Child First was established by Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development (BUILD) in 1996 as a response to a city-wide listening campaign and call for safe, productive learning environments for children during out-of-school (OST) hours and in the summer. We partner with twelve community schools in Baltimore city to provide coordinated strategic partnerships and high-quality programming.

Community School Partnerships - Organizing school and community resources around student success

Our Community school coordinators are strategic partners to principals in making the school the hub of a community, and a place that supports the whole family.

Integrated focus on academics, services, supports and opportunities leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities

Consistent adult support

Access to health, dental and mental health services

**Out of School Time Programs**

Reinforcing academics, exploring new skills and passions

OST is a school-owned program using school-based staff. Child First hires school-based staff to manage and support the program, bringing in outside professionals, such as artists and coaches, that align with interests identified by the school community. The typical program is four days per week, three hours per day.

- One hour of academic enrichment, in collaboration with responsive to principal recommendations, feedback and school expertise
- One hour of cultural enrichment, active recreation, snack and hot supper daily
- Practicing artists teaching skills in various arts disciplines
- Sports and recreation including team and individual sports
- Four field trips per year

**Our Summer Programs**

Providing safe, academic, and cultural experiences during the summer to stem the tide of summer learning loss

The typical program operates five days a week for four weeks.

- Focus on academic instruction and supports with weekly themes and themed field trips
- Fitness, outdoor recreation, technology, and arts and crafts
- Morning snack and lunch daily
- Weekly field trips

2018-2019 Partner Schools

Barclay Elementary Middle School
Armanda Carr, Principal

Calvin Rodwell Elementary School
Samuel Rather, II, Principal

City Springs Elementary Middle School
Dr. Rhonda Richetta, Principal

Dorothy L. Height Elementary School
Tamera Hanson, Principal

Eutaw-Marcusburg Elementary School
Tiffany Cole, Principal

Furman L. Templeton Elementary School
Dr. Evelyn Perry, Principal

Guilford Elementary Middle School
Brian Plum, Principal

Hilton Elementary School
Danielle Henson, Principal

Liberty Elementary School
Joseph Manko, Principal

Robert W. Coleman Elementary School
Carilliant Thompson, Principal

2018-2019 Partners

Parents who invest in Child First partner schools

Baltimore Curriculum Project

Baltimore Tennis Patrons

Baltimore Urban Debate League

Bryan Robinson

BUILD

C & C Advocacy, Inc.

Concepts by Cash

Corey Alston Karate

Herbert Massie

Johns Hopkins University, Whiting School of Engineering

Kreate & Inspire

Kyle Pompey

Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Center, Inc.

MAESTRO Ensembles, Inc.

Miller Transportation

Port Discovery

Strong City Baltimore

The Movement Team

The Schuster Foundation

University of Maryland School of Social Work, Promise Heights

Vanessa Jackson

Young Audiences
Accomplishments By the Numbers

- **1,195**: Delivered high quality after school programming to 1,195 students in 12 neighborhood schools.
- **15,657**: Parents and other caring adults invested 15,657 hours this past school year by assisting in the classroom during and after school.
- **140**: Served 140 students during summer programming.
- **300**: 300 students representing ten schools participated in co-ed flag football, basketball, track and field, tennis, soccer, and karate.
- **88%**: The average school attendance was 88% at the eight Child First community schools.
- **1,000**: 1,000 or 84% of students enrolled in OST went on a college tour or an overnight college trip.
- **75.6%**: In school year 2018-19, 75.6% of students demonstrated foundational skills and behaviors that prepare him/her for kindergarten standards as compared to the city-wide score of 38.3%.

Child First Community School Coordinators leveraged over $3.3M in financial and in-kind resources from 193 partner organizations for their schools during the 2018-19 school year.

**Primary Stakeholder Groups Served by Partners 2018-2019**
- **20%**: Families
- **60.9%**: Students
- **12%**: Community Members
- **7%**: Staff

**Who is Volunteering?**
- **72%**: Community Members
- **9%**: Staff
- **5%**: Students
- **5%**: Other/None

**What Percentage of All Family Volunteer Hours is Completed by CFA Families?**
- **96.5%**

**In-Kind Value of Partnerships by Schools 2018-2019**

- **Barclay**: $407,468
- **Calvin Rodwell**: $434,668
- **City Spring**: $217,966
- **Dorothy I. Height**: $275,734
- **Dr. Bernard Harris**: $200,800
- **Hilton**: $187,734
- **Liberty**: $1,312,448
- **Robert W. Coleman**: $351,870

**Number of Partnerships by Schools 2018-2019**

- **Barclay**: 2498
- **Calvin Rodwell**: 3097
- **City Spring**: 2971
- **Dorothy I. Height**: 2612
- **Dr. Bernard Harris**: 3173
- **Hilton**: 1939
- **Liberty**: 1490
- **Robert W. Coleman**: 3867

**Family Volunteer Hours Comparison 2017-2018**

- **2017**: 3415 hours
- **2018**: 3297 hours
- **2019**: 3310 hours

**The Kindergarten students at Dorothy I. Height Elementary have consistently outpaced the city average on the state mandated Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. In school year 2018-19, 75.4% of students demonstrated foundational skills and behaviors that prepare him/her for kindergarten standards as compared to the city-wide score of 38.3%. This corresponding figures for school year 2017-18 were 76.9% and 40.9%, respectively.**
Child First Authority is committed to building the capacity of Child First schools while grooming the next cadre of social justice professionals. Child First is cultivating the next generation of leaders grounded in community practice at the clinical and macro levels so that children and families in Baltimore are physically, socially and emotionally healthy; students succeed academically; and their families are civically engaged and leaders in their communities.

Under the supervision of two community school coordinators, one of which is a master’s level MSW, Child First hosted four bachelor’s level social work interns from Morgan State University and one undergraduate intern from the Johns Hopkins University Center for Social Concern. The workload of a Child First intern aligns with select job responsibilities of the community school coordinator in the areas of youth development, outreach and communication, program/project management, data management and tracking, and resource development; and meet the requirements of their social worker competencies.

Specifically, at Dorothy I. Height Elementary School, the team of interns worked closely with external partners to bring a host of opportunities into the school such as girl scouts, chess and foreign languages. At City Springs Elementary Middle School, the team of interns were able to provide case management for over 30 students to combat attendance barriers and to increase daily attendance. They also conducted research to help address the food insecurities that the community surrounding the school faces. Through their research efforts, interns were able to make a case for the importance of implementing a food pantry at the school.

Interns On the Move
Created in 2016 by legislation and referendum by the voters, the Mayor and City Council committed $12 million dollars to establish the Baltimore Children and Youth Fund. Child First was one of the inaugural grantees and received generous funding ($245,980) to expand and enhance our middle school offerings during the school year and to provide summer programming for middle school youth for the first time in Child First history.

Typically, middle school-aged youth are reluctant to participate in structured summer programs; however, with the help of peer leaders known as Youth Ambassadors, enrollment was consistent throughout the program. The Youth Ambassadors met monthly with Child First staff to reflect on programming and to plan events. Joint planning gave students an opportunity to practice compromise and collaboration. They were leaders and advocates for their peers and helped to bridge the gap between students and school-based staff. Programming was successful because staff surveyed youth interests, tailored the programming in response to the student feedback, and utilized the Youth Ambassadors as eyes and ears of the program which helped to hold the staff team accountable.

During the four-week summer program, 40 students from five middle schools received grade-level and above grade-level whole group instruction in literacy. Teachers implemented the Baltimore City Public School System’s curriculum Wit and Wisdom which improved most of the students’ writing. Students received differentiated small group instruction and home assignments through the online program. Fifty-two percent of students assessed on a pre- and post-test showed academic growth in both reading comprehension and writing. Students gained knowledge through S.T.E.M. field trips such as the Autobahn Indoor Speedway, Turkey Hill Experience, and iFly Indoor Skydiving, as well fun trips to the Ravens Training Camp, and amusement and water parks.

**Middle School Magic**
**2018 Financial Summary**

### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
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<td>Accounts receivable</td>
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<td>Prepaid expenses and other assets</td>
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<td>Total current assets</td>
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<td>$727,150</td>
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<td><strong>Property and Equipment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Furniture and equipment</td>
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<td>$808,342</td>
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| **LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** |       |       |
| Current Liabilities |       |       |
| Accounts payable     | $7,522 | $32,048 |
| Accrued expenses     | $91,815 | $76,867 |
| Line of credit       | $84,499 | $85,131 |
| Deferred revenue     | $5,445 | $0 |
| Total current liabilities | $189,281 | $194,046 |

| Net Assets |       |       |
| Unrestricted net assets | $543,081 | $531,520 |
| Temporarily restricted | $76,003 | $3,000 |
| Total Net Assets | $619,084 | $534,520 |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | $808,342 | $730,566 |

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**Thank You To Our Funders**

- Baltimore City Public Schools
- Baltimore Children and Youth Fund
- The Family League of Baltimore City
- Maryland State Department of Education
- Maryland State Department of Human Services
- PepsiCo Foundation
- Alvin and Fanny B. Thalheimer Foundation
- Wells Fargo Foundation
- Wright Family Foundation

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**Board**

- Tracey L. Durant, Ed.D
  - Board Chair
  - Baltimore City Public Schools
- Julia Baez
  - Baltimore’s Promise
- Reginald Davis
  - Mission Strategies Group
- Shawna Frazier
  - RLJ Lodging Trust
- Raven N. Jones, MPh
  - University of Maryland Medical Center
- Natasha M. McMillan-Higgins
  - South Baltimore Learning Center
- Jessica Reighard
  - Brookes Publishing Co.
- Kate K. Shatzkin
  - The Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Johari Toe
  - Baltimore County Public Schools

**Staff**

- Danista E. Hunte
  - Executive Director
- Bashawne Harrell
  - Office Manager
- Gayl M. Brooks
  - Program Director
- Stephon Shorter
  - Program Associate
- Jennifer McDowell
  - Director of Community Schools

**Board Members**

- Porsche Johnson
  - Community School Coordinator
- Bertha Knight
  - Community School Coordinator
- Magdalena Tsongas
  - Community School Coordinator

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