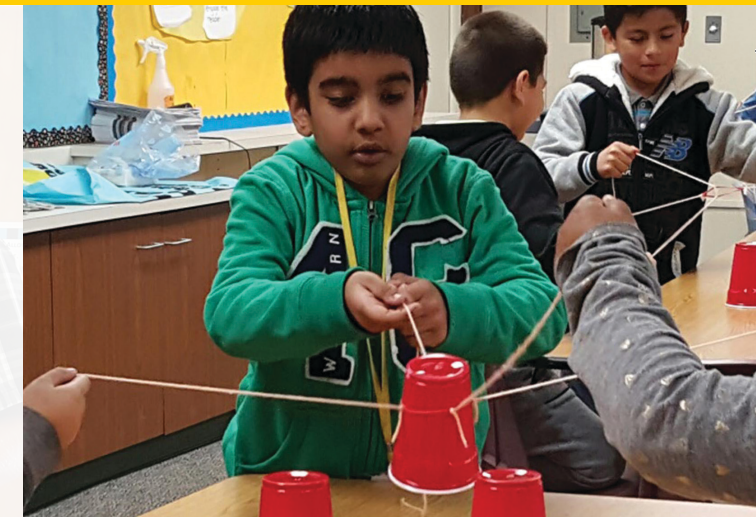


EMPOWERING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



2015-16 ANNUAL REPORT





A celebration of learning

A message from our Executive Director

The 2015-2016 year was another blessed year for Reading and Beyond. The word “expansion” has been a large part of our vocabulary in describing what has been happening to us during this year.

Like any expansion, no matter how great it goes, there are always some growing pains, too. We have had our share during this year. It was sad to see great team members moving on to other opportunities, but it also has been exciting to welcome new ones eager to implement the organization’s vision.

Highlights during this year:

- 1. We almost doubled the number of full-time staff.*
- 2. We increased the number of sites where we provide services.*
- 3. We bought our first building to let the residents of 93701 know that we are there for the long term.*
- 4. We are expanding our reach to the rural areas by opening sites in Kerman, Reedley and Selma.*
- 5. We have started talks with other counties about opportunities to utilize our Fresno Bridge Academy model as a way to provide workforce development and training for unemployed or underemployed populations in their communities.*

However, as you read about our programs and results in this report, you will see our accomplishments went beyond the ones highlighted above. If you haven't gotten involved with Reading and Beyond, I hope these exciting changes will encourage you to do so.

If we were to compare Reading and Beyond to a person, this would be our last year as a minor. These 17 years have been a great journey. It would not have been as successful without the leadership and support of our Board of Directors or the past and present staff team members who believed in the mission and vision of the organization and worked hard to achieve them. In addition, without our partners, volunteers and donors, we would have been limited in the services we could provide. To all of you, THANK YOU for your partnerships. We look forward to continue working with you all this coming year.

Blessings,

Luis



Harinder (Randy) Dhindsa
Chair
 Senior Vice President; Manager
 Rabobank, N.A.



Francine Farber, Ed.D.
Vice-Chair
 League of Women Voters Fresno



Emil Milevoj
Secretary
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 Craig School of Business, CSUF



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Benny D. Barco
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 Law Office of Benny D. Barco

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Working together and bringing success to our families



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School Readiness

Reading and Beyond Preschool

Reading and Beyond Preschool has had a productive year. At the beginning of 2016, Reading and Beyond Preschool received a rating of 4 out of 5 stars, with 5 being the highest mark of quality, by the Fresno County Office of Education's Early Stars program. The rating makes it easy for parents to identify quality providers, while giving providers the opportunity to promote their programs with Early Stars validations. As a result of earning a 4-star rating, Reading and Beyond Preschool received a \$48,000 grant to promote activities that support and improve quality.

During the 2015-16 year, Reading and Beyond Preschool

served about 70 children aged 3-5 years old. Twice per year, students are administered the Desired Results Developmental Profile Assessment (DRDP), which rates children through observed behavior across a developmental continuum. The June 2016 graduating preschool class had an average of 93% of children at the building-later-and-integrating-earlier level on the developmental continuum across all developmental domains. The domains include the following approaches to learning: self-regulation and development in self/social, language, literacy, physical, health, history-social science, and English language. Children who are at the

building-later-and-integrating-earlier level have a greater likelihood of exhibiting behaviors associated with school readiness.

Reading and Beyond Preschool partnered with Fresno JumpStart for another year to provide additional language and literacy support, which included engaging children in literacy-focused activities twice per week for two-hour sessions. Family literacy kits and end-of-the-year kits were provided to give parents opportunities to help their children's academic growth and development at home.





School Success

Kindergarten through 12th grade

Literacy Programs

Reading and Beyond operates a variety of literacy programs throughout Fresno and has expanded to some rural areas to reach those students in highest need. Through our literacy programs, students are gaining the skills needed to succeed academically, but more importantly, they're becoming good readers.

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 1,243

TOTAL NUMBER OF SITES: 29

After-School Programs (After school education & Safety)

Heaton Elementary • Lowell Elementary
Storey Elementary • Balderas Elementary
Yokomi Elementary • Jefferson Elementary

Day-School Sites

Wishon Elementary • Balderas Elementary
Aynesworth Elementary • Gibson Elementary
Yokomi Elementary • Storey Elementary
West Park Elementary

Fresno Housing Authority sites

Parc Grove • Fairview Heights • Villa del mar
Granada Commons • Orange Cove • Firebaugh
Yosemite Village • Reading and Beyond At Van Ness

Boys & Girls Club Sites

Zimmerman • East • West • Del Rey
Mendota • Huron

Community Sites

Mosqueda • Hope Lutheran Church
Wesley Methodist Church

SUMMER ACADEMY

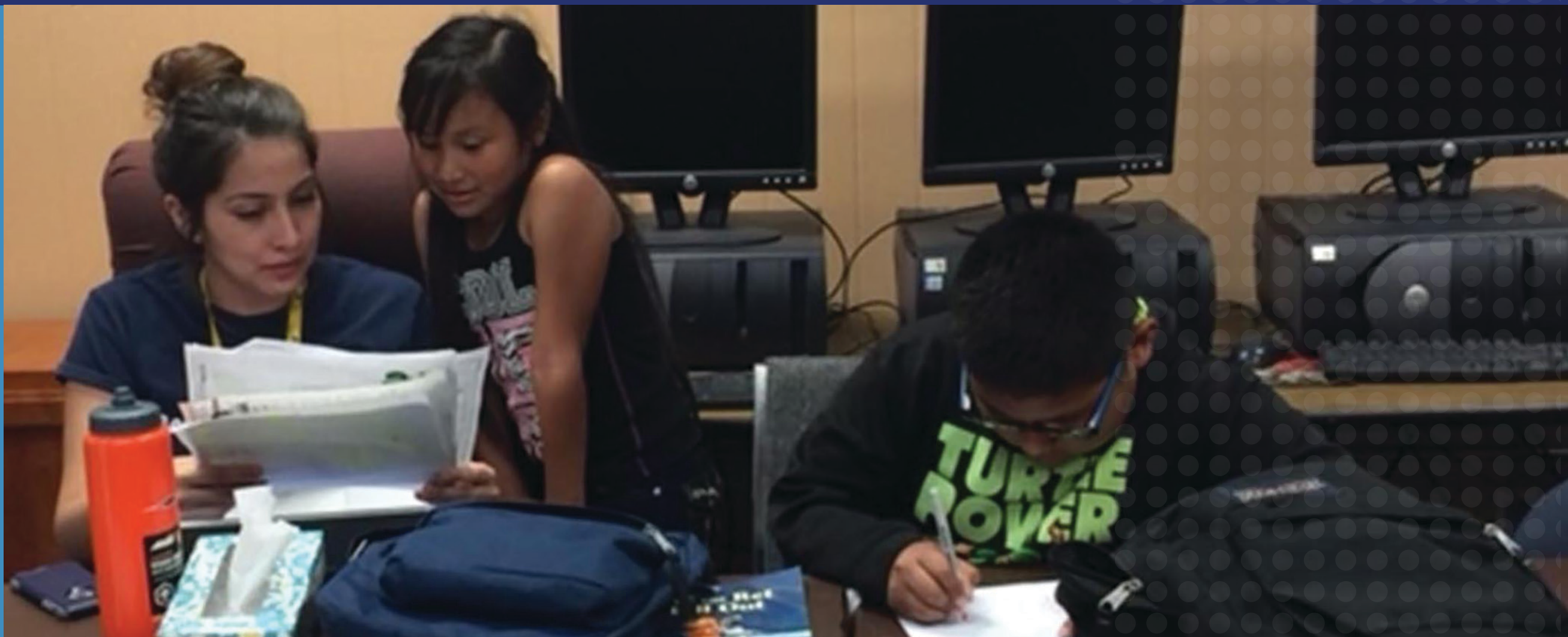
THE SUMMER ACADEMY IS DESIGNED TO PREVENT SUMMER LEARNING LOSS. AS STUDIES SHOW, LOW-INCOME STUDENTS SCORE LOWER IN STANDARDIZED TESTS AT THE END OF SUMMER THAN THEY DO BEFORE SUMMER. IN ADDITION TO MAINTAINING THEIR READING SKILLS OVER THE SUMMER, WE ALSO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN A VARIETY OF FUN, CREATIVE AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES.

OVERALL RESULTS:

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 1,378
STUDENTS WITH IMPROVED READING: 90%
STUDENTS IMPROVED BY ONE GRADE LEVEL: 70%



K-12 Success Story: Alexa Ruiz



Eight-year-old Alexa Ruiz started the After-School Program at the Mosqueda Community Center in October 2015 when she was in 3rd grade. At the beginning, she could hardly speak any English let alone read English. On the other hand, her Spanish reading was outstand-

ing. Site Coordinator Francisco Morales decided to place her in the 2nd-grade reading level group.

Initially hesitant to participate in classroom activities, Alexa improved tremendously within eight months. She was no longer shy about reading aloud and was one of the first to raise her hand to read.

She went from knowing how to read only in Spanish to reading in both English and Spanish at the same level.

In May 2016, she successfully tested at a 3rd-grade reading level in English. One day near the end of the school year, Alexa said to her teacher, “Maestro Francisco, ahora

ya no me da pena leer en el grupo ahora me gusta mucho (Mr. Francisco, now I’m no longer shy when I read in our reading group; now, I like it a lot).”



College & Career

Youth Empowered for Success/Youth Success

The 2015-2016 year has been amazing for the Youth Empowered for Success (YES) program. Of the 39 students in the program, five were seniors. By the end of the school year, all the seniors graduated and were on target to attend local colleges.

The YES program, which is designed to help high school students stay on track to be eligible for college, is led by a Family Navigator who provides monthly workshops to students and their parents to help them to make informed decisions about universities. The Family Navigator also supports students with

tutoring, college admissions and financial-aid advising.

At the end of December 2015, Reading and Beyond completed its partnership with Focus Forward and Fresno Barrios Unidos to provide youth development services through the Youth Success program, which was initially known as the Southeast Youth Success program when it began in Spring 2014. The program, which had 99 clients, worked with young people who had previous contact with the Fresno County's Juvenile Justice Campus and needed support to stay on track with their educational and career goals.



Success Story: Beatriz Garcia



"The program has helped me because I am the first in my family to attend college. The program has guided me with college information. I would have been lost without the YES program. I would not have known what I learned about college enrollment."

- Beatriz Garcia, A YES participant and recent graduate of Roosevelt High School who will be attending California State University, Fresno.

Career Success

Fresno Bridge Academy

The Fresno Bridge Academy (FBA), our employment and training program, has seen some exciting changes and tremendous growth during the past year. In March 2015, the U.S. Department of Agriculture selected the County of Fresno, Department of Social Service's CalFresh Employment and Training proposal as one of 10 pilots to be implemented. The pilot proposal, which was based on the FBA, launched in January 2016. All the while, the regular Fresno Bridge Academy continued and runs concurrently with the pilot program.

The FBA, as a whole, currently serves 576 families and is set to enroll another 1,691 families by the

end of June 2017. More than 31 clients have attained new employment and more than 35 have started education programs to pursue their GED certificates, high school diplomas or post-secondary degrees or certificates.

The program also has expanded to nine locations throughout Fresno County, including Pinedale, West Fresno, Kerman, Reedley and Selma. With the expansion, new staff members have been hired, including 31 Career & Family Navigators, three Lead Career & Family Navigators, three Education Navigators, two Employer Liaisons and a Finance/Accountant Assistant.



Success Story: Beatrice Barba



Beatrice Barba joined the Fresno Bridge Academy in February 2016. The married mother of three children was unemployed and didn't know where to start finding employment. Her goals were to find a job as a caregiver, work toward gaining her GED certificate, and eventually become a Certified Nursing Assistant.

After only four months into the program, Beatrice's dedication is

paying off. She's been working with Education Navigators to earn her GED certificate. With her Career & Family Navigator's guidance, she's learned how to apply for jobs, write cover letters and her resume, and completed FBA's Job Club Workshop sessions. Through the assistance of an Employment Liaison, she's now employed part-time as an Independent/Supported Living Specialist. She continues to be active in the program.



Career Success

Pathways to Success

Since October 2014, Reading and Beyond's Pathways to Success program has provided small-group tutoring to adults looking to complete their GED certificates and

increase their digital literacy skills. Students worked with a dedicated Education Navigator and received individualized lessons and assistance while also gaining a sense of

community and encouragement with their group. The program ended at the end of June 2016.



INDIVIDUAL
GED SUBJECT EXAMS
PASSED SINCE 2014

207

TOTAL
CLIENTS

SINCE
2014

411

FISCAL YEAR
2015-16

213

EARNED GED
CERTIFICATES

31

26



Success Story: Ruby Trinidad



Pathways to Success student Ruby Trinidad epitomizes tenacity and persistence. When she began the program in October 2014, she was disheartened, having attended other adult education schools and was certain the GED was beyond

her reach. Ruby studied in class for more than a thousand hours. Her first success was passing the science subject test, but things became difficult. She struggled with the remaining subject exams, taking tests numerous times and just falling below the passing mark.

She'd take a day off to soothe her wounds, then come right back to her seat and keep on studying. Her hard work paid off, and she attained her GED certificate on July 5th, 2016.

Ruby's educational journey continues. She is interested in the

medical field and will begin Fresno City College in August. Her goal is to be a dental assistant and have a career that will fulfill her personally and professionally.

Family Success Zone

Family Navigators

The Family Success Zone (FSZ) is dedicated to helping families in the 93701 zip code, which includes many of the poorest neighborhoods in the state. To help assist parents, adults and families in that area, the Family Success Zone was launched in October 2015.

An essential part of the FSZ, the Family Navigators provide ongoing family support by assisting parents in navigating school systems, preventing chronic absences, and helping families access resources to better support each family member. They also conduct home visits, provide case management and assist

with the development and tracking of individual and family goals.

To help students in the 93701 area reach and surpass grade-level reading, Reading and Beyond started the Literacy Intervention Programming for students at Yokomi and Jefferson elementary schools identified by Fresno Unified School District needing additional support.

Literacy tutorial was provided during the after-school hours. The amount of intervention (number of sessions) is based upon academic need as shown through reading assessment baseline results provided by Fresno Unified School District.



	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	OF THE TOTAL PARTICIPANTS
BIRTH TO 5	100	38 ENROLLED IN EARLY EDUCATION SERVICES
K - 3 RD GRADE	78	45 ENROLLED IN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS OR COMMUNITY SITES
4 TH - 6 TH GRADE	62	34 ENROLLED IN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS
MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL	137	44 ENROLLED IN COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
PARENTS	171	97 PARTICIPATED IN HOME VISITS, EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

Supervised Children Rooms

Reading and Beyond manages two Supervised Children Rooms. Each location serves an average of about 225 children each month for a minimum of one hour.

The Supervised Children Rooms provide a safe and enriching environment for children 12 years of age and younger while their parents or guardians are conducting busi-

ness with the County of Fresno Department of Social Services (DSS) and County of Fresno department of Behavioral Health (DBH).

According to monthly surveys completed by parents and guardians, 97% indicated they would not have been able to keep their appointments with DSS or DBH without the Supervised Children Rooms.

	JEFFERSON	YOKOMI	TOTAL
STUDENTS	82	126	208
FAMILIES	51	79	130

Success Story: Maria Acosta and Victor Gonzalez



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Advocacy

In 2015-16, Reading and Beyond continued its partnership with Fresno Building Healthy Communities, focusing on family engagement. Our goal is to improve the academic success of all students, but in particular the highest-needs children who face the greatest barriers. The partnership includes community members, parents, students and community organizations all working together to ensure all children move

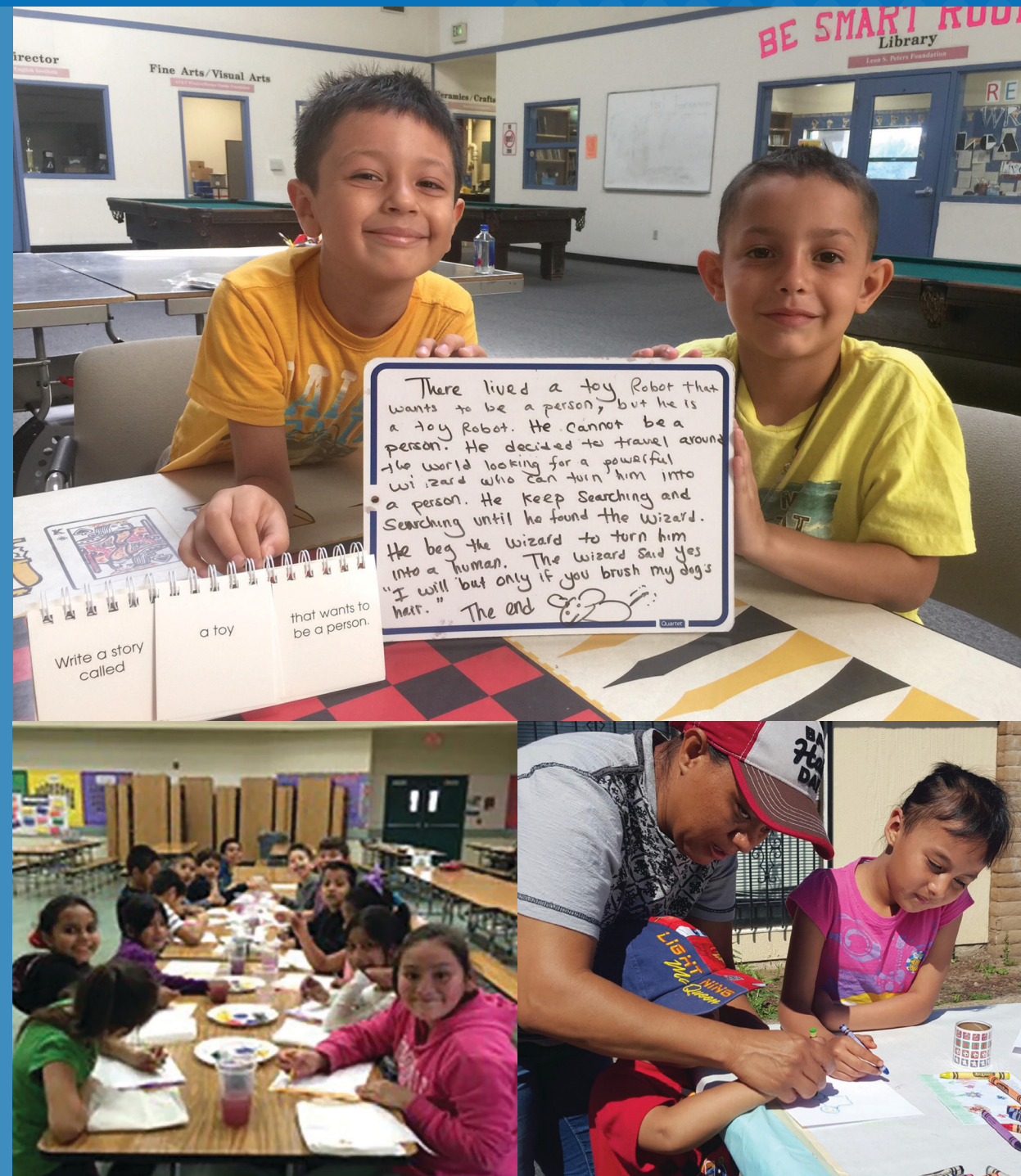
on to higher education and careers of their choice.

This year we had more than 300 parents who participated in events like press conferences, town halls, community events and educational workshops, all with the goal of educating and empowering parents to make informed decisions and become advocates for their children's academic success.



Highlights 2015-2016

1. More than 80 clients from the Fresno Bridge Academy and Pathways to Success programs were recognized during the 2016 Beyond Awards.
2. Youth Success clients worked on earning their California Food Handler cards in November 2015. All five students passed their tests.
3. During the 2015 winter break, the Family Success Zone held a Winter Leadership Program for students from Yokomi Elementary School.
4. Reading and Beyond at Fresno State students organized the Book Worm Fair, a student-led, community event during Spring 2016 designed to educate and bring awareness on the importance of reading, parent involvement, nutrition and health, and community resources.
5. About 125 kids participated in fun, educational and physical activities during the Summer Academy.
6. The Reading and Beyond Preschool received a rating of 4 out of 5 stars by the Fresno County Office of Education's Early Stars program. The achievement also came with a \$48,000 grant.



Thank you, Volunteers!

Without the dedication and hard work of our volunteers, Reading and Beyond would not be able to provide the much needed services to the hundreds of children, adults and families who seek our assistance. Thank you for volunteering!



TOTAL VOLUNTEERS:
178

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS:
24,018



Reading and Beyond at Fresno State

Jan and Bud Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning and Reading and Beyond continue to partner and provide quality K-6 literacy services while ensuring meaningful service experiences for participating Fresno State student tutors.

provided 16,886 hours of academic support and literacy services to elementary children and received \$207,150 in financial aid work-study funds for their service activities during the 2015-2016 school year. More than 2,500 children total were served by this program.

Sixty Fresno State tutors



Reading and Beyond

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF 06/30/2016

Assets	\$5,037,622
Liabilities	1,049,510

Net Assets	3,988,112
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REVENUE

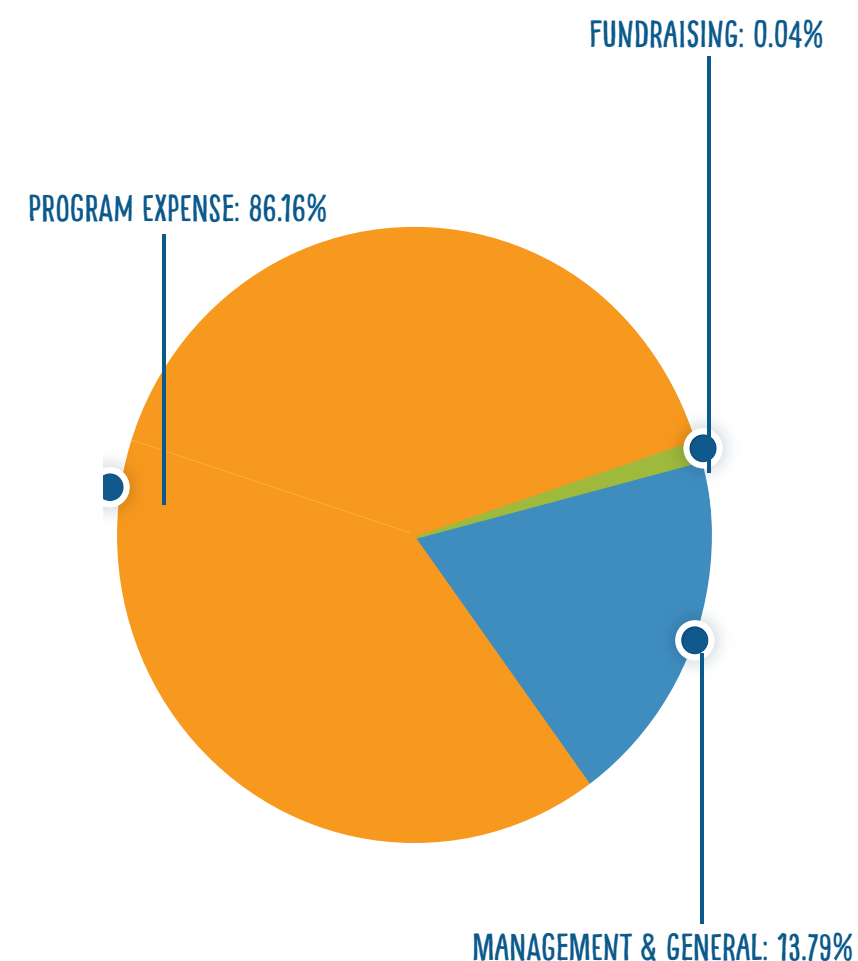
Contributions	\$66,520
Grants & Contracts	
Foundations & Others	595,257
Government	3,948,694
Program Service Fee Revenues	8,216
Donated Goods & Services	484,277
Rental Income	83,725
Fundraising	2,664
Investment Income	26,185
Miscellaneous	3,499

Total Revenue	5,219,037
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EXPENSES

Wages	2,663,709
Other Employee Benefits	342,627
Payroll Taxes	276,757
Subcontractor Expense	40,000
Supplies	16,775
Utilities	70,122
Depreciation	61,429
Travel/Conference	38,911
Consulting	5,600
Legal & Accounting	20,500
Special Program Expenses	429,829
Insurance	24,139
Rent & Janitorial	70,252
Printing & Copying	16,762
Payroll Processing & Bank Fees	14,031
Telephone & Internet	33,422
Contracted Instructors	37,004
Marketing and Public Relations	25,100
Licenses & Fees	9,950
Special Events Expense	3,298
Dues & Subscriptions	5,991
Fingerprinting	8,724
Outreach/Volunteer Retention	2,194
Miscellaneous	3,543
In-Kind Expenses	
Services	469,550
Books & Supplies	14,727

Total Expenses	\$4,704,945
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Thank you!

Reading and Beyond Staff



Donors

Jerad Avigliano • Teresa & Dan Boyce • Skyler Cleveland • Jonathan & Sally Cook • Francine Farber • Flavia Takahashi-Flores • Gabriel Brickey • Amy Hernandez • Richard Hernandez
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