

# Annual Report

# 2017





**“I like parenting class  
so I can learn about being  
a better mother.”**

– Leslie Foster



*"Brilliant Detroit is amazing and a tremendous help to rebuilding our neighborhood."*

– Ella Moton-Ivy

Far too many Detroit kindergarteners aren't ready for kindergarten.

Far too many Detroit third-graders have trouble reading this sentence.

Far too many Detroit children live below the poverty line.

**Neighborhoods have the power to turn that around.**

love  
family



kid  
success

## Who We Are

**Brilliant Detroit** is a non-profit organization working in high-need Detroit neighborhoods, seeking sound answers to the state of early childhood education and literacy.

Taking a neighborhood-by-neighborhood approach, we invest in the acquisition and renovation of houses that then become gathering places for the families they serve.

The goal is to prepare their young children and families for school, work with partners, as well as the people of each neighborhood to implement evidence-based programs that address education, along with the health and development of children 0-8 and their families.

In the process, we create opportunities for learning and networking, offering programs and activities that foster neighborhood cohesion, personal growth, and human connection.

# We work together as a team for change.

*“I feel very grateful for Brilliant Detroit and for all the programs offered at this site. I feel comfortable and happy with my teachers, classmates & the staff involved. Thank you!”*

– Claudia Ramos

we|come

# Community



*“I like Brilliant Detroit because it offers us diverse workshops and activities that have helped strengthen me as a mother.”*

– Martha Jiménez

## By the Numbers

- **Today we serve** over 2,400 people.
- **We have provided over 18,000 hours** from evidence-based programs.
- **There are currently four locations**, with an additional four locations currently underway.

### *We do this because:*

- **60% of Detroit children live in poverty.**
- **86% of Detroit kids don't read at their grade level** by the third grade.
- **54% of Michigan kids don't attend pre-school**, which would help them prepare for kindergarten.
- **Thousands of Detroit families** could get access to the services they need, but too often they don't know it.
- **Many programs and services are offered to families**, but they are not coordinated to serve the needs for the child and family.

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## We invest in the power of neighborhoods

**We buy houses in high-need neighborhoods** — several houses so far, with more on the way. We make sure each house is centrally located, no more than a 20-minute walk.

**Each house is renovated with neighborhood involvement.** We consult with those families about the needs of the neighborhood, especially about early childhood issues.

**Each house is a magnet for neighborhood families,** a place where parents with young kids can connect with each other. Where they can find proven ways to help their kids succeed in school.

**Each house is a hub for evidence-based programs** that help children and their parents learn how kid success happens. We focus intensely on child care, literacy, and mentoring.

**Each house partners with other organizations and businesses.** We join forces with effective community organizations to deliver – and coordinate – services dedicated to education, health, and family stability.



# our focus

# How it Works:

- 1. Evaluate and explore a neighborhood that's ready for kid success.** Get input from the community. Survey possible partner organizations active in the neighborhood.
- 2. Conduct neighborhood listening sessions with members of the community.** Learn their needs and interests. Enlist their help.
- 3. Buy and renovate a house in the neighborhood.** Make it welcoming and friendly. Add play space and a community garden.
- 4. Organize the community to generate awareness of the house and its purpose.** Invite participation of neighborhood families.
- 5. Hire from within the community to foster strong connections between the house and the neighborhood it serves.** Leverage neighborhood resources wherever possible.
- 6. Implement evidence-based programs with a track record of success.** Educate families about early childhood development.
- 7. Hold goal-setting meetings with each family. Outline their path forward.** Encourage them to take full advantage of programming. Connect them to services provided by partner organizations.
- 8. Monitor success through data collection** and rigorous evaluation of programming and related efforts.

*“Brilliant Detroit is helping our neighbors become connected with each other, and helping them to get what they need for our kids success.”*

– Kenyatta M. Campbell

Relationships.

Relationships.

Relationships.  
hooray!

## Our Relationships are Everything

It's one thing to buy and renovate a Brilliant Detroit house. It's quite another to make it an effective force for change in the neighborhood.

To that end, we build strong relationships with community, and with a wide range of community-based organizations.

These relationships are crucial to creating a solid platform of support in four key areas of early childhood development: education, health, family support, and community.

*Turn the page and you'll see our ever-growing list of partners and programs!*

**“We make change happen by our relationships with others.”**

**– Cindy Eggleton, founding partner Brilliant Detroit**

# Education

- **Artist Heaven** – Literacy through art
- **Black Family Development** LENA Start – Educating the 20 million word gap
- **E3** – Families First Literacy
- **CARE of Michigan** – Parent education
- **Central Detroit Christian** – Parent and kindergarten readiness classes
- **Detroit Parent Network** – Love and Logic, Play and Learn, Pathways to Literacy
- **Downtown Boxing Gym** – Summer Reading Loss
- **DPTV PreSchool U** – Instructor lead reading and science
- **Leaps and Bounds** – Play and Learn
- **Libraries without Borders** – Wash & Learn literacy at local laundromats
- **Mercy Education** – Adult literacy
- **MSU School of Music** – Music play and learn
- **Red Wings for Reading** – Literacy program
- **Rx for Reading** – Literacy initiative
- **Science Surprises** – Curriculum development
- **SOAR Reading** – Tutoring for literacy
- **Southwest Solutions** – Say and Play
- **UNI** – Third Grade reading
- **United Way for Southeast Michigan** – BUILD
- **Wayne Metro** – Parents as teacher

## Also offered by Brilliant Detroit:

- **Book Club** – For adults and for children
- **Brilliant Family Reading Journey** – For parents with their kids
- **Grade Level Reading Campaign** – Multiple partner tutoring
- **Intercambio** – Language exchange
- **Literacy Activities** – Assuring books are in homes and families have tools to be literacy rich
- **Quality Pre-K** – Referral for families

# Health

- **Adult Well-Being** – Social emotional cohort, and anger management cohort
- **Black Family Mothers Breast Feeding** – Support group and education
- **Childrens Center** – Mental health services
- **Detroit Mercy Dental School** – Free dental care services
- **DPSCD** – Education
- **Detroit Walking Clubs** – Community involvement and exercise
- **Forgotten Harvest** – Food for children
- **Great Start Wayne County** – ASQ, Help Me Grow, Ages and Stages
- **Henry Ford Hospital System** – Cooking Matters classes
- **Make Your Date** – Health education for pregnant moms
- **Meditation Sessions** – Healthful mind and body
- **MSU Extension** – Healthy eating cohort
- **National Kidney Foundation** – Regie Rainbow
- **Nurse Family Partnership (NFP)** – Brilliant Detroit home visits and support for NFP families
- **Southwest Solutions** – Cohort for self-help
- **Wayne State Center for Health and Community Impact** – Nutrition and healthy lifestyle education
- **Wayne State University Clinical Psychology** – Mental health clinic services
- **W-CHAP** – Physical activities for kids, asthma and obesity workshops
- **Yoga Sessions** – Gentle exercise and meditation with a local facilitator
- **Zumba!** – Exercise and dance for kids and adults
- **Zumbini** – Exercise for babies and toddlers

## Family Support

- **Arizona Self-Sufficiency** – Assessment and outcomes measurements
- **Central Detroit Christian** – Financial wellness support
- **Detroit Parent Network** – Parent leadership
- **FIERCE®** – Mentoring for young moms
- **Green Living Science** – Community workshops
- **Mexican Consulate** – Community workshops
- **Operation Hope** – Financial workshops
- **Parent Cafe** – Connect, share, and learn from each other
- **Southwest Solutions** – Workforce and financial literacy

## Neighbor-to-Neighbor

- **Mom-2-Mom Club** – Support and networking meetings
- **Monthly Breaking Bread** – Community gatherings

## Community

- **Central Detroit Christian** – Thought partner and community outreach
- **Chadsey Condon Community Organization** – Neighborhood organization that promotes Brilliant Detroit
- **Cody Rouge Action Alliance** – Thought partner and community outreach
- **First Books** – Provides books to Brilliant Detroit
- **482 Forward** – Member and will work in Central Detroit for organizing
- **Humble Design** – Provides home furnishings services to Brilliant Detroit
- **Keep Growing Detroit** – Creating community gardens
- **Little Free Libraries®** – Free books from outdoor kiosks at each Brilliant Detroit home
- **Munger School** – Third grade reading
- **Osborn Neighborhood Alliance** – Thought partner and community outreach
- **Repair the World** – Volunteer expansion
- **Warrendale Neighborhood Group** – Neighborhood organization holds leadership meetings at our Brilliant Detroit site and promotes our organization
- **Warrendale Safety Patrol** – Watches our Brilliant Detroit house and holds meetings there
- **VROOM** – Resources for families

to every one of  
**you!**

coming

to a

neighborhood



near you

## Meet our some of our “neighbors”

It is true about strength in numbers, and by numbers we really mean neighbors, and by neighbors, we really mean **YOU!**

We're proud to be the spearhead for our kids' brilliant future. Every Brilliant Detroit house has neighbors that are committed to help move communities forward as well. *Let's meet two (plus two)...*



“I heard about a Zumba class from a flyer distributed in my community by Brilliant Detroit. I went there to just exercise. When I got there the doors were open to so much more; parenting workshops, financial, couponing, anger management, cooking classes and the list goes on. I am learning skills and habits that will last me a lifetime. The best part is meeting people who have inspired me to reach for my dreams. They are life changing! Thank you Brilliant Detroit!”

– Dana Thomas



“Brilliant Detroit is a great support in the education and care of my twins. This helps me to be a better mother, teaching me with new classes and learning from the experience of other mothers. Because they offer childcare, it gives me time to myself as a person. I learn, get entertained, and get to know great people. The Caregivers are excellent, and I appreciate how well they do their job. I realize this because my twins love to come and share with them.”

– Evelyn Alvizar

# It's all about the kids

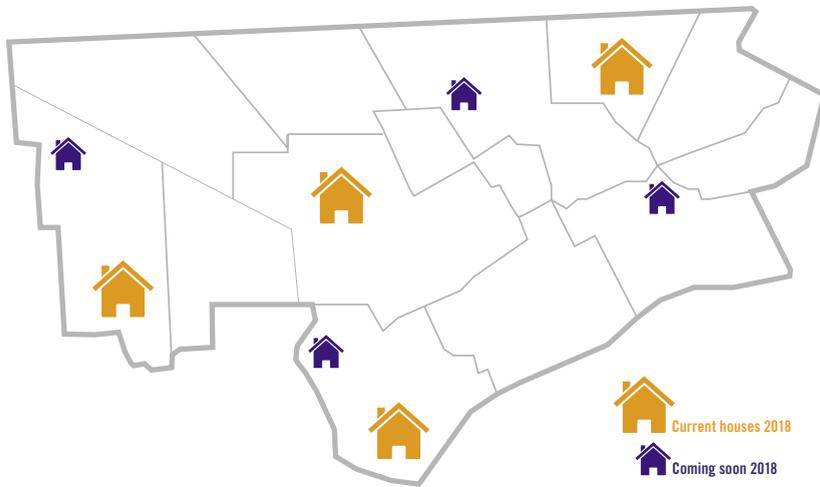


**Brilliant Detroit**  
creating kid success neighborhoods

“It is such a pleasure to serve the parents at Brilliant Detroit as a partner. There is such a great feeling of family.”

– Detroit Parent Network

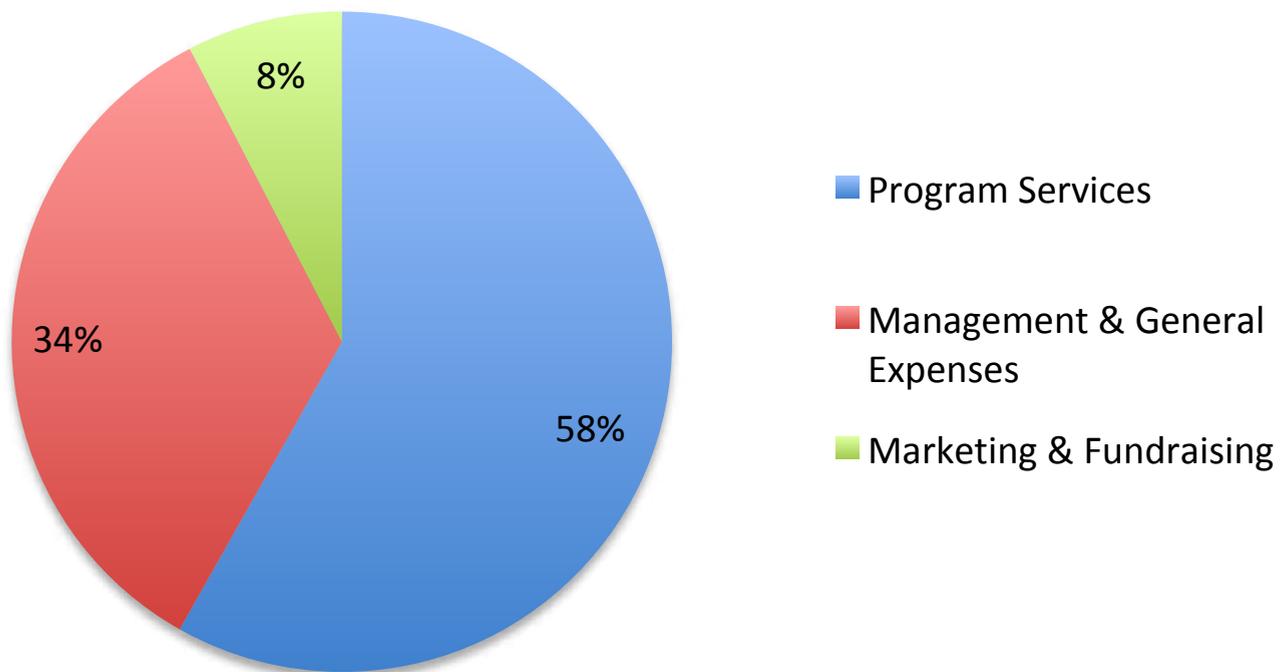
## Where we are



“I truly enjoy Brilliant Detroit. In the beginning I came for the certificate but in the end I have made many friends and gained a support team. I fell in love with the heart of the program because they have showed me not only how to parent but how to be a family.” – Pateres Rushin

Brilliant Detroit

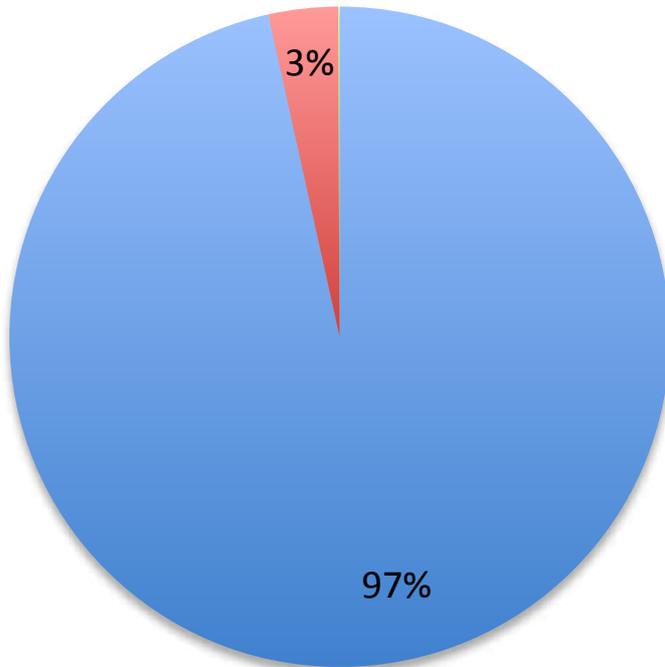
# Expenses FY 2017



Audited financial statements

# FY2017

# Total Support and Revenue FY 2017



- Contributions & Grants
- Rental & Other Income

Audited financial statements

# FY2017

# Financial Position FY 2017

## Brilliant Detroit Statements of Financial Position

<i>December 31,</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Temporarily Restricted</i>	<b>Total</b>	
			<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Assets:</b>				
Cash	\$ 531,349	\$ 101,823	\$ 633,172	\$ 20,402
Pledges receivable	-	15,000	15,000	20,774
Prepaid expenses	834	-	834	-
Property and equipment, net	85,324	-	85,324	86,987
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 617,507</b>	<b>\$ 116,823</b>	<b>\$ 734,330</b>	<b>\$ 128,163</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>				
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Accounts payable	\$ 50,325	\$ -	\$ 50,325	\$ 5,177
Accrued payroll expenses	7,181	-	7,181	6,916
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>57,506</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>57,506</b>	<b>12,093</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>				
Unrestricted	560,001	-	560,001	116,070
Temporarily restricted	-	116,823	116,823	-
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>560,001</b>	<b>116,823</b>	<b>676,824</b>	<b>116,070</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 617,507</b>	<b>\$ 116,823</b>	<b>\$ 734,330</b>	<b>\$ 128,163</b>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

# Activities FY 2017

## Brilliant Detroit Statements of Activities

Year ended December 31,	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	
			2017	2016
<b>Support and Revenue:</b>				
Contributions and grants	\$ 1,017,576	\$ 129,826	\$ 1,147,402	\$ 314,136
Rental income	35,818	-	35,818	20,744
Other income	703	-	703	-
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>1,054,097</b>	<b>129,826</b>	<b>1,183,923</b>	<b>334,880</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Program services	362,538	-	362,538	152,349
Management and general	213,117	-	213,117	98,813
Marketing and fundraising	47,514	-	47,514	10,450
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>623,169</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>623,169</b>	<b>261,612</b>
<b>Other Sources (Uses) -</b>				
Release of restrictions	13,003	(13,003)	-	-
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>443,931</b>	<b>116,823</b>	<b>560,754</b>	<b>73,268</b>
<b>Net Assets, beginning of year</b>	<b>116,070</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>116,070</b>	<b>42,802</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 560,001</b>	<b>\$ 116,823</b>	<b>\$ 676,824</b>	<b>\$ 116,070</b>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# Functional Expenses FY 2017

## Brilliant Detroit

### Statements of Functional Expenses

Year ended December 31,	Program Services	Supporting Services			Total	
	Programs	Management and General	Marketing and Fundraising	Total	2017	2016
Personnel	\$ 162,044	\$ 127,717	\$ -	\$ 127,717	\$ 289,761	\$ 146,285
Office expenses	42,613	17,516	21,489	39,005	81,618	32,064
Program expenses	79,823	-	-	-	79,823	1,746
Rent	33,687	3,743	-	3,743	37,430	7,965
Professional fees and contract services	-	38,102	-	38,102	38,102	23,862
Advertising and public relations	-	-	25,525	25,525	25,525	6,022
Payroll taxes and fringe benefits	12,495	9,054	-	9,054	21,549	27,111
Utilities	17,849	1,983	-	1,983	19,832	6,395
Dues and subscriptions	1,898	6,517	-	6,517	8,415	707
Bank service charges	-	6,664	-	6,664	6,664	39
Meals and entertainment	4,012	446	-	446	4,458	1,393
Telephone	3,149	350	-	350	3,499	3,610
Auto and parking	1,872	-	-	-	1,872	39
Conferences and meetings	-	681	500	1,181	1,181	2,585
Travel	243	27	-	27	270	-
Postage and shipping	-	-	-	-	-	136
<b>Total expenses before depreciation</b>	<b>359,685</b>	<b>212,800</b>	<b>47,514</b>	<b>260,314</b>	<b>619,999</b>	<b>259,959</b>
<b>Depreciation and amortization</b>	<b>2,853</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,170</b>	<b>1,653</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 362,538</b>	<b>\$ 213,117</b>	<b>\$ 47,514</b>	<b>\$ 260,631</b>	<b>\$ 623,169</b>	<b>\$ 261,612</b>
<b>Percent of Total Expenses</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# Cash Flows FY 2017

## Brilliant Detroit Statements of Cash Flows

<i>Year ended December 31,</i>	2017	2016
<b>Operating Activities:</b>		
Change in net assets	\$ 560,754	\$ 73,268
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	3,170	1,653
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Pledges receivable	5,774	(20,774)
Prepaid expenses	(834)	-
Accounts payable	45,148	4,862
Accrued payroll expenses	265	4,394
<b>Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>614,277</b>	<b>63,403</b>
<b>Cash Used in Investing Activities -</b>		
Purchase of property and equipment	(1,507)	(46,787)
<b>Increase in Cash</b>	<b>612,770</b>	<b>16,616</b>
<b>Cash, beginning of year</b>	<b>20,402</b>	<b>3,786</b>
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 633,172</b>	<b>\$ 20,402</b>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

with, for,  
and by  
neighbors.

**Brilliant**  **Detroit**  
creating kid success neighborhoods

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[brilliantdetroit.org](http://brilliantdetroit.org)