



2016-17 Annual Report

Side by Side strives to engage, equip, and encourage parents to partner with schools to promote their children's success in the classroom.

Program Statistics

- We engaged **998 parents and children**
- held **88 workshops** and **10 family game nights** for pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, 1st-grade, and 2nd-grade families at 5 schools
- served our Spanish-speaking families by providing a rotating schedule of **11 interpreters** to assist during parent workshops
- implemented a dynamic program called **Booster Club**, in **3** schools, dedicated to working with teacher-identified students who need extra assistance in small groups during the school day and engaging their parents at home
- equipped parents to help their children succeed—**92% of parents** reported that they had used math and reading games from our workshops at home to strengthen their children's reading and/or math skills
- established professional relationships—**25 teachers** taught parents a variety of math and reading techniques to use with their child at home

“Side by Side is a valuable community program that extends an invitation to all parents to join us in the learning process for all of our children. As a teacher of forty-one years, I enjoy sharing strategies and materials to help my students become better readers, writers, mathematicians, and thinkers. I encourage all parents to take advantage of this valuable and important opportunity by attending our Side by Side sessions. Our children are our future!” – *Marian Dulovich, 1st grade workshop leader at Scotchtown Hills Elementary.*



“When my daughter entered kindergarten, she had some learning deficiencies and the teacher told me at our first meeting that she possibly would not advance to the 1st grade. I was worried about my daughter. I remember a day when a flyer came home inviting us to a meeting at the school. They explained at the meeting there were many things we could do to assist our children in learning math, reading and writing. The program was like a ring on my finger to give me what I needed for my child. They taught us how to teach our children using dice, cards, shaving cream, and many other things they gave us. Little by little she improved. When we had our second meeting with her teacher, she told me that Alisson was in better condition to advance to 1st grade.” – *Manuel Contreras, parent of Alisson at Scotchtown Hills.*



“Joe Murchison spoke to our church about Side by Side one fateful day. I was interested in other worthy causes, but I felt *called* to Side by Side. It has been quite a ride...busy, challenging, and rewarding beyond words. There are so many opportunities wrapped up in one wonderful organization! Of all the things I have had an opportunity to do, the best has been Booster Club. I, like other members with teaching backgrounds, work with children who need extra support by showing how to play learning games that we then send home with instructions for parents. Talking to parents and hearing them ask for more games or tell me how their kids love to play...seeing the kids say, “Oh! It’s Miss Linda!” and run to line up, eyes shining...seeing them blossom and behave and participate and learn...all that just feeds my soul and makes my heart glad.” – *Linda Engstrom, Side by Side board secretary and Booster Club teacher.*



Financial Statistics
July 31, 2016-June 30, 2017

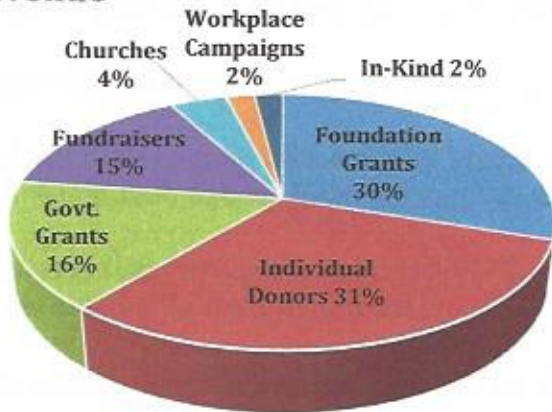
Revenue: \$171,119

Expenses: \$148,217

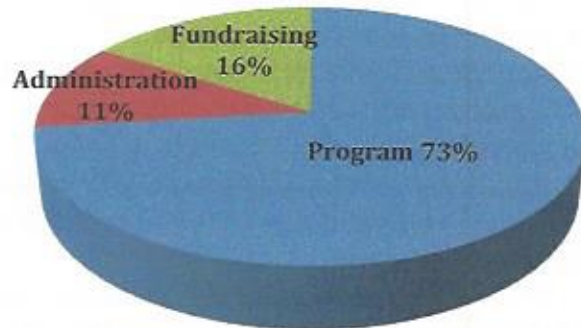
Revenue over Expenses: \$22,902

For the first time in its nine-year history, Side by Side contracted with a CPA firm, Alta CPA Group of Annapolis, to undergo a full audit of our finances. The results were heartening. We ended the year with a \$23,000 surplus, and the CPA firm found no major issues with our financial procedures. Of special note was a doubling of donations from individuals, reaching a total of \$50,973 – almost a third of our total revenue. We are grateful! To view our full audit, go to our website: <https://sidebysidelaurel.org>.

Revenue



Expenses



We thank our major donors and community sponsors:



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We are deeply indebted to the generosity of these individuals who donated in 2017!

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