

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Horton's Kids



After extensive due diligence, thoughtful planning, and preparation, we are excited to embark on Horton's Kids' next phase of growth. Securing Futures for Southeast is a capital campaign to support the new **Horton's Kids Central Community Resource Hub (or Horton's Hub)**. With encouragement from our supporters and community, in late 2021 we purchased a large 9,000 sq ft community church in the heart of Southeast DC — strategically located within a half mile of both our place-based Community Resource Centers. This building will be transformed into a dynamic, multi-purpose space that will accommodate the wide-ranging needs of PreK-12 students, their caregivers, and community members. Horton's Hub will allow us to reach more children and families in Southeast DC's low-income housing communities — serving hundreds more children and families in Southeast DC.

Our team has been busy finalizing our renovation plans and securing gifts from our early campaign contributors. To date we have raised over \$1M toward our \$5M goal. We look forward to engaging everyone in this important effort that will expand our reach and deepen our roots in the community we know and love. Horton's Hub will be more than a building, it will be the heart of our vital work. Here we will grow Horton's Kids' 30-year legacy of helping ensure students are empowered to graduate from high school ready to succeed in college, career, and life. After renovations, the new Horton's Hub is expected to open in Fall 2022.





LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's hard to believe that we are entering our third year of contending with a global pandemic. The challenges brought on by the crisis have been experienced in real time, whether through loss of loved ones, social isolation, loss of income, personal health crises, or increased stress and uncertainty. Reverberations from these challenges will persist as we move towards resuming some sense of normalcy in our lives. Horton's Kids has worked hard to adapt to the changing circumstances and needs of the children and families we serve. While some are new and unique to Covid-19, many are an exacerbation of challenges created and sustained by systemic barriers that contribute to economic and racial inequities.

As an organization committed to boosting graduation rates and ensuring participants are equipped with clear post-secondary plans that lead to success, we are acutely aware of the barriers to learning that Covid-19 created.

While we applaud the effort and commitment DC educators and schools exhibited to minimize the disruption to teaching and learning, many children struggled significantly - particularly our youngest learners. With this urgency in mind, Horton's Kids accelerated a return to in-person learning by offering a full-day summer program in 2021 in partnership with KIPP. The program was staffed by educators and youth development partners, with a focus on building literacy and social-emotional skills, and reconnecting with peers. We continued our in-person programs in Fall 2021, becoming one of six high-impact community tutoring hubs in partnership with CityTutor DC.

We are deeply appreciative and humbled by the increased generosity from our partners and supporters over the past two years, allowing us to sustain operations and increase our reach by expanding to a second neighborhood in Southeast. Just a short walk from Wellington Park, Stanton Oaks is home to hundreds of children and families eager to connect to the Horton's Kids community. This year, we have enrolled 89 children and their families from Stanton Oaks with the hope of increasing this to 150 within the next two years. Horton's Kids makes a minimum of a 13-year commitment to every child. With each new participant, the possibility for a transformative, long-term relationship begins.

Building on the success of the past two years and a growing need for deepened support in Southeast DC, we closed out 2021 with the purchase of a 9,000 sq ft building, that we have affectionately named, **"Horton's Hub."** Owning and operating the Hub positions Horton's Kids as a true Southeast DC-based nonprofit — reaffirming our collective commitment to Southeast DC's children and their right to a safe, happy, and hopeful future. Stay tuned!

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Erica Ahdoot".

ERICA AHDOOT

MAKING THE GRADE

When the school day is out, you can find 8-year-old Kingston zipping around Stanton Oaks on his scooter – likely heading to Horton’s Kids’ weekly tutoring and enrichment programs. There, Kingston gets help with his homework, practices his reading skills, and socializes with his classmates and peers.



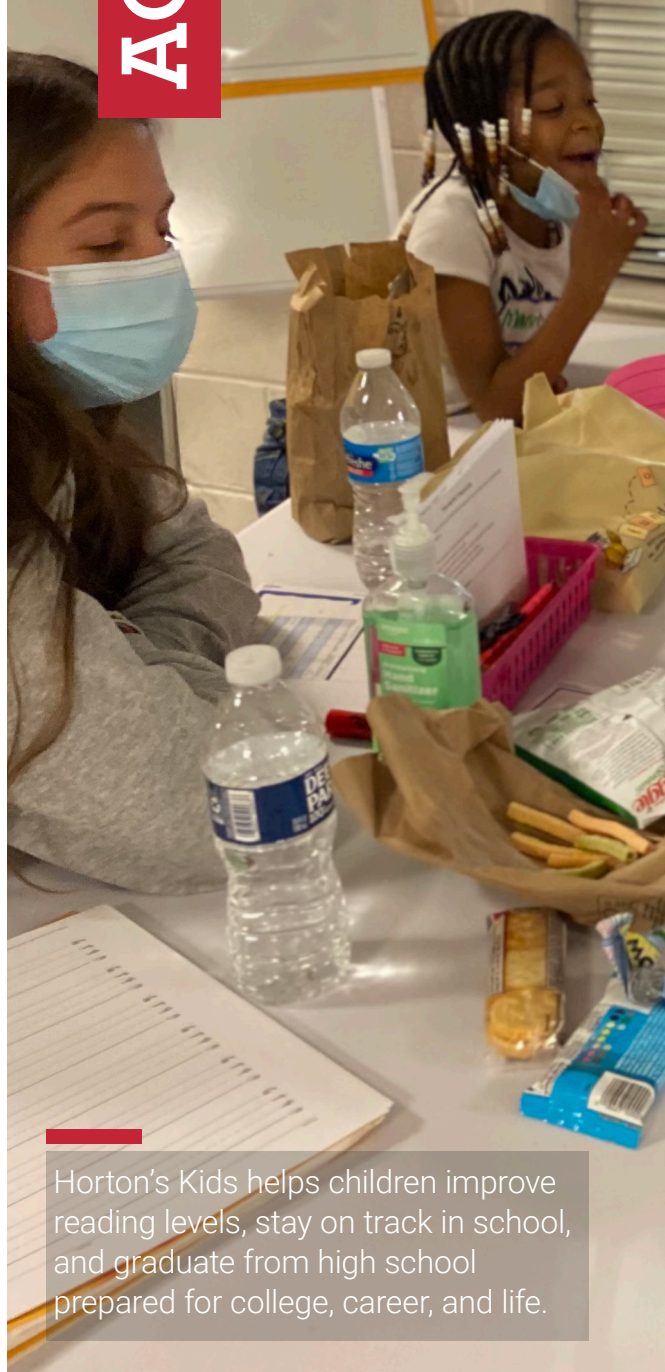
KINGSTON, AGE 8

“Horton’s Kids is helpful because I get to practice my reading and learn how to answer my homework questions, and I get to play with my friends,” said Kingston. **“Pretty much everyone helps me out. Everyone is kind – it’s a place where no one is mean.”**

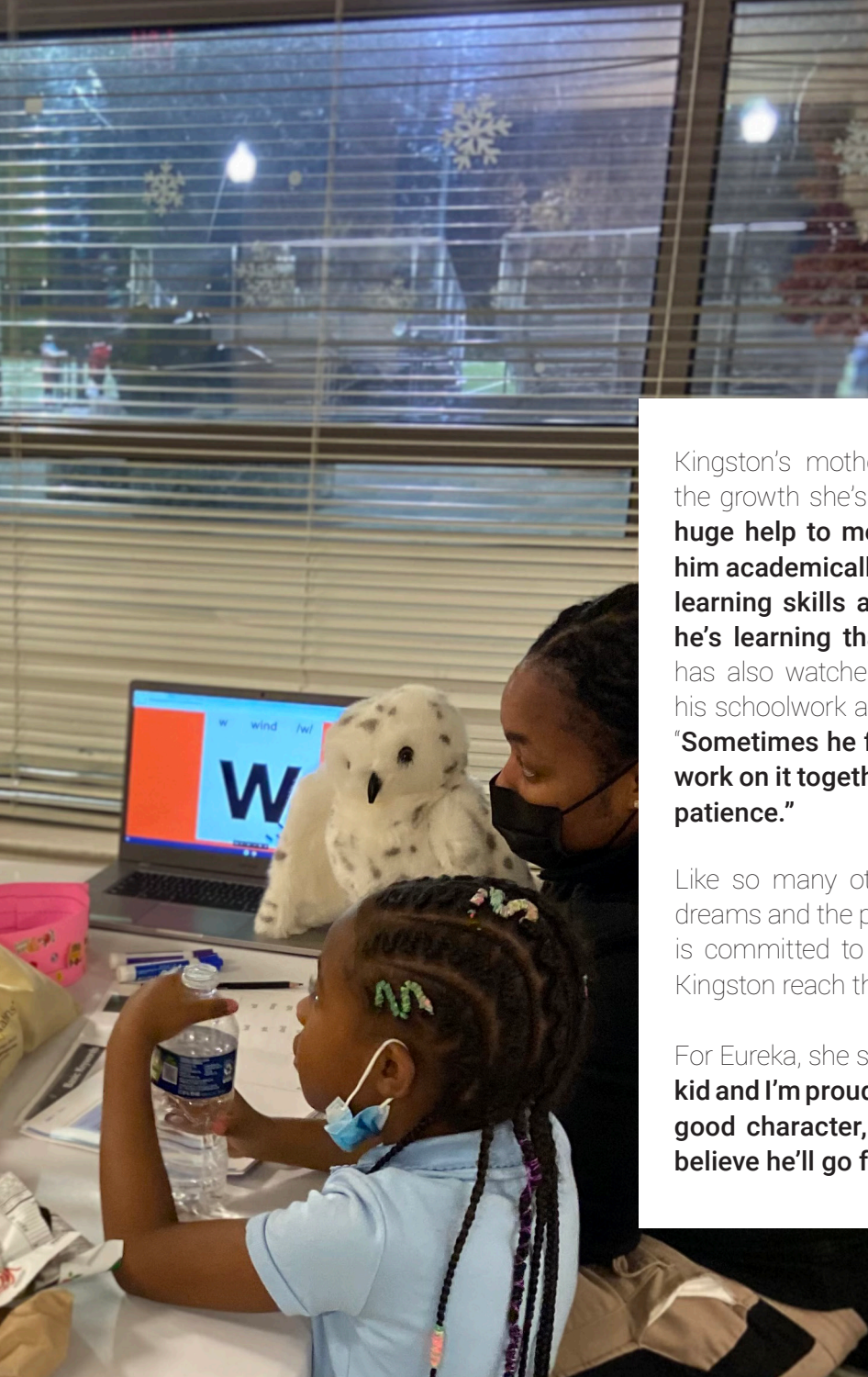
For Kingston and hundreds of other children in Anacostia, Horton’s Kids afterschool programs provide customized academic supports to help them with unfinished learning, a term used in academic circles to describe the months of learning loss related to Covid-19. Our programs include 1-on-1 tutoring, homework help, literacy intervention, and IEP support. We also work closely with parents and caregivers to help them enroll children in high performing schools and provide guidance on how to best support their child by strengthening relationships with their children’s schools.

Through regular attendance at Horton’s Kids programs, Kingston has made impressive academic gains – specifically in his reading and writing skills. He has learned to break down the words he’s reading into sounds, allowing him to increase his fluency, reading accuracy, and rate. Kingston has also kept his own personal journal where he answers different prompts using complete sentences.

ACADEMICS



Horton’s Kids helps children improve reading levels, stay on track in school, and graduate from high school prepared for college, career, and life.



Kingston's mother Eureka has been pleasantly surprised by the growth she's seen in her son. **"Horton's Kids has been a huge help to me and Kingston. Tutoring has been helping him academically and I can tell through his grades. I see him learning skills and being more professional and I feel like he's learning that through Horton's Kids,"** she said. Eureka has also watched Kingston become more enthusiastic about his schoolwork and more persistent when he faces challenges. **"Sometimes he finds his homework frustrating. But now we work on it together and he learns quickly. He has much more patience."**

Like so many other kids in Southeast DC, Kingston has big dreams and the potential needed to achieve them. Horton's Kids is committed to leveling the playing field so that children like Kingston reach their full potential.

For Eureka, she sees a bright future for her son. **"He's a special kid and I'm proud of him. He has manners, a great personality, good character, confidence, and he's ready for anything. I believe he'll go far."**



100%

OF SENIORS
GRADUATED ON TIME



200+

HOURS OF HIGH-
INTENSITY TUTORING



100%

K-7 GRADE SUMMER
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS
MAINTAINED OR GREW
THEIR READING LEVEL

HEALTHY BODIES, HEALTHY MINDS

Suzette Oakley, a 31-year-old Stanton Oaks resident, has been coming to Horton's Kids' Wellington Park Community Resource Center for years. When our Stanton Oaks location opened last fall - just steps away from her home - Suzette began dropping by for diapers, household cleaning supplies, or meals for her five children. Basic resources like these can be difficult to find for families in Ward 8, with limited access to grocery or convenience stores. During the Covid-19 health crisis, Suzette realized that she needed additional assistance to help her family face new challenges.



SUZETTE OAKLEY

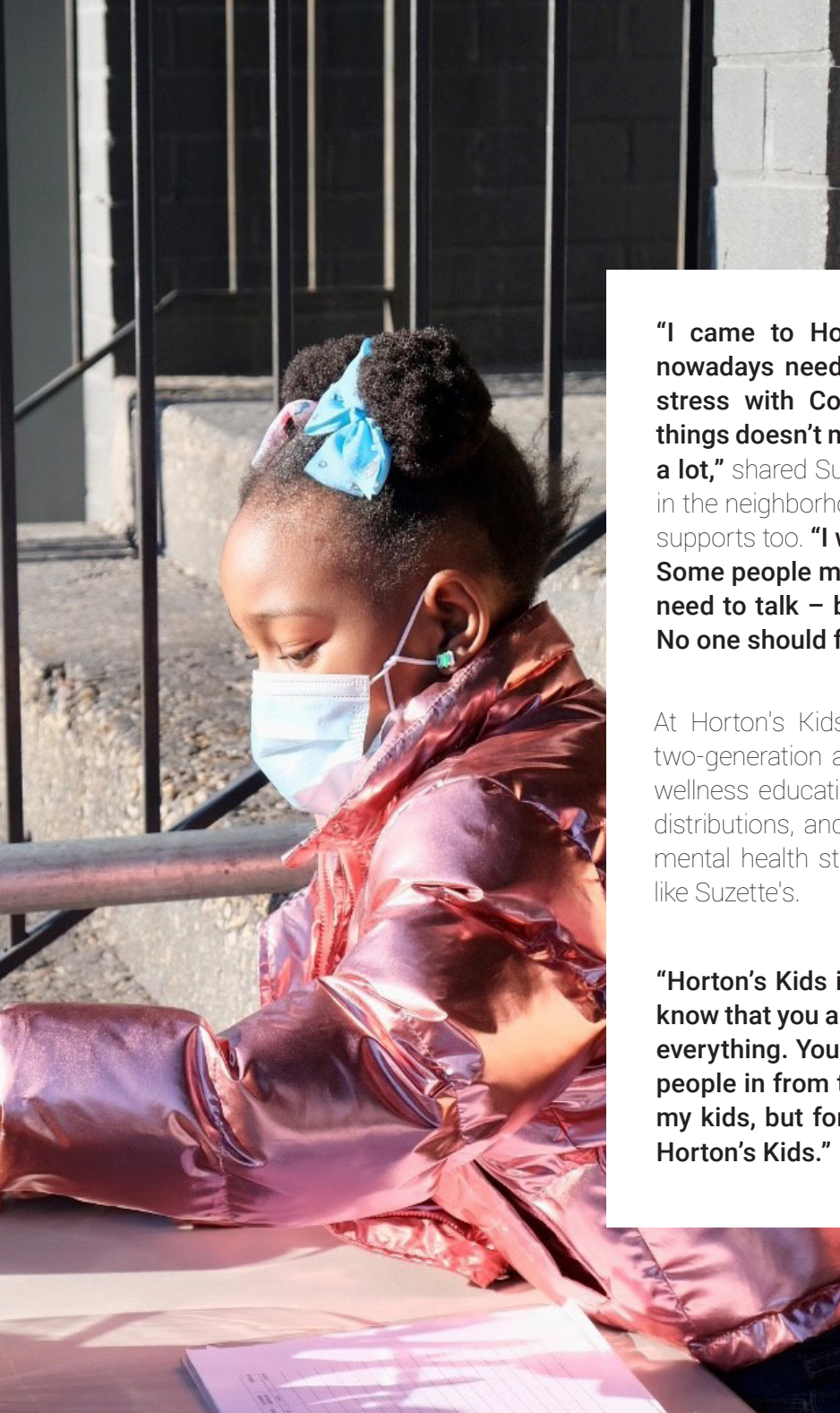
"I lost my mom during the pandemic and then I learned that my daughter has Type 1 Diabetes. It's been a lot. I didn't feel safe sending my daughter to school, so I needed all my kids to stay home and learn virtually." Knowing that this would be a logistical challenge, Suzette relied on Horton's Kids to get her children connected and online so they could continue learning from home. Her children also participated in Horton's Kids' homework help and tutoring sessions, helping to mitigate unfinished learning.

Horton's Kids was also able to connect Suzette to resources to learn about her daughter's diagnosis and made sure that she had the help she needed. When Suzette came to our Community Resource Center seeking mental health resources, our Health & Wellness team connected her with emotional wellness support and counseling.

HEALTH & WELLNESS



Horton's Kids provides food, clothing, personal hygiene products, and other items that children need to grow and be healthy.



"I came to Horton's Kids for help. I feel like everyone nowadays needs help. People are going through so much stress with Covid. Just because you are going through things doesn't mean there is something wrong with you – it's a lot," shared Suzette. She says she'd encourage other families in the neighborhood to come to Horton's Kids for mental health supports too. **"I would tell them to come and talk to the staff. Some people might need more, and some people might just need to talk – but they'll get connected to what they need. No one should feel afraid to reach out to you all."**

At Horton's Kids we partner with families through a holistic two-generation approach. Through physical health and mental wellness education, community partnerships, health essentials distributions, and crisis interventions - we're working to reduce mental health stigma and support strong and healthy families like Suzette's.

"Horton's Kids is family to the community. I want people to know that you all are giving from your heart – pampers, food, everything. You are engaged with the community. You bring people in from the community to work. Not only for me and my kids, but for everyone in the community, we appreciate Horton's Kids."



18,900

DIAPERS DISTRIBUTED



OVER \$8,500

IN WINTER COATS
DISTRIBUTED



17

FAMILIES RECEIVED MENTAL
HEALTH REFERRALS

SUMMERS AT SLEEPAWAY CAMP

Going to summer camp is a rite of passage for many teenagers. Being away from home for the first time and creating bonds with kids from other cultures and communities is a great way to improve social emotional skills and build positive peer relationships. For the last three summers, 16-year-old DonZeal has attended sleep away camp in Wyoming with one of Horton's Kids' long time partners, City Kids Wilderness Project.

Each summer, Horton's Kids' sends 10-15 participants to sleepaway camps all over the United States as part of our Youth Development supports. They enjoy a variety of summer camp programming like horseback riding, team sports, wilderness exploration, and performing arts.



DONZEAL, AGE 16

At first, DonZeal was hesitant about attending sleepaway camp. **"I had a conversation with staff at Horton's Kids about what to expect at camp and that really helped calm my nerves. They also provided me with all the supplies I needed to be prepared for all the time I would be spending outside,"** he said.

DonZeal quickly made friends at camp and began exploring his interests in an exciting, new environment. **"I found a new hobby at camp. During my first year I learned magic and have been practicing different tricks ever since,"** he shared. Now DonZeal looks forward to summer camp every year. **"I love getting the opportunity to travel, meet new people, and discover new places and do things like horseback riding."**



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Horton's Kids helps participants strengthen their social and emotional abilities, broaden their horizons, and explore their strengths.



Although DonZeal still has a few summers at camp to look forward to, he's already creating ambitious plans for his future. After graduating in 2024, he plans to enlist in the Army – a path his friend and Horton's Kids mentor Landres helped him explore. Landres, who is also in the Army, worked with DonZeal to research a variety of career options after college. **"I can talk with him about his personal experiences with being in the military and get his advice and opinion about how to prepare and go through the application process,"** said DonZeal.

Horton's Kids' mentoring program pairs students with adults who work with them to explore their strengths and hobbies, build empathy and emotional regulation, and develop skills in future-planning. For DonZeal, this relationship has been pivotal in his development as a young adult.

Horton's Kids' Youth Development programs equip participants to navigate the challenges of adolescence with compassion, confidence, and commitment to growth.



56

OLDER YOUTH WITH
INDIVIDUALIZED MENTORSHIP
& COACHING



11

ACTIVE COMMUNITY
ENRICHMENT PARTNERS



OVER 200

HOURS OF LIFE SKILLS
AND ENRICHMENT
PROGRAMMING

INVESTING IN COMMUNITY

Providing services to the entire family unit is at the core of Horton's Kids' program model. When Horton's Kids opened our Stanton Oaks Community Resource Center last October in a brand-new neighborhood, we knew building connections with families was critical to the Center's success. For Stanton Oaks resident Yvette Pinkney, the new Center provided direct supports to her three daughters – and some unexpected benefits to Ms. Pinkney herself.



MS. PINKNEY

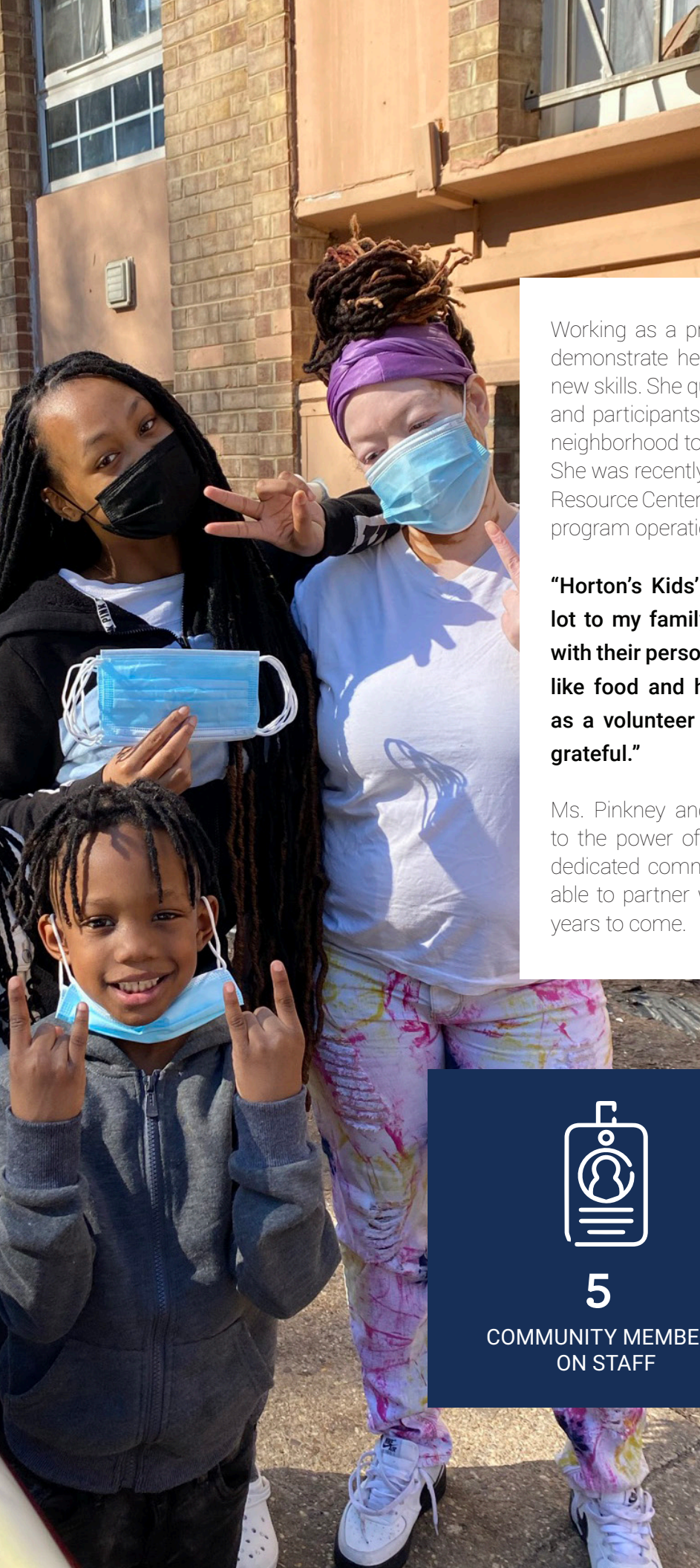
"I was one of the first parents in the neighborhood to sign my kids up for summer camp. Then I heard about a volunteer opportunity to walk students from the Oaks Center to KIPP every day," she said. Ms. Pinkney saw this as the perfect opportunity to use her 15+ years of experience in childcare and to spend additional time with her daughters and other students. She shared, **"I'm usually in the house, but this was a chance to get to know my daughters' friends and make sure that the kids get to summer camp and then home safely."**

When Horton's Kids' fall programs began, Ms. Pinkney was hired as a program assistant where she prepared and distributed meals, took attendance, and chaperoned participants to and from after school programs. Her daughters attended evening tutoring and homework help and participated in a variety of enrichment activities and field trips. Ms. Pinkney said, **"It was great for my girls to interact with other students and adults and have extra help with their schoolwork. They made big improvements and all three of them made the dean's list last semester."**

FAMILY

ENGAGEMENT

Horton's Kids partners closely with caregivers to promote their children's progress, while providing families with essential resources that reduce stress and promote stability.



Working as a program assistant also allowed Ms. Pinkney to demonstrate her personal and professional talents and learn new skills. She quickly built relationships with Horton's Kids staff and participants – and began connecting other parents in the neighborhood to our services. Ms. Pinkney's hard work paid off. She was recently hired to be the new Stanton Oaks Community Resource Center Coordinator where she will oversee the Center's program operations.

"Horton's Kids' coming into this community has meant a lot to my family. They've helped my girls with school and with their personal growth. They've helped with small things like food and household supplies – and they trusted me as a volunteer and help me grow professionally. I'm very grateful."

Ms. Pinkney and her family's achievements are a testament to the power of community investment. With the support of dedicated community members like her, Horton's Kids will be able to partner with children and families in Stanton Oaks for years to come.



5

COMMUNITY MEMBERS
ON STAFF



91%

OF HOUSEHOLDS IN TOUCH
WITH HORTON'S KIDS
THROUGH WEEKLY CALLS



THE VALUE OF VOLUNTEERING

As an organization established and run by volunteers for its first 15 years, volunteerism is rooted in the DNA of Horton's Kids. This year, we were so grateful to reconnect with our volunteers in-person after more than a year of virtual programs. Rebuilding our network of in-person volunteer support has been crucial in moving our work forward as we adapt to a new normal.

Below are just a few of the many groups and individuals who lent their support to Horton's Kids in 2021 and why they remain committed to volunteering with us:

Enterprise Holdings Institute:

"Over the past year, we have had the pleasure of selecting Horton's Kids as an Enterprise Holdings Foundation ROAD Forward recipient, allowing us to partner together as we travel towards a world filled with Respect, Opportunity, Achievement and Diversity. Our team has appreciated not only being able to support the programming of Horton's Kids financially, but also through participating in the annual Home Runs event, donating over 100 coats in the winter, helping with the Christmas gift distribution, and creating over 500 snack bags to fuel the students!"

Junior League of Washington (JLW):

"Recognizing the youth are the future of our communities, JLW has dedicated a committee to work with Horton's Kids in support of their initiatives. Volunteers have developed a connection with students they have tutored for years, worked to support families through various donation drives and brought holiday cheer several times a year. Horton's Kids continues to be a leader in the community, and the JLW is proud to be able to support the work that is being done."

Ali Perencevich, Horton's Kids Mentor:

"It is an honor to be part of the Horton's Kids community. Over the past decade it has been such a joy to experience new things, explore the DC area, and grow alongside my mentee, while also getting to know all the wonderful youth, families, and staff that are part of Horton's Kids."

Jada Stith, Elementary Classroom Assistant:

"I began volunteering with Horton's Kids because I wanted to help kids in my community. I decided to return to Horton's Kids because of the passion and drive for learning I witnessed among the kids but also because of the bond I created with them. They continue to put a smile on my face every program and I love seeing them grow and develop into amazing young individuals who will one day change the world."



231

ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS
IN 2021



2,500

VOLUNTEER HOURS

BEYOND THE FINISH LINE:

COLLEGE, CAREER, AND BEYOND

Horton's Kids College and Career Readiness Program provides participants with exposure opportunities to help them see the variety of options available to them after high school. The program's curriculum includes: **1:1 success coaching, weekly discussion groups for 11th and 12th grade students, a progressive Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) experience, and college and career exposure opportunities through: field trips, monthly information sessions, and a fair with employers and colleges.**

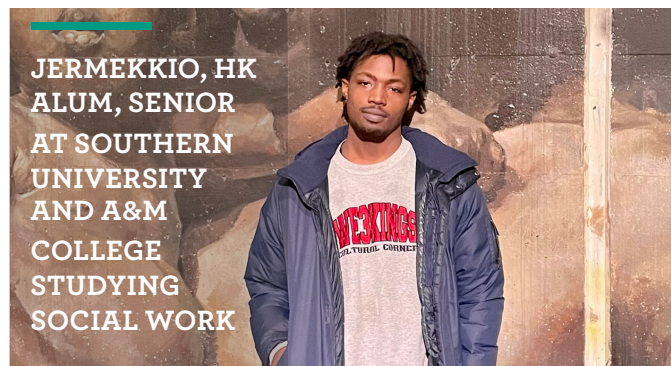
We are fortunate to have long-term relationships that allow us to get participants thinking about their future goals and how they can best utilize their talents to achieve them.



Through her SYEP placement with the Horton's Kids Development team, Saadiyah began thinking about career paths to explore in the future. Now she is making plans to apply to college, something she had not given much thought to previously: **"I had an 'Aha' moment when I was working the 2021 Home Runs for Horton's Kids event that made me realize that I like brainstorming with people to think through event logistics, and the work was so fun and interesting. Now in the future I think I could be an event coordinator."**



Thanks to success coaching Javonni received from his Horton's Kids' Mentor Charles, he discovered a vocational program at Lincoln College of Technology where he received a certification in Electronic Systems Technology. Javonni reflects: **"The classroom setting wasn't for me. I wish I had could have started vocational school sooner, but I am glad Charles took me on a tour of Lincoln College and suggested I go there."**



As a recipient of the Brenda Chamberlain Scholarship, Jermekio has been able to utilize funds to purchase books, other college necessities, and even flights between Louisiana and DC. These resources have allowed Jermekio to focus on his personal growth and taking ownership of his future: **"When I graduated from high school, I made a substantial number of decisions based on the validation of other people. Now, my future is solely based on my work ethic, humility, and desire to see an impact in the world."**

2021 INDIVIDUAL DONOR LIST

Thank you to the Horton's Kids 2021 Valedictorians Circle, a community of our most generous individual donors. Members sustain Horton's Kids' programming with gifts of \$1,000 or more in a calendar year.

\$20,000+

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Simmy and Brian Jain

\$10,000-\$19,999

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Neesa Patel Sood
Matthew and Dayna Sowd
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Margie Yeager and Michael Sriqui



The 2021 Karin Walser Commitment to Service Award

was presented to Willkie Farr and Gallagher LLP for their decade-long support of Horton's Kids. In that time, they have become a favorite of our older youth participants, sponsoring students for SAT/ACT prep, participating in our career days, helping students with their resumes and college essays, and more. The firm has become of one Horton's Kids' biggest contributors, selecting Horton's Kids as a multi-year grantee through its community foundation and continually fundraising for the organization through drives. Additionally, Willkie Farr and Gallagher assembled a pro bono team that worked for hundreds of hours on our behalf during 2020-2021.

\$2,500-\$4,999

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Horton's Kids made our return to the Fairmont Hotel for the 14th Annual Give Thanks & Give Back celebration. We welcomed 300 guests for an evening of shared celebration and success - and raised an incredible \$266,882 to empower children and families in Washington, D.C.

Thank you again to our wonderful network of supporters and to the **Fairmont Washington D.C. Georgetown** for your continued support and generosity.

Missed the event? Check it out here →



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Jeff White
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**Indicates membership in The 1989 Society, a giving circle recognizing donors who have made a commitment to empowering Horton's Kids participants through a planned gift.*



2021 INSTITUTIONAL DONOR LIST

\$250,000+

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\$2,500-\$4,999

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The 13th Annual Home Runs for Horton's Kids was a grand slam success! We were able to safely welcome back over 400 guests to Nationals Park for a family-friendly evening of carnival games, delicious stadium fare, and exciting on-field activities. Thanks to our generous supporters, the event raised an incredible \$555,000 to continue empowering children and families in Southeast DC.





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and Horton's Kids Alum

ERIK OLSON

Venn Strategies, LLC

ALLISON REMSEN

USTelecom

JINA SIMMONS

Community Volunteer

LATOYA STARKS

Horton's Kids Community Member

NICOLE TAYLOR

Deloitte & Touche LLP

TIM TRYSLA

Alston & Bird LLP

DAN WALSH

DIRECTV

STAFF

ERICA AHDOOT

Executive Director

D. BREWER

Senior Manager of Older Youth
Academics

GINA BURD

Senior Director of Academics

ELICA CHURCH

Senior Director of Individual Giving

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Community Center Facilities
Coordinator

KEVIN FRANKLIN

Youth Development Program Assistant

AMANDA GAEBELEIN

Senior Manager, Operations & Human
Resources

LATOYA HACKETT

Health & Wellness Program Assistant

MELANIE HOLLAND-ORR

Director of Youth Development

ANDREW HULLINGER

Chief Financial & Administrative Officer

JOH'NITA JOHNSON

Senior Manager of College & Career
Readiness

RAHAMAN KILPATRICK

Director of Family Engagement &
Advocacy

KIANA LEE

Volunteer & Partnerships Coordinator

CLAIRE LEVY

Data & Evaluation Specialist

DANA LIVINGSTON

Senior Manager of Elementary Education

JULIE LONARDO

Chief Program Officer

NAJUMA LOUISON

Manager of Older Youth Development

CAROLINE MALONE

Senior Development Coordinator

MEGHAN MCCAMIS

Director of Health & Wellness

KAAMILAH MITCHELL

Senior Coordinator of Health & Wellness

LEIGH PLAYER

Chief Development Officer

RAMONA PLUMMER

Senior Coordinator of Family Engagement

SHANDELL RICHARDS

Senior Director, Strategic Initiatives &
Partnerships

BRAD SICKELS

Director of Communications & Events

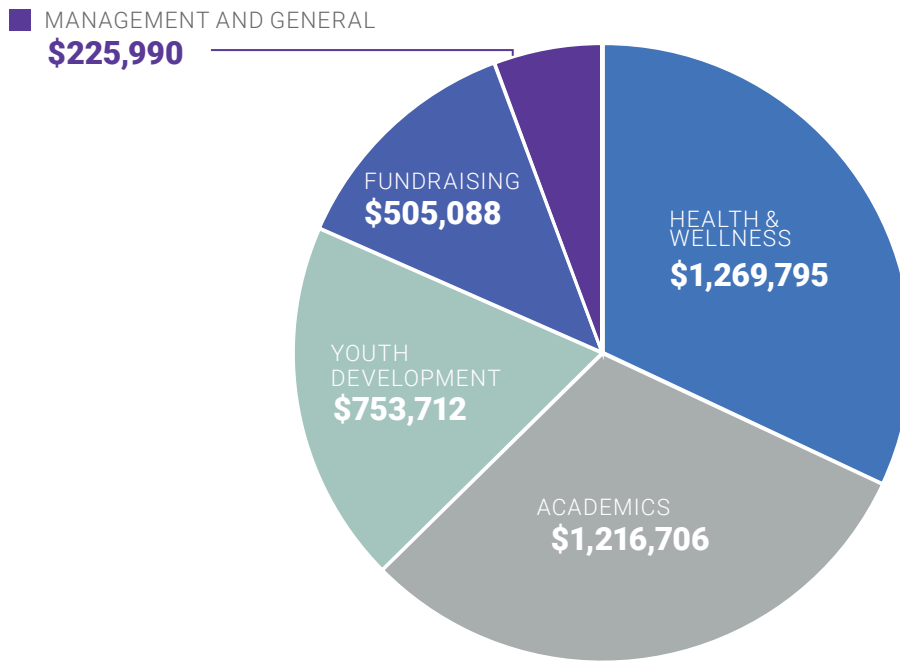
NELSON SUERO NIN

Accounting & Administrative Manager

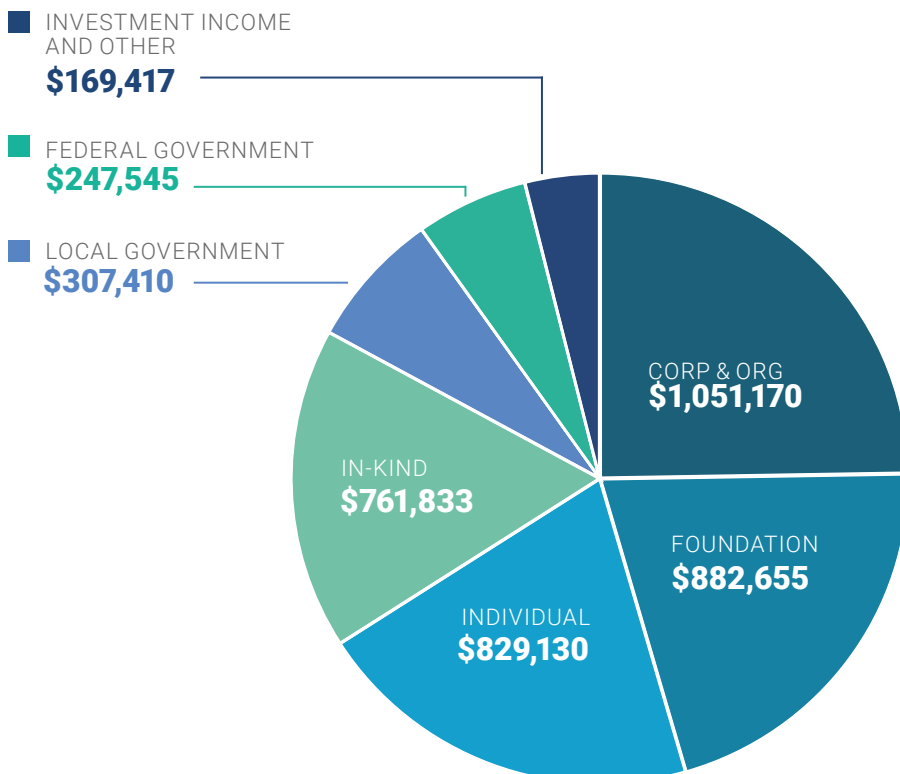
AJ TOPPS

Youth Development Coordinator

FINANCIALS



FY 2021
EXPENSES
\$3,971,291

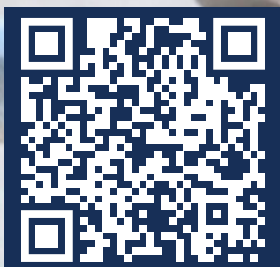


FY 2021
INCOME
\$4,249,160



Horton's Kids

**MAKE A
DONATION!**



MAILING ADDRESS

Checks can be mailed to our lockbox location at:

Horton's Kids
PO Box 71159
Charlotte, NC 28272-1159

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTERS

Wellington Park CRC
2500 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020

Stanton Oaks CRC
2424 Elvans Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020

GET INVOLVED

DONATE
hortonskids.org/donate

VOLUNTEER
hortonskids.org/volunteer