

Annual Report

In 2020, Families & Schools Together continued to make a critical difference for families in the midst of challenges, especially as COVID-19 forced schools to modify in-person instruction and families to socially isolate themselves from their communities. Building trusting relationships between families, schools, and communities — relationships parents can rely on for resources and support, particularly during times of crisis — has always been a key value of the FAST Program. So when the circumstances of the global pandemic shifted education online, our organization supported FAST Teams as they also adapted the traditional after-school program to a virtual format, enabling team members to stay connected with families and to continue strengthening that vital network of support from home.

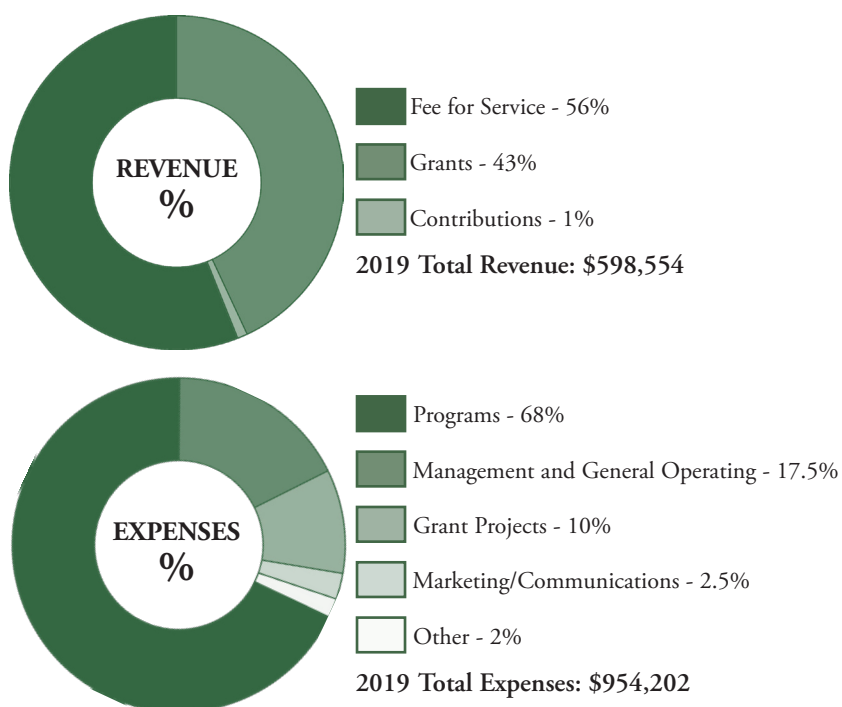
“I enjoyed meeting other parents and grandparents during our FAST nights, and although we had to switch to online FAST, it was still nice to see and talk with the other families during Parent Group... Thank you for reaching out to me and getting me to connect to other parents. As a single parent, it was nice to still be able to speak with others I had gotten to know.”

FAST Parent, Western Community Health Resources in Chadron, Nebraska

“When we did FAST at home, it gave us an avenue for people to really talk about what they were actually feeling regarding what was going on, not only in the school but the community in general, and how they felt about being alone and home with their kids.”

Ms. Dawn Collins, Engleburg Elementary School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Operating Budget



Despite major challenges related to COVID-19, our work continued...

400 individuals (children, parents, family members) graduated from the at-home program in the spring.

37 sites around the nation began the official "FAST at Home" program, developed over the summer as the pandemic continued, in the fall.

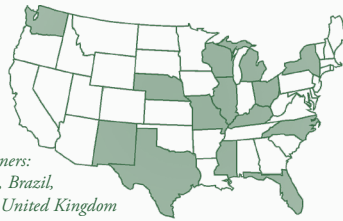
5 pilot programs of the newly revised Early Childhood Education FAST level launched at Family Resource Centers across Wisconsin.

4 schools participated virtually in the FAST Institute of Family Engagement (teacher professional development).

Demographics and Data

3,276

*people served at an average
of four participants per family.*



819

*families graduated in 2019
(attended at least six sessions).*

3-60+

*was the age range of participants,
including children from all grade
levels (Pre-K-12th).*

*Families served were from diverse
backgrounds, including*

62%
BIPOC

34%
White

67%

*of families served reported an
annual income <\$50,000 and
43% reported <\$25,000.*

83%

*83% of parents reported an increase in home-based involvement
in schooling and 80% in involvement in child's school.*

*The average combined satisfaction rate for all families
participating in the program was 9.1 out of 10.*

9.1
/10

78%

*78% of parents reported an increase in support given to other
parents and 75% in support received from other parents.*

Support

Families & Schools Together is grateful for the generous support we received from the funders below to help make new and ongoing projects possible during this uncertain year.

Wisconsin Department of Children & Families

\$315,000 (2020) & \$250,000 (2019-20)

United Way of Dane County

\$15,000 ('20) & \$17,500 ('19)

Northwestern Mutual

\$15,000 ('19)

Madison Rotary Foundation

\$2,875 ('20) & \$2,964 ('19)

Walmart Foundation

\$500 ('19)

Chief Admin Personnel

*Toni K. Rivera Joachin
Executive Director*

*Cathy Couture
Board Chair/President*

*Deirdre Hargrove-Krieghoff
Board Executive Committee*

*Dr. Lynn McDonald
Founder*