball. Each day when Miguel got off the bus staff would smile, greet him, and welcome him. He would wave quickly and would quietly go to his class to complete his homework in silence on most days. Flash forward 4 yrs. Miguel is now a 5th grader and a star guitar student. He comes in off of the bus the loudest of the bunch. Still with a quick wave but now with a warm smile and a boisterous good-afternoon, Miguel is the life of Milagro. There’s never a dull moment with Miguel. He’s bright, supportive, and always willing to try something new and share his experience of it. Miguel play classical music, is a member of our ensemble, and has done public performances as well. For a student his age, he has tremendous attention to detail and understanding of music theory and has grown leaps and bounds in self-confidence!



Junior Teen Leadership Program Success Story: Antonia

Antonia was patiently waiting to turn 12 years-old in order to register for Milagro’s Junior Teen Leadership Program for Middle School students. Her older brother and sister were already attending Milagro Center each day after school and she admired what they were learning and yearned to enjoy the same experiences. Finally, it was her turn and she hit the ground running! Antonia was excited about attending Milagro’s new Junior Teen Center and almost immediately became a leader of the 6th grade students. With her confidence, outgoing personality, and easygoing style, Antonia has been a tremendous contributor to the program and continues developing her leadership skills. In fact, she ran for the office of Vice President of the Junior Teen Advisory Council and she won the student election! Antonia is also a very active member of Milagro’s new Girls Go Build Construction Club, never missing a session and always participating with vigor. She was so involved with this innovative Delray Beach community collaboration that she was invited to speak about her experiences at the City of Delray Beach Commission meeting this year. Not surprisingly, Antonia confidently addressed the Mayor, City Commissioners, and a room full of community members. Antonia was also spotlighted with PrimeTime Palm Beach County as an exceptional 6th grader and participated in a PrimeTime video. Antonia is definitely a Milagro Rising Star with abundant talent and intelligence and ready for continued success! Watch out world, Antonia is emerging!



Teen Leadership Program Success Story: Francisco

Francisco has been attending Milagro Center since the 1st grade showing up every day with his infectious smile, positive energy and charm. Now as a high school senior attending Milagro’s Teen Leadership Program, Francisco describes his many years’ experience at Milagro as “blessing me with the opportunities such as internships, jobs, and academic help.” One of Francisco’s most memorable Milagro accomplishments is the DPR Construction internship that he was awarded last summer. He shares that through this internship he learned a lot about himself, and he learned about different career paths in construction and business.

Francisco is an extremely bright young man with a successful career ahead of him. He will be the first of his siblings to attend college next fall. Francisco expressed that, “I am still searching for a career path but I am planning on completing my Bachelor’s degree starting at Palm Beach State College and then on to FAU to finish and just want to enjoy my time at college.” When we asked Francisco what his greatest ambition is in life he says, “I am planning on investing in real estate. I’m trying to save up my money and start having great credit so I can earn my first house and everything from there hopefully goes smoothly.” He is truly a Milagro Center S.T.A.R. who has grown to be a high achieving Milagro Teen!

OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

OUR SUPPORT

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

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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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