

2011 Annual Report

Transforming our Community **through**
Educational Excellence



Table of Contents

Executive Message..... 1

History, Mission, and Beliefs.....2

 Nonprofit Community-Based Organization.....2

 Charter Management Organization.....2

 ASPIRA of PA Schools.....3

 ASPIRA Community Enterprises.....3

At-A-Glance..... 4

 ASPIRA of PA Schools.....4

 ASPIRA of PA Programs.....6

Year-In-Review..... 8

 ASPIRA of PA Schools.....8

 ASPIRA of PA Programs.....12

 ASPIRA of PA Holding Company.....19

 In the Spotlight.....20

 Financial Summary.....22

Looking Forward.....23

 Strategic Goals and Future Plans.....23

 Support ASPIRA of PA.....24

 Thank You.....24



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Philadelphia, PA 19140
Phone: 215-455-1300
Fax: 215-455-6310
Email: info@aspirapa.org
Website: www.aspirapa.org



SUPPORT ASPIRA OF PA

VOLUNTEER / MENTOR

TO MENTOR, PLEASE CONTACT:

Lisette Agosto Cintron
215-456-3014
Lagosto-cintron@olney.aspirapa.org

TO VOLUNTEER IN OTHER WAYS,
PLEASE CONTACT:

Marisol Morales
215-455-1300 x 114
mmorales@aspirapa.org

DONATE MATERIALS

PLEASE CONTACT:

Lisandra Carrasquillo
215-455-1300 X 190
lcarrasquillo@pantoja.aspirapa.org

FINANCIAL GIVING

PLEASE CONTACT:

Juanita Way
215-455-1300 x 117
jway@aspirapa.org

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.aspirapa.org/donate

MAIL A DONATION TO:

ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania
Attention: Donations
4322 North 5th Street, 3rd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19140

THANK YOU

We sincerely thank all the parents, staff, volunteers, elected officials, business owners, partners, corporate sponsors, alumni, organizations, and other stakeholders who have supported our mission of educational excellence in Philadelphia and throughout Pennsylvania. We give special thanks to our significant funders:

U.S. Department of Education (USDOE)
PA Department of Education (PDE)
Philadelphia Schools Project (PSP)
The Yass Family
Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC)
Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS)
Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN)

Office of Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program (OJJDP)
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania (UWSEPA)
Wal-mart Foundation
PECO Energy
School District of Philadelphia (SDP)



Dear Stakeholders:

ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania (ASPIRA of PA) is proud to release our Annual Report for the fiscal year (FY) ending June 30, 2011. This report “Transforming Communities through Educational Excellence.” highlights the innovative work of our organization and its positive impact on our neighborhood. Thanks to the support of our community, reliable and generous partners, and dedicated staff, ASPIRA of PA is in the midst of enormous growth.

ASPIRA of PA successfully implemented several new initiatives this year. We were awarded the turnaround of Stetson Middle School, and have worked tirelessly to reform the school into a charter school deserving of our students. We launched the first bilingual cyber charter school in Pennsylvania, expanding ASPIRA of PA’s influence across the state. At Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School, we are serving an additional 100 students. We also added a Parent Empowerment Program serving over 40 parents. We launched a new 21st Century Community Learning Center to serve over 400 6th-12th graders. Our Leadership Development program increased its school partnerships from 12 to 18 schools, serving over 350 more students than last year.

With great blessings comes great responsibility, which ASPIRA of PA takes seriously. We consistently strive for excellence – to constantly increase educational quality for our students, generate employment opportunities in our community by attracting and retaining highly effective staff dedicated to our mission, increase neighborhood capacity by enhancing the skills and engagement of our parents, and build relationships of respect and confidence with our extraordinary partners.

This report is intended to share our story with our students, community, generous funders and supporters. We hope this report reinforces the belief that social change is possible with quality education for our children.

Sincerely,

ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees Chairperson

ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania Charter Schools Board of Trustees Chairperson

ASPIRA, Inc. of
Pennsylvania
Board of Trustees

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ASPIRA, Inc. of
Pennsylvania
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Murray Rosenman, Chief Financial Officer
Evelyn Nuñez, Superintendent of Schools
and Chief Academic Officer
Richard Martinez, Chief Information Officer
Andres Perez, Chief of Facilities
Marta Sierra, Chief Programs Officer

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Pennsylvania School
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Vilma Cartagena, Stetson Parent Member
Joyce Crosscombe, Hostos Parent Member
Edda Dejesus, Pantoja Parent Member
Marlene Douglas Welsh, Member
Lisette Gonzalez, Member
Orlando Quevedo, Member



Truancy Case Management, afterschool programs, summer camps, EPIC Stakeholders, and courses for parents. ASPIRA of PA currently manages ten (10) educational programs.

MISSION

ASPIRA of PA is a community-based organization whose mission is to empower Puerto Ricans and other Latinos through advocacy and the education and leadership development of its youth. Because of ASPIRA of PA’s proven success, we have grown and have been enabled to serve many communities in need.

CHARTER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

HISTORY

As the high school dropout rate in Philadelphia continued to rise and the Philadelphia School District was taken over by the state for continued poor student academic performance, ASPIRA of PA began to consider how it could help youth in Philadelphia obtain a quality education. With the advent of the new PA charter school law in the 1990s, starting our own school seemed to be an appropriate course of action to help youth. In 1998, ASPIRA of PA founded Eugenio Maria De Hostos Community Biligual Charter School, which operated as an independent school until 2008, when ASPIRA of PA became a Charter Management Organization (CMO) and took over school management. Since 2008, ASPIRA of PA’s CMO has founded and operated a variety of charter schools, including traditional charters, a cyber charter, and restart schools from the School District of Philadelphia. ASPIRA of PA’s proven success with increasing student proficiency has enabled us to now operate four (4) charter schools, with two (2) new schools opening in fiscal year 2011-12. ASPIRA of PA offers great insight and success to the charter education world and provides an innovative, proven, replicable model of educational transformation for similar populations nationally and in Puerto Rico.

School Name	# of Years Under ASPIRA of PA Management
Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School	3
Antonia Pantoja Charter School	3
John B. Stetson Charter School*	1
ASPIRA Bilingual Cyber Charter School	<1
Olney East Charter High School* (opening in 2011-12)	<1
Olney West Charter High School* (opening in 2011-12)	<1
* Stetson and Olney Charter Schools are restart model schools through the School District of Philadelphia. They were underperforming public schools that were marked for privatization and management takeover. ASPIRA of PA was awarded the turnaround of these schools, opening them as charter schools with several reform initiatives in place.	

VISION

Latino students lag behind in school and represent the highest high school and college dropout rates among all demographic groups. As a formidable and growing group in this country, these are dire statistics. As such, ASPIRA of PA is dedicated to educational excellence and is working hard to attain quality education for all. ASPIRA of PA’s vision and strategic plan revolve around a cradle-to-college educational model. With a successful preschool, several successful charter schools from K-8th grade, a new K-12th grade cyber charter school, two new charter high schools opening for the 2011-2012 school year, and several educational programs serving K-12th grade youth, ASPIRA of PA’s plan is coming to fruition. We aim to produce students that, upon graduating from high school, are fully bilingual/biliterate and are socially conscious individuals dedicated to service communities in need.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND FUTURE PLANS

Our proven success and dedication to our community led the School District of Philadelphia to choose ASPIRA of PA as the turnaround team devoted to the former Olney East and Olney West High Schools. The acquisition of these high schools solidifies ASPIRA of PA’s vision for a cradle-to-college educational path for youth in our community. With hard work and dedication to educational excellence, we are currently working to unite the schools into one Olney Charter High School. The new school will open in FY 2011-12 with several reform initiatives in place, serving over 1,600 9th-12th graders in North Philadelphia. In September 2011, Olney Charter students will walk into a school with new furniture, increased technology, fresh paint, updated lighting, and over 200 new surveillance cameras. They will be greeted by over 200 new staff dedicated to the ASPIRA of PA mission and core values.

With our current rapid growth, ASPIRA of PA is working to acquire 33 acres of property at the former Cardinal Dougherty High School location. This newly acquired property will house our preschool (Pequeños Pasos de ASPIRA), Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School, the ASPIRA of PA Afterschool Success Center, and the Olney Excel Academy. We are very excited about the opportunities this new space will offer our students and community, including several new classrooms and offices, a larger cafeteria, two gymnasiums, an auditorium, soccer and football fields, and a track.

Hostos Charter will serve 440 students in FY 2011-12, an increase of 100 additional students. The ASPIRA Bilingual Cyber Charter School will expand to serve at least 125 students next year, recruiting more students outside of Philadelphia to further solidify ASPIRA of PA’s presence throughout the state. Additionally, our 21st Century Community Learning Center will expand from one (1) to three (3) sites and will develop a new summer program for middle schoolers, enabling the participation of more students from a wider geographic area.

In FY 2011-12, we will have approximately 700 employees employed throughout five (5) charter schools and ten (10) educational programs that serve over 10,000 parents and students. A key goal of ASPIRA of PA in the upcoming FY is to solidify our organizational infrastructure to sustain the tremendous growth we are experiencing. We plan to restructure and expand our management team to increase our capacity, establish new partners and advisors to assist in all of our new initiatives, and diversify our funding portfolio to increase the sustainability of our organization. All our efforts will be focused on ensuring the highest level of educational excellence is maintained as we continue to progress.

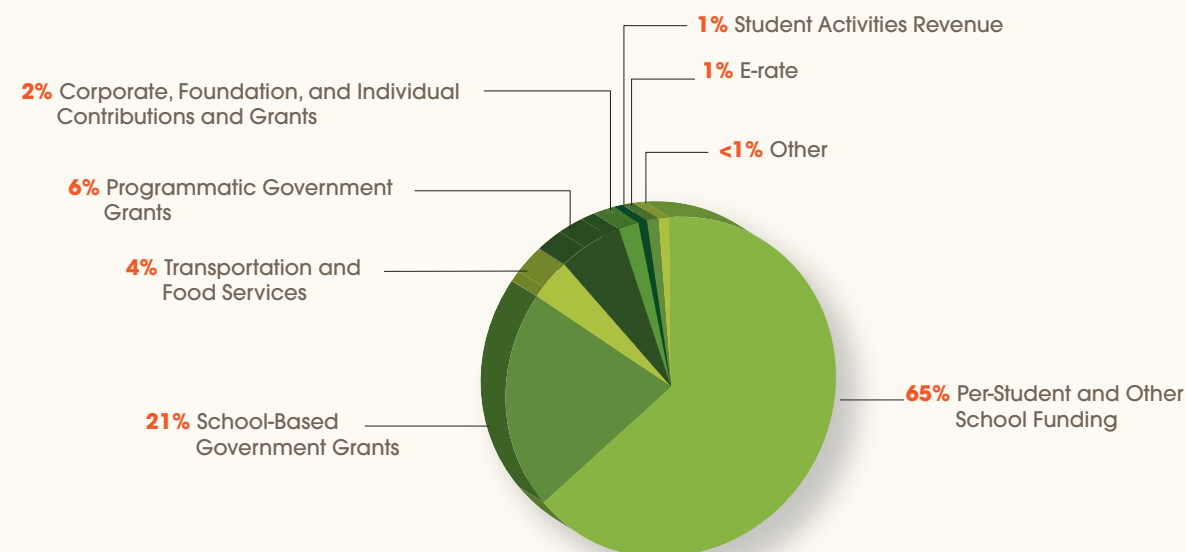


ASPIRA OF PA FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

ASPIRA of PA Expenses	
Salaries, related costs, and outside professionals	\$4,275,663
Occupancy	\$243,013
Management fee	—
Other	\$1,176,533
Total	\$5,695,209
ASPIRA of PA Expenses	
School funding	—
Government grants and other	\$5,782,655
Total	\$5,782,655

CONSOLIDATED FUNDING SOURCES



TOTAL REVENUE AND GAINS \$28,910,828

ASPIRA OF PA SCHOOLS

MISSION

Our mission is to provide a high quality bilingual, bicultural academically enriched program in English and Spanish that enables students to make the most of their individual talents.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY*

At ASPIRA of PA, we believe in Paulo Freire’s educational philosophy:

- We need to provide native populations with an education that is modern and anti-colonial.
- Education must serve to develop cultural identity.
- Education should allow the oppressed to regain their humanity and overcome their condition, yet the oppressed have to play a role in their own liberation.
- A deep reciprocity should be inserted into our notions of teacher and student. Classroom participation should include the teacher learning and the student teaching.
- Teachers and students must be made aware of the politics that surround education.
- Discovery and experiential learning are hallmarks to learning.
- Critical thinking is necessary for transformation in our world.
- Lifelong learning is essential. We must continuously examine what we think we know, and we must be willing to accept that we might be wrong.

We also believe in John Dewey’s philosophy of educational reform:

- Education and learning are social and interactive processes, and thus the school itself is a social institution through which social reform can and should take place.
- Students thrive in an environment where they are allowed to experience and interact with the curriculum, and all students should have the opportunity to take part in their own learning.
- The purpose of education should not revolve around the acquisition of a pre-determined set of skills, but rather the realization of one’s full potential and the ability to use those skills for the greater good.
- Education and schooling are instrumental in creating social change and reform.

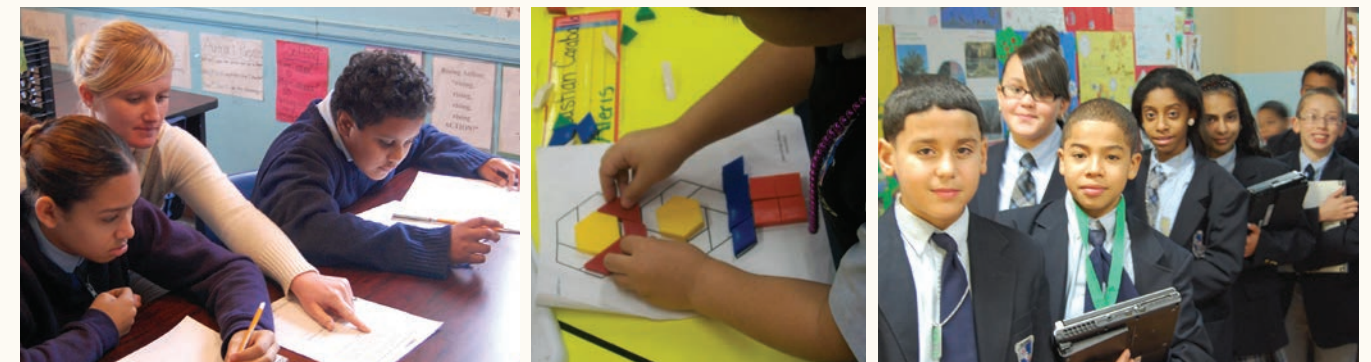
CORE BELIEFS

Our core values are: Honesty, Respect, Perseverance, Integrity, Cooperation, Citizenship, and Responsibility. These are qualities we find in exemplary leaders and are the cornerstone of our program design and practices.

ASPIRA COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES, INC.

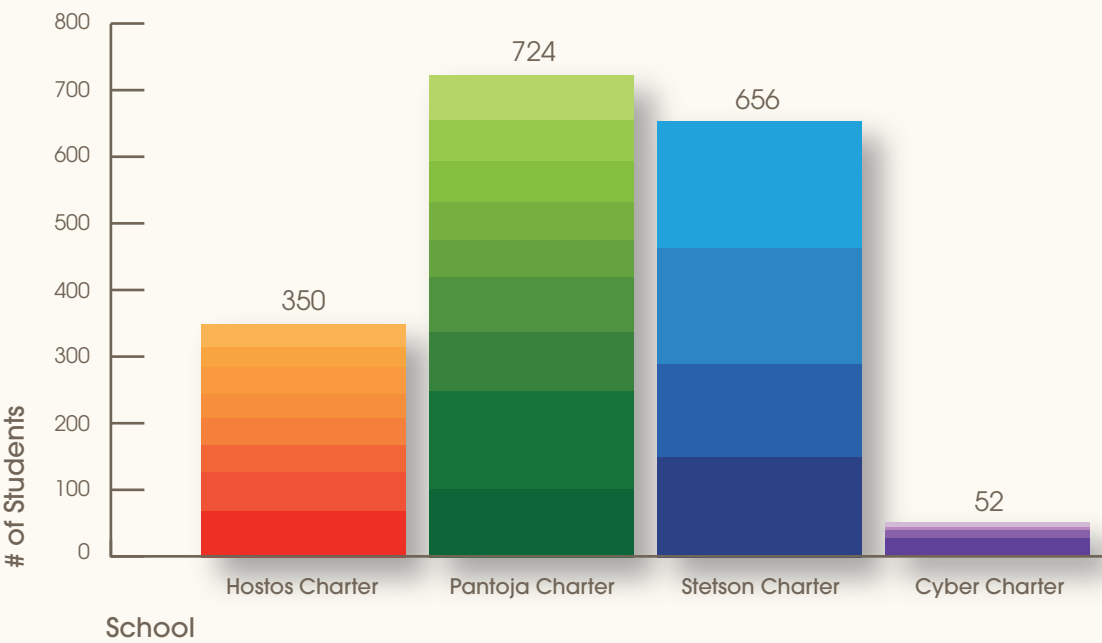
HISTORY

ASPIRA Community Enterprises, Inc. (ACE) was incorporated under the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Law in August 2007 to support and hold real estate for ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania. Currently, it holds the title to the building in which Antonia Pantoja Charter School is located.



* A full version of our Educational Philosophy can be viewed on our website at www.aspirapa.org.

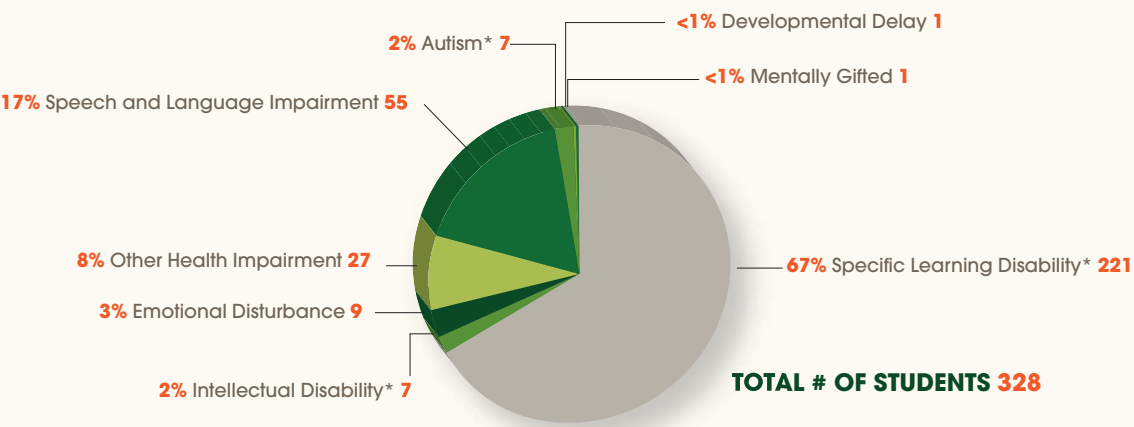
ENROLLMENT PER SCHOOL



STUDENT PROFILES

	Hostos Charter	Pantoja Charter	Stetson Charter	Cyber Charter
Low-income	80%	92%	100%	N/A
Minority	90%	100%	100%	98%
Special Education	11%	18%	20%	14%
ELL	20%	25%	30%	0%

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS BY TYPE



* Some of these students also receive related services, such as speech and language therapy and occupational therapy.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

STAFF IN THE SPOTLIGHT*

Nilsa Encarnacion, Pasos Pre-K Teacher:
ASPIRA: What are you doing to improve your teaching?
Nilsa: I improve my teaching through practice and training. My philosophy is to learn through my students as they are learning. I learn a lot by attending trainings related to my practice. Also, I improve my teaching through engaging with my parents, who provide me with the knowledge they have of their children.

Denise Oyola, Hostos 3rd Grade Teacher:
ASPIRA: How do you help students enjoy learning?
Denise: To help students enjoy learning I differentiate instruction. I meet them where they are at academically. I provide them with the necessary strategies needed for them to achieve. I try to make sure every student in my class feels successful. I hold them accountable for their learning. I let them know where they are at and where they need to go. My students know it takes hard work to achieve but with hard work comes successes. I also have a sense of humor. The students enjoy this and it motivates them to learn.

Denise Bermudez, Youth Development Program Manager:
ASPIRA: What inspires you to work with ASPIRA youth?
Denise: I am inspired to work with ASPIRA's youth because they remind me of myself growing up. I lived right around the corner from the main ASPIRA of PA building for my entire teenage life, and experienced the life they have to live every single day. I know firsthand the issues they are facing with dangerous neighborhoods, stereotyping, and people just plain not believing in them.

Connie Rodriguez, Leadership Club Facilitator:
ASPIRA: What is your best memory of working for ASPIRA?
Connie: My best memory in ASPIRA would be the retreat and our youth graduations. The retreat is more than just a weekend in the woods. This is a time where we all come together and learn about one another. We give our youth knowledge about leadership skills and how to run a successful club in their schools. Two things that stand out for me at the retreat are when we do the reflection pool and the bonfire. At the reflection pool, our students reflect on what they learn or want to gain over the weekend, which is amazing to hear what our youth have to say at that time. At the bonfire, we all sit in a circle and share thoughts and personal things in our life, which can become emotional, but at this time is where we really bond and become very understanding to the differences we all have in our lives. Seeing our students graduate is also memories I will never forget. It's an amazing feeling to see our youth succeed and become young men and women who are going into college. This makes the staff and I feel that we have accomplished our goals.



* Full versions of these interviews can be viewed on our website at www.aspirapa.org.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT*

Renytzadelle Ortega-Cotto, 4th Grade Pantoja Student:
ASPIRA: What's your favorite subject? Why?
Renytzadelle: My favorite class is English because I like the strategies we use.

Mariliz Pagán, 2nd Grade Pantoja Student:
ASPIRA: What would make school better?
Mariliz: The gym room needs to get a little bit bigger.

Giovanni Ruiz, 7th Grade Stetson Student:
ASPIRA: If you had a friend looking for a school to attend, would you want them to come here? Why?
Giovanni: Yes, because the school has changed and there are no fights anymore. The academics are better and kids don't have time to play around anymore. It's a much better school.

Josh Berrios, 11th Grade Program Participant from Roman Catholic High School:
ASPIRA: How has staff influenced you?
Josh: They have really been involved and take care of us just like a family does, and they all mean so much to each and every one of us.

Alejandra Melean, 11th Grade Program Participant from Furness High School:
ASPIRA: What is the biggest impact ASPIRA has had on you?
Alejandra: The biggest impact would be that the staff gets involved directly with the students. The staff tries to help as much possible to help students in any situation.

PARENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT*

Joyce Crosscombe, Hostos Parent:
ASPIRA: Do you feel ASPIRA has added value to the development of your children?
Joyce: Yes!! I have been so impressed with the staff and teachers. They are very committed, respectful, and really care for their students. They all take a great interest in my children, not only educationally, but emotionally as well. They have provided character development classes, take the time to deal with issues that arise, and guide the children through handling conflict.

Judith Rivera, Stetson Parent:
ASPIRA: Compared to last year, what was your experience like this year with ASPIRA?
Nilsa: This school has turned around 100%. There is a sense of peace when you walk the hallways. Before ASPIRA took over, the teachers were not as supportive as they are now.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT*

Catalina Hunter, Hunting Park EPIC Stakeholder:
ASPIRA: In your own words, describe what the EPIC Stakeholders are and what they do?
Catalina: We educate and bring resources to the community. We volunteer, like what we do in the park. We meet every month to discuss a particular topic of benefit to the community.
ASPIRA: Is EPIC a successful program and, if so, what is the key to its success?
Catalina: It is a success and more that I see is a lot of families, community members, who take an interest. We see how many people come every month, and we are never below 80 or 90 people. Every month is something new for the community. Our leader is very active and we have been together for many years so we've been able to see our affect in different areas.

Naida Elena Montes, ASPIRA Alumni (ASPIRANTE):
ASPIRA: Who was your role model at ASPIRA?
Naida: It's hard to say who really was my role model. ASPIRA's staff were big role models and motivators. More than anything, they pushed us to be role models in a community where sometimes young role models seem to be scarce.
ASPIRA: What keeps you involved with ASPIRA after all this time?
Naida: They were my launching pad to success. I began to learn about self worth and service through them. They provided opportunity for me to learn and experience. I have an undying dedication an appreciation for all they have done for me.
ASPIRA: Why would you recommend a youth to ASPIRA?
Naida: Nothing is worth more than the opportunity to cultivate the value and potential of an individual. Through ASPIRA's programs and dedicated staff, an atmosphere of hope and opportunity is created. For many youth, getting involved with ASPIRA will actually be the first time he or she may really realize their worth.

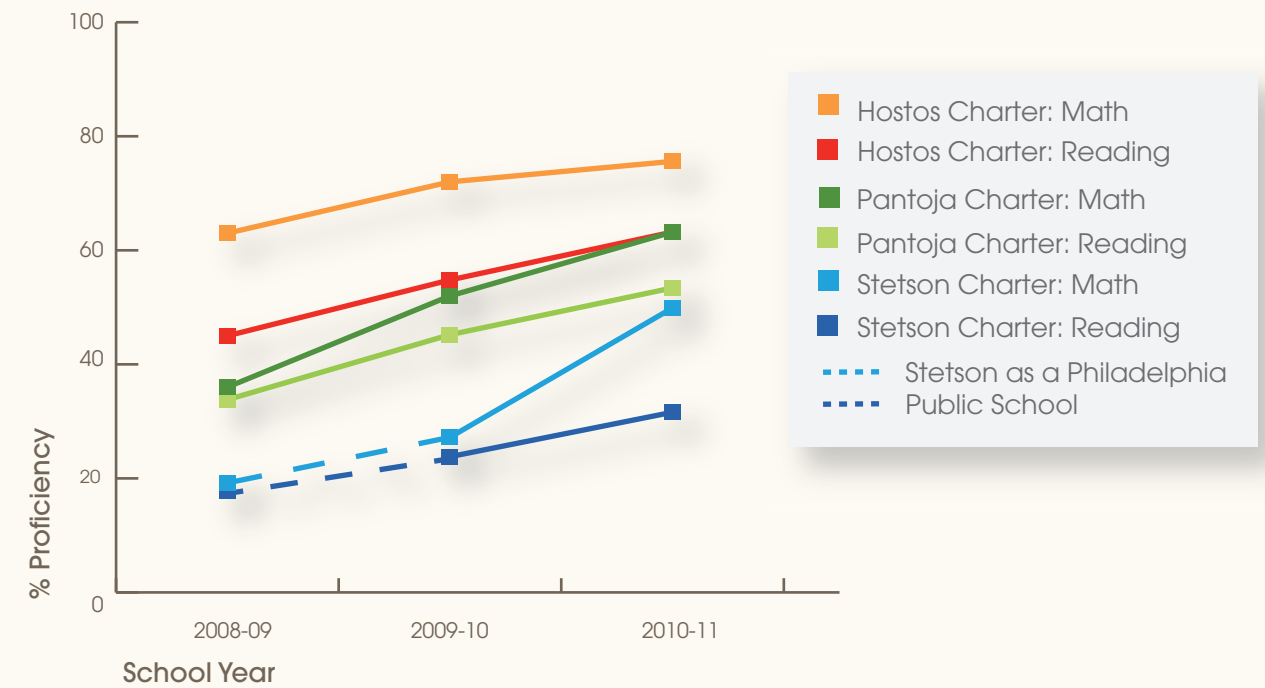
* Full versions of these interviews can be viewed on our website at www.aspirapa.org.

ASPIRA OF PA SCHOOLS

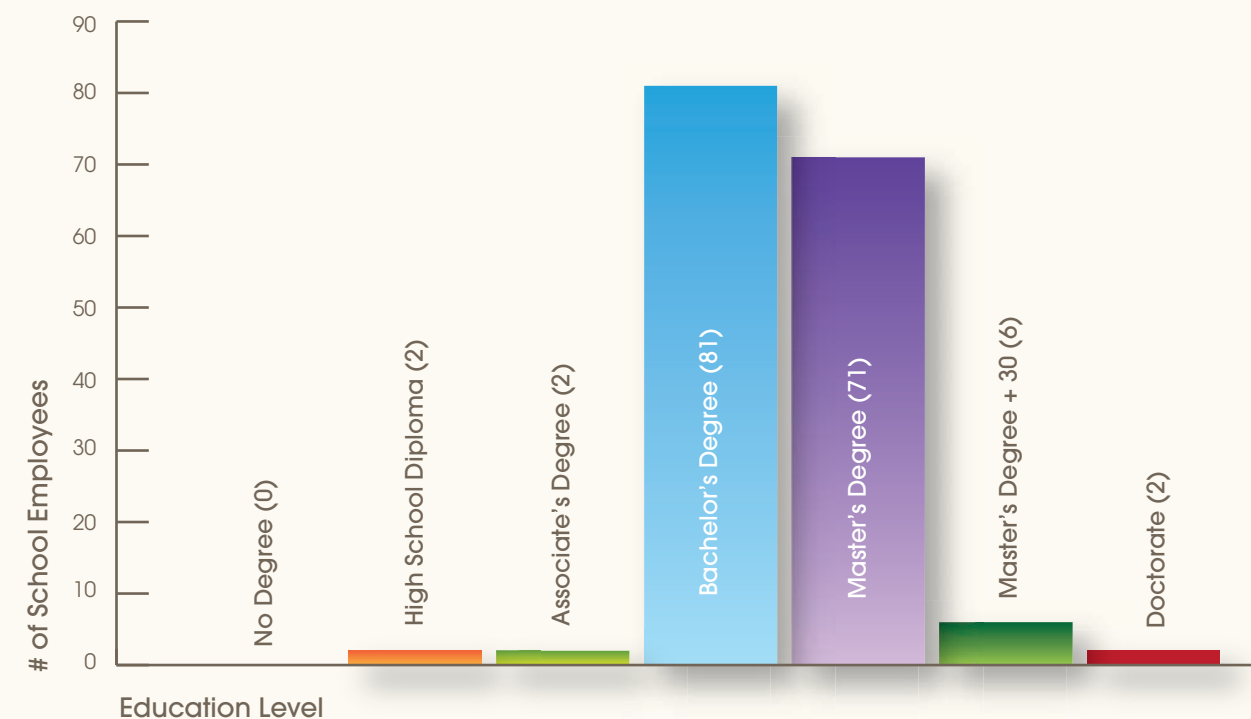
2010-11 PSSA PROFICIENCY RESULTS

	Hostos Charter	Pantoja Charter	Stetson Charter
Math Proficiency	75.6%	63.2%	49.9%
Reading Proficiency	63.2%	53.4%	31.6%

3-YEAR PSSA PROFICIENCY TREND

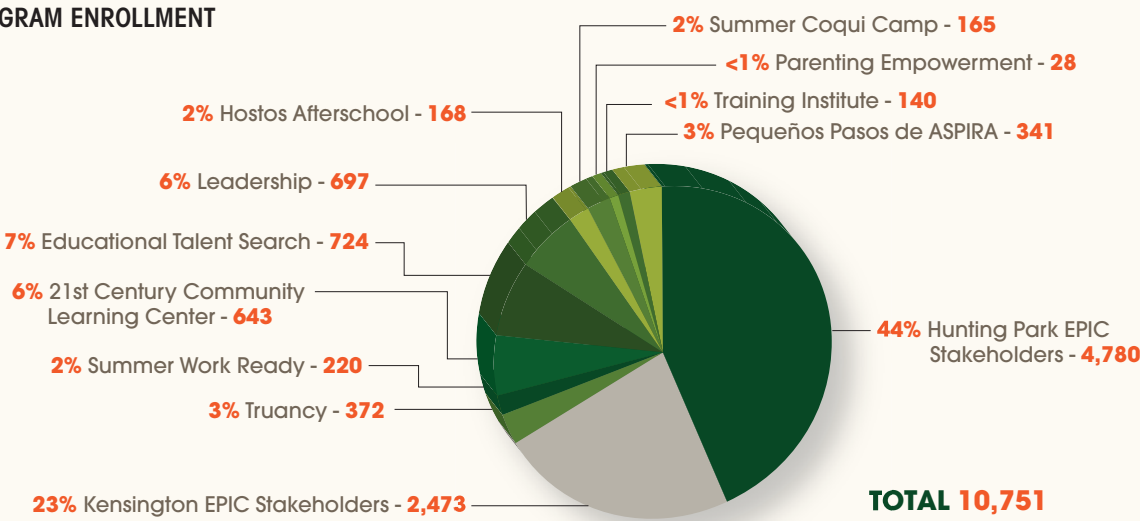


EMPLOYEE EDUCATION LEVELS

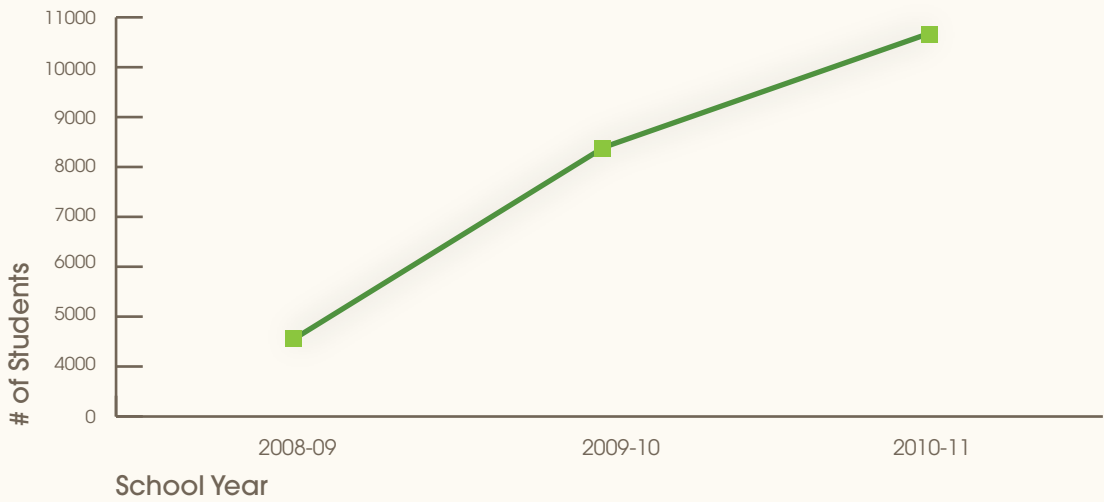


ASPIRA OF PA PROGRAMS

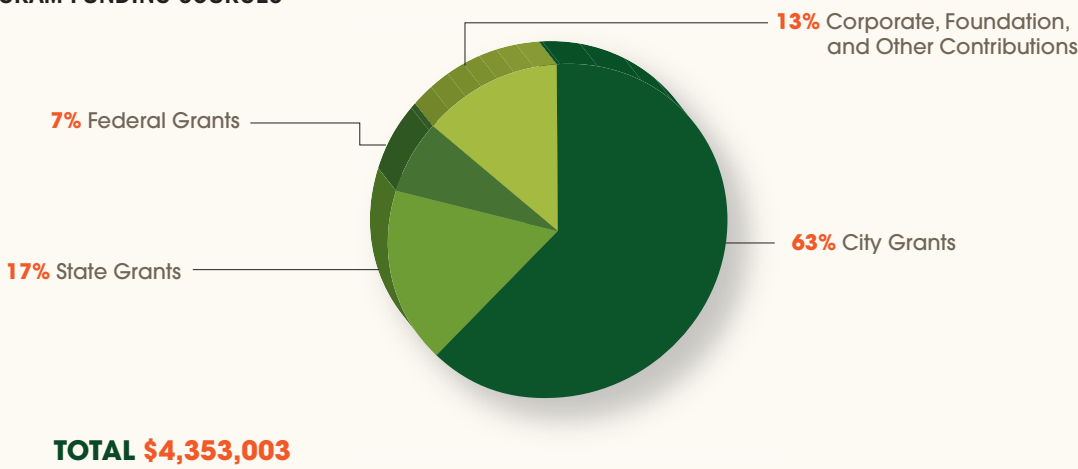
PROGRAM ENROLLMENT



3-YEAR PROGRAM PARTICIPATION TREND



PROGRAM FUNDING SOURCES



ASPIRA OF PA HOLDING COMPANY

ASPIRA COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES, INC. (ACE)

LOCATION AND CONTACT INFO

Andres Perez, CEO
4322 North 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19140
Phone: 215.455.1300 x 193
aperez@aspirapa.org

BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

ASPIRA Community Enterprises, Inc. (ACE) was founded in 2007 as a real estate holding company for ASPIRA of PA properties. It is exempt from paying federal income tax under Section 501(c)3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and is a supporting organization to ASPIRA of PA. Currently, ACE holds the title to the building in which Antonia Pantoja Charter School is located. Pantoja Charter makes lease payments to ACE, constituting the majority of ACE's total revenue. ACE will likely expand in the near future, serving as the holding company for numerous ASPIRA of PA assets.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

ACE Expenses	
Salaries, related costs, and outside professionals	—
Occupancy	\$607,464.41
Management fee	—
Other	\$58,894.33
Total	\$666,358.74
ACE Revenues	
School funding	—
Government grants and other	\$960,671.91
Total	\$960,671.91



EQUAL PARTNERS IN CHANGE (EPIC) STAKEHOLDERS

WHO ARE THE STAKEHOLDERS?

EPIC Stakeholders are volunteer community members, parents, health care workers, school staff, police officers, and public servants. EPIC members are dedicated to empowering the community to increase its quality of life. They understand there are many issues plaguing the community and are committed to strengthening it to better cope with these challenges.

WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

ASPIRA of PA's EPIC Stakeholders aim to collaborate, create, and implement solutions to combat quality of life issues in the Kensington and Hunting Park communities.

WHAT DO STAKEHOLDERS DO?

The EPIC Stakeholders facilitate the development of positive, mutually-supportive relationships that promote the success of children, youth and families in North Philadelphia's Kensington and Hunting Park communities. EPIC members:

- Meet to discuss and address community issues.
- Attend, support, network at community meetings & events.
- Build partnerships between community groups & organizations.
- Identify, organize and build community resources.
- Develop proposals for community development funds.

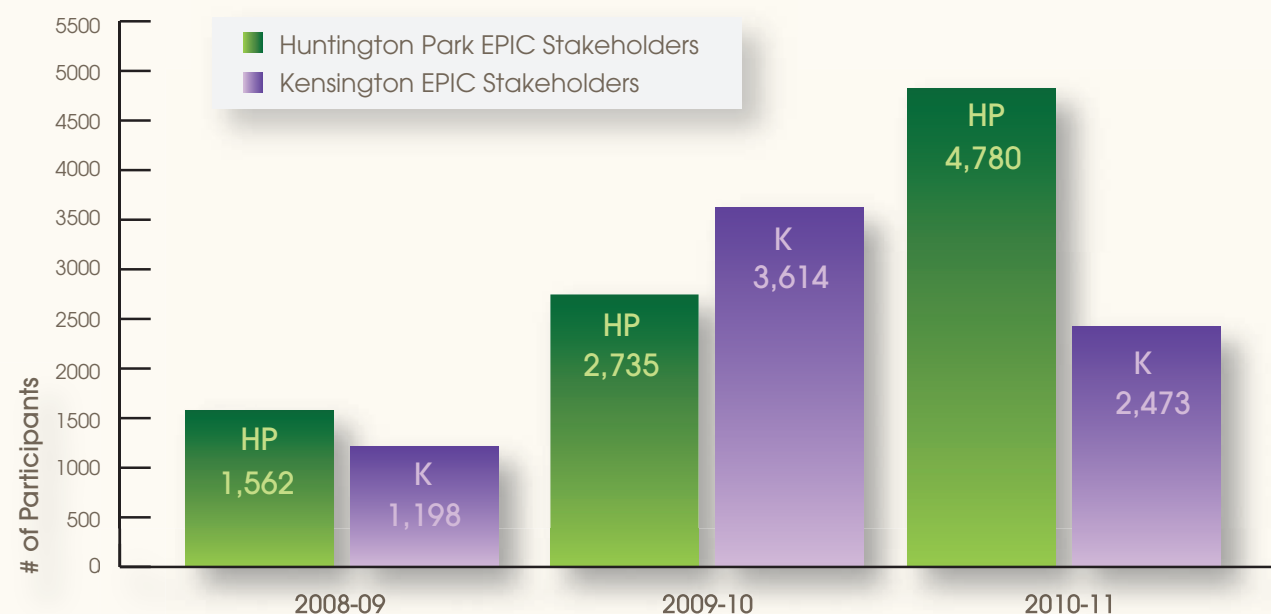
WHAT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE?

Community Meetings
Conferences
Workshops
Resources Fair
Annual Día del Niño
Job Readiness Training

Thanksgiving Food Baskets
Toy Drive
Back-to-School Supplies Drive
Domestic Violence Support Group
Youth Engagement Projects
Early Education Parenting Education

Drug Prevention Education
Community Festivals
Community Project Grants
Plus more!

3-YEAR PARTICIPATION TREND



WHAT HAVE WE ACCOMPLISHED?

- The program is facilitating a \$25,000 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Award to develop a community garden.
- During 2010-2011, the program assisted over 11,000 people in receiving community services!
- ASPIRA of PA is the only community-based organization in Philadelphia awarded more than one stakeholders group.

BY WHO ARE WE FUNDED?

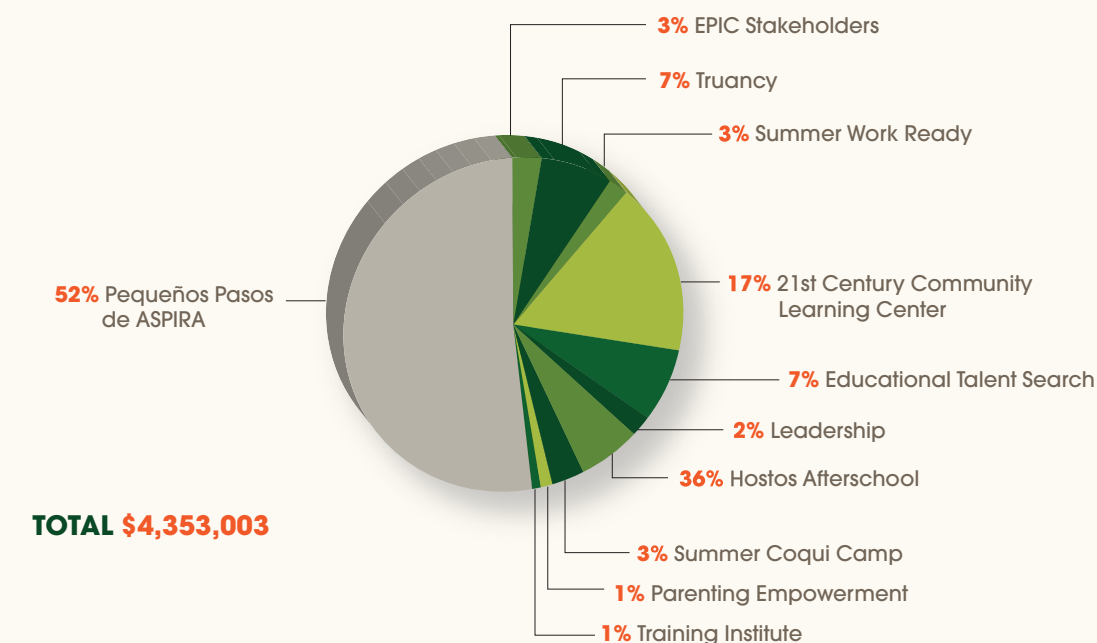
Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS)

HOW CAN YOU REACH US?

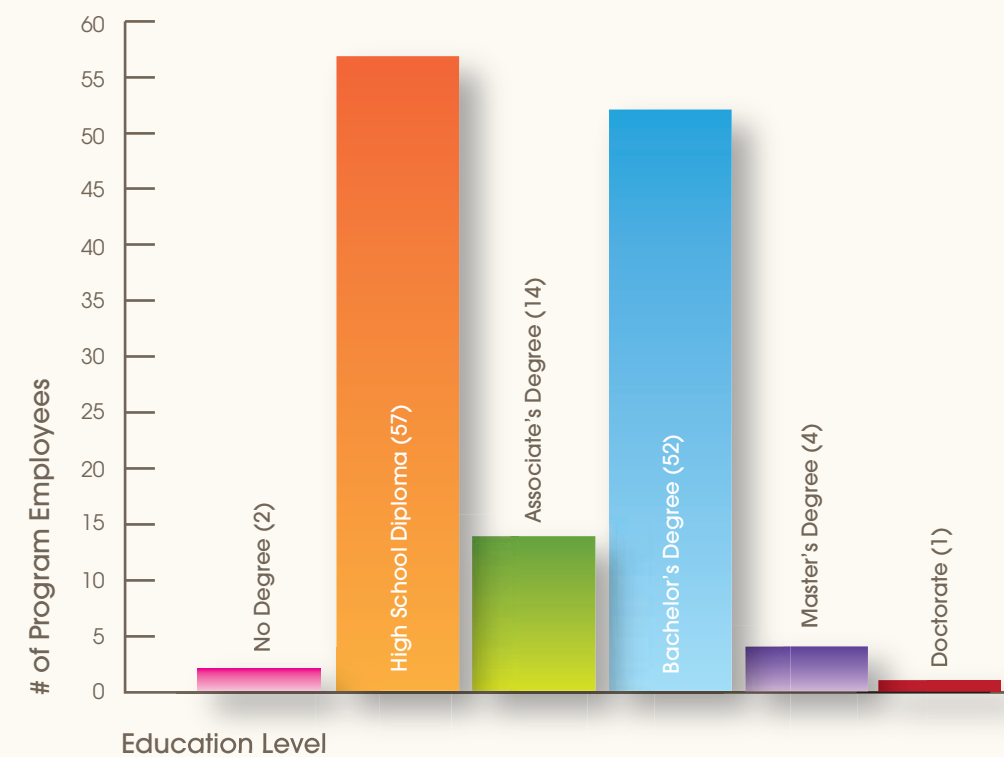
Hunting Park Stakeholders: Mayra Pabon, 215-455-1300, mpabon@aspirapa.org
Kensington Stakeholders: Jonathan Centeno, 215-455-1300, jcenteno@aspirapa.org

ASPIRA OF PA PROGRAMS

PROGRAM FUNDING DISTRIBUTION



PROGRAM EMPLOYEE EDUCATION LEVELS



ASPIRA OF PA SCHOOLS

EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS COMMUNITY BILINGUAL CHARTER SCHOOL

LOCATION AND CONTACT INFO

Principal Diana Garcia
4322 N. 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19140
Phone: 215-455-2300
Fax: 215-455-6312

NEW 2011-2012 ADDRESS

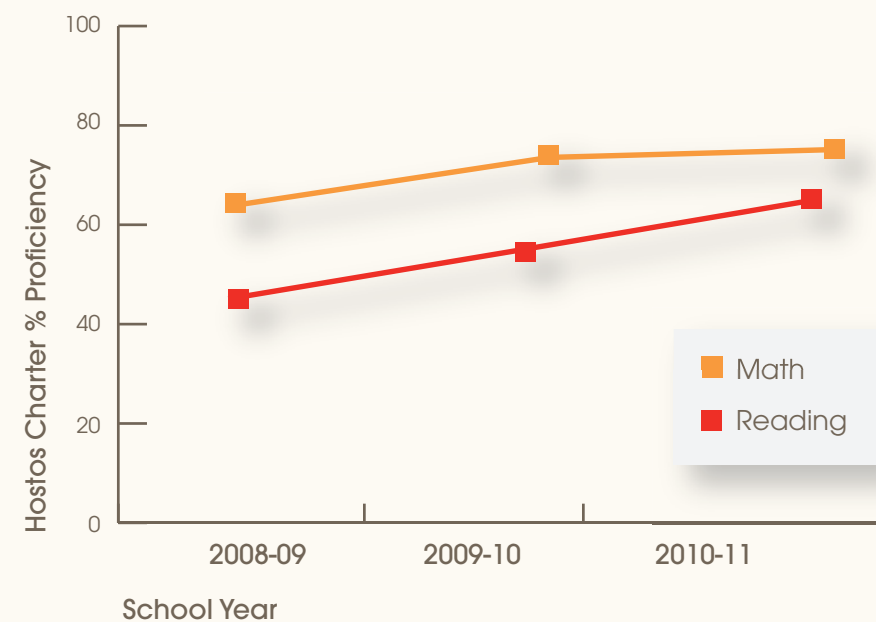
6301 N. 2nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19120
Phone: 215-455-2300
Fax: 215-455-6312

Student Profiles	
	Hostos Charter
Low-income	80%
Minority	90%
Special Education	11%
ELL	20%

BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Hostos Charter has been operating since 1998. Hostos is a fully bilingual K-7th grade school that serves 340 students and their families, the majority of whom are native Spanish speakers. Hostos Charter has made Academic Yearly Progress (AYP) consecutively for the last seven (7) years.

3-YEAR PSSA PROFICIENCY TREND



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Hostos Charter Expenses	
Salaries, related costs, and outside professionals	\$2,723,087
Occupancy	\$586,781
Management fee	\$528,165
Other	\$345,549
Total	\$4,183,584
Hostos Charter Revenues	
School funding	\$3,636,060
Government grants and other	\$795,537
Total	\$ 4,431,597

ASPIRA OF PA PROGRAMS

PARENT EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Parent involvement is proven to increase positive outcomes in youth, so adult programming is a logical component to enhance the success of our youth. Parents have the potential to be strong advocates for their children's futures, and we need to help that come to fruition. ASPIRA of PA believes in the power of honest and open communication, free of judgment and full of hope. This is the basis of the parenting program. Each class utilizes parenting curriculum, real parenting experiences, and authentic discussion to provide a comprehensive parenting service to our families. ASPIRA of PA implements the program curriculum via various learning paths, from role playing to journal writing to PowerPoint presentations. Every class encourages open dialogue.

During its first year, 28 parents enrolled into the program. We completed two cycles of 12 sessions:

- 54% of the parents attended 3 to 5 sessions throughout the cycle of the course.
- 11% of the parents attended 6 to 8 sessions throughout the cycle of the course.
- 35% of the parents attended 9 to 12 sessions throughout the cycle of the course.
- 43% of the parents participating in the classes currently have or have had active cases with The Philadelphia Department of Human Service (DHS).
- 57% of the parents enrolled because they wanted to improve their methods of communicating and dealing with their children prior to any involvement with DHS.
- 18% of those attending are grandparents of children involved with DHS.
- 15% of those attending are fathers who want to improve the relationship with their children.

Program staff provide participants with information and referrals to area food banks, crisis programs, and educational and career opportunities. Participants also receive orientation on how to navigate and access the supportive services from schools, the court, and the community at-large.



FUNDED BY: Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) and Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS)

CONTACT: Marta Sierra, 215-455-1300 X 191, msierra@aspirapa.org

ASPIRA OF PA PROGRAMS

TRUANCY CASE MANAGEMENT

BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

ASPIRA of PA collaborates with the School District of Philadelphia and the City of Philadelphia to provide support and case management to families to ensure students are able to attend school. The goals of this program are:

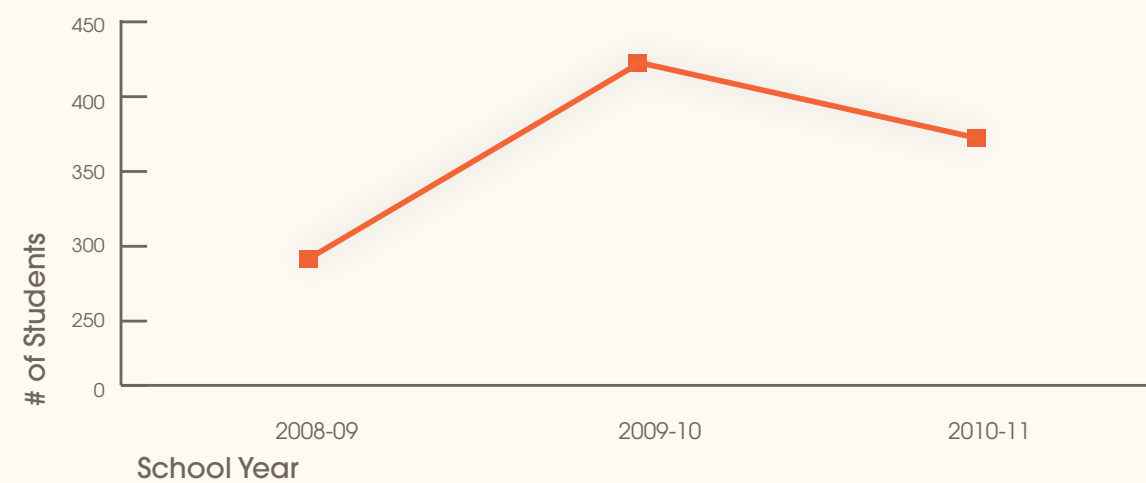
- Increase attendance among our students engaged by this process.
- Decrease the number of students missing school due to health related issues.
- Increase the number of positive contacts between the parents of the students referred to truancy court and the schools their children attend.
- Decrease the number of children referred to the Philadelphia Department of Human Services for formal in-home supervision or placement.

Since 2003, ASPIRA of PA's truancy programs have served over 1,600 families.

STUDENT PROFILES

3-Year Truancy Student Profile						
Enrollment per Grade		Special Needs		Race		Low-Income
6th-8th	412	Learning Impaired	105	White/Caucasian	500	97%
9th-11th	229	Autistic	4	Black/African American	928	
12th	88	Emotionally Challenged	18	American Indian/Alaskan	6	
Adults	11	Hearing Impaired	10	Asian	12	
		Developmentally Challenged	6	Pacific Islander/Hawaiian	40	
		Physically Impaired	19	Other Single Race	289	
		ELL with Interpreter	7	Multi-Racial	25	
				Unknown	1564	

3-YEAR PARTICIPATION TREND



FUNDED BY: Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS)

CONTACT: Roxanne Green, 215-455-1300 x 279, rgreen@aspirapa.org

ASPIRA OF PA SCHOOLS

ANTONIA PANTOJA COMMUNITY BILINGUAL CHARTER SCHOOL

LOCATION AND CONTACT INFO

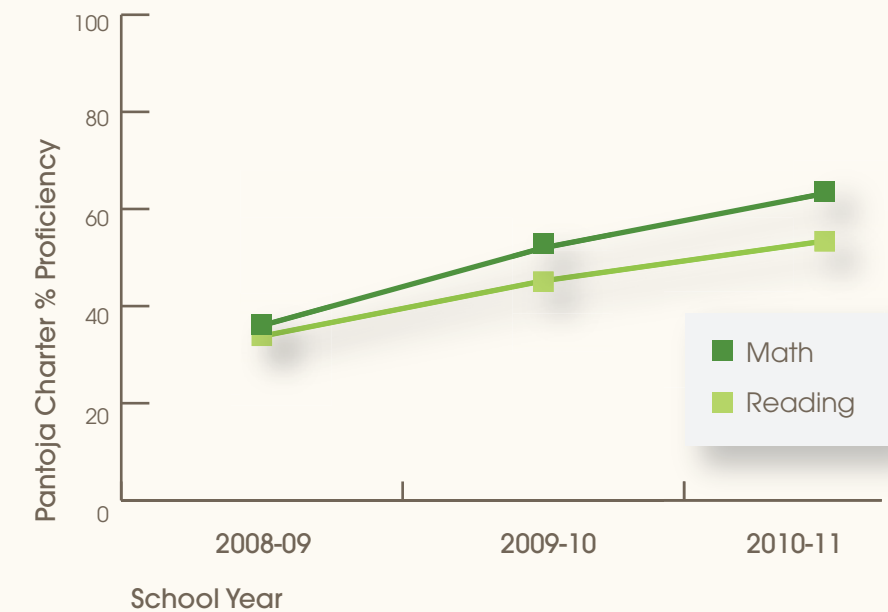
Principal Sandra Gonzalez
4101 N. American Street
Philadelphia, PA 19140
Phone: 215-329-2733
Fax: 215-329-2433

BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Pantoja Charter opened in 2008 based on the bilingual school model of Hostos. Pantoja serves 720 students in grades K-8, and has a waiting list of over 600 students. Pantoja opened with full enrollment in all nine (9) grades, with little advertisement other than word of mouth. In its second year, Pantoja achieved AYP, boasting some of the largest 5th grade math increases in the City of Philadelphia. Pantoja made AYP again in fiscal year 2010-11.

Student Profiles	
	Pantoja Charter
Low-income	92%
Minority	100%
Special Education	18%
ELL	25%

3-YEAR PSSA PROFICIENCY TREND



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Pantoja Charter Expenses	
Salaries, related costs, and outside professionals	\$6,071,452
Occupancy	\$1,229,319
Management fee	\$1,387,426
Other	\$1,353,623
Total	\$10,041,819
Pantoja Charter Revenues	
School funding	\$7,821,713
Government grants and other	\$2,303,350
Total	\$10,125,062

ASPIRA OF PA SCHOOLS

JOHN B. STETSON CHARTER SCHOOL

LOCATION AND CONTACT INFO

Principal Renato Lajara
3200 B Street
Philadelphia, PA 19134
Phone: 215-291-4720
Fax: 215-291-4168

BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2010, ASPIRA of PA began operating Stetson Charter, a turnaround Renaissance School in the School District of Philadelphia. Stetson serves 670 students in 5th through 8th grades. Just one year of ASPIRA of PA's management has led to drastic reductions in serious incidents and suspensions. Additionally, state exam data demonstrates significant increases in both language arts and math proficiency.

PROGRESS AND OUTCOMES

	Stetson as a Philadelphia Public School (2009-10)	Stetson as an ASPIRA of PA School (2010-11)
Suspensions	492	4
Serious Incidents	90	10
Attendance	86%	92%
Reading Proficiency	24%	32%
Math Proficiency	28%	50%

Student Profiles	
	Stetson Charter
Low-income	100%
Minority	100%
Special Education	20%
ELL	30%

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Stetson Charter Expenses	
Salaries, related costs, and outside professionals	\$6,705,540
Occupancy	\$813,776
Management fee	\$666,158
Other	\$632,514
Total	\$8,817,988
Stetson Charter Revenues	
School funding	\$7,273,134
Government grants and other	\$1,716,741
Total	\$8,989,876

ASPIRA OF PA PROGRAMS

6TH-12TH GRADE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT UNIT

PROGRAMS (CON'T)

TRIO EDUCATIONAL TALENT SEARCH

ASPIRA of PA's Educational Talent Search college preparation program helps students and their families explore post-secondary educational options, prepare for college (including SAT-preparation workshops), and find funding to support their educational aspirations. Over the last 35 years, this program has helped almost 1,000 youth enroll in college. In the 2010-2011 school year, ASPIRA of PA has provided college counseling to over 700 youth in 18 schools, assisted over 25 seniors enroll in college, and awarded fifteen \$1000 scholarships to seniors for college assistance. This program is funded through the U.S. Department of Education.

YOUTH TRAINING INSTITUTE

Through in-school workshops, ASPIRA of PA offers youth training in conflict resolution, diversity and multiculturalism, self image and esteem, etc. Youth engaged in ASPIRA of PA's Training Institute develop collective and cultural identity, increase their integrity, and learn skills that will serve them well into the future. This program was funded through the Wal-mart Foundation and United Way.

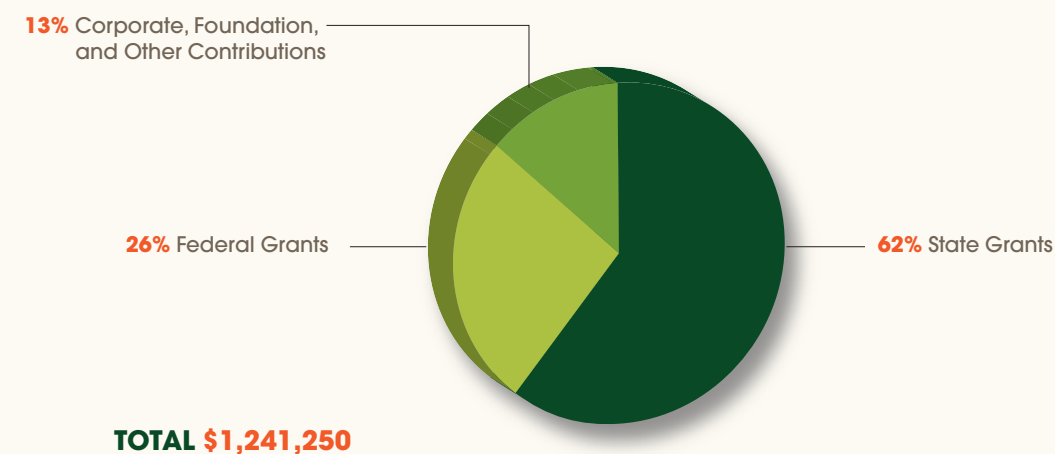
SUMMER WORK READY

Through Philadelphia's WorkReady Initiative, ASPIRA of PA helps high school students explore careers and develop marketable 21st century skills through a summer program that places students in service learning projects, work experiences, and internships. Upon successful completion of the summer experience, youth in the School District of Philadelphia receive a credit toward high school graduation. In 2010, ASPIRA of PA's Culinary Arts service learning project won first place in its category in the citywide WorkReady Summer Expo and was chosen as a spotlight program to assist new providers in out-of-school-time (OST) best practices and implementation. This summer program was funded primarily by federal initiatives, including the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), passed through Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN).

SHAPING OUTSTANDING LEARNERS (SOL): 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER

ASPIRA of PA's new Learning Center launched in September 2010 to provide more intensive support to middle and high school youth and their families. The program offers a variety of services for the youth, including academic support, 21st century skill-based enrichment programs, physical fitness, and character development activities. Parents of youth in the program are offered free courses in GED preparation, computer basics, and English language support. In FY 2010-11, over 600 youth participated in this afterschool program. SOL is funded through the PA Department of Education.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUNDING SOURCES



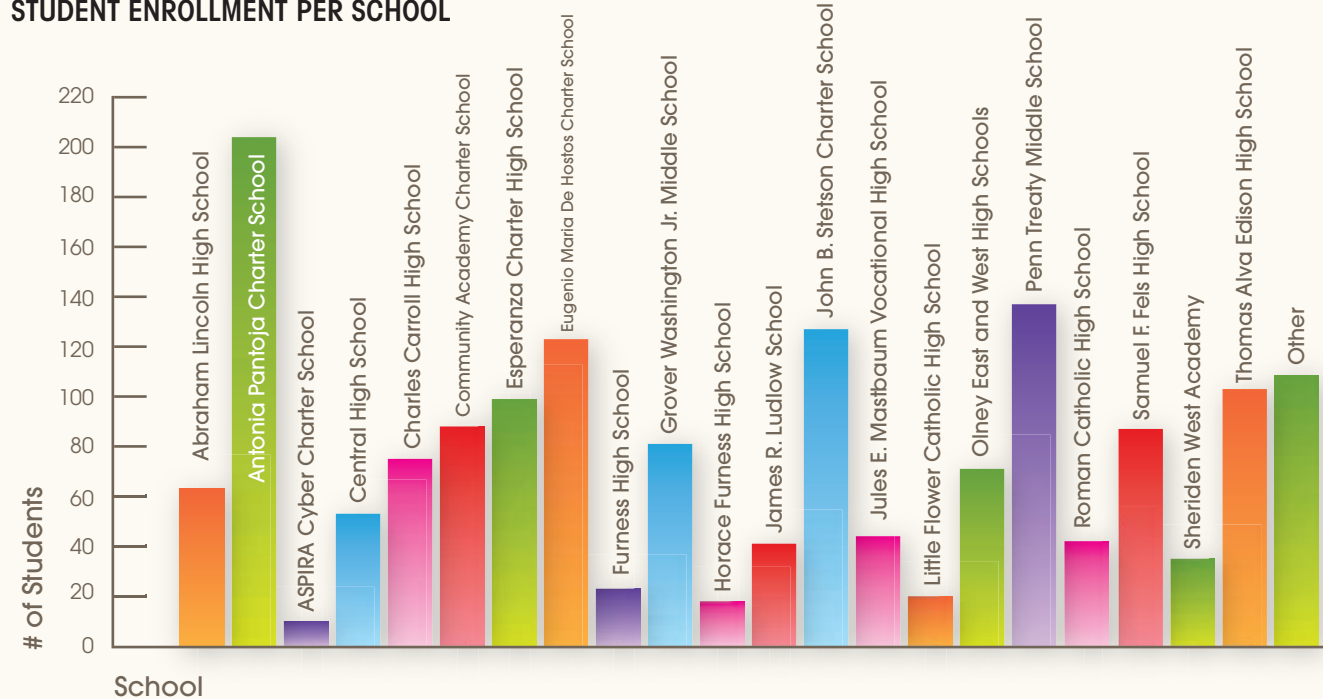
ASPIRA OF PA PROGRAMS

6TH-12TH GRADE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT UNIT

CONTACT

Miles Dean
215-455-1300 x120
mdean@aspirapa.org

STUDENT ENROLLMENT PER SCHOOL

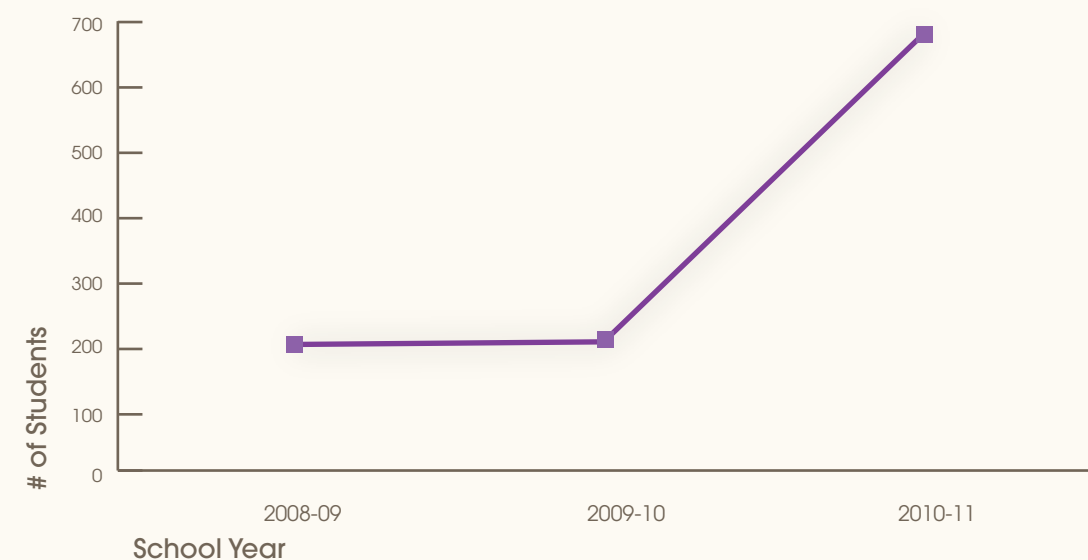


PROGRAMS

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

ASPIRA of PA's afterschool Leadership Development clubs currently operate in 18 local schools. In this youth-led program, students learn the process of awareness, analysis, and action. The program provides leadership training, cultural enrichment activities, and community action projects that teach students how to become effective leaders of their communities. Each leadership club elects officers to represent them at the ASPIRA Clubs Federation (ACF), an assembly of elected youth officers from each school that meets regularly to discuss action-oriented activities for all of the schools. In FY 2010-11, over 600 youth participated in ASPIRA of PA's leadership program. This program was financially supported by the Wal-mart Foundation and United Way.

3-YEAR TREND IN LEADERSHIP PARTICIPATION



ASPIRA OF PA SCHOOLS

ASPIRA BILINGUAL CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL (ABCCS)

LOCATION AND CONTACT INFO

Principal Lucila Paramo
4101 N. American Street
Philadelphia, PA 19140
Phone: 215-329-2733
Fax: 215-329-2433

NEW 2011-2012 ADDRESS

4322 N. 5th Street, 2nd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19140
Phone: 215-455-1300
Fax: 215-455-6310

Student Profile

	Cyber Charter
Low-income	N/A
Minority	98%
Special Education	14%
ELL	0%

BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

In December of 2010, ASPIRA of PA launched the first K-12 bilingual cyber charter school in the state of Pennsylvania. ABCCS has expanded ASPIRA of PA's bilingual education services from North Philadelphia to students across the entire state. In FY 2011-12, we are anticipating a 200% increase in enrollment.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Cyber Charter Expenses	
Salaries, related costs, and outside professionals	\$87,798
Occupancy	\$146
Management fee	—
Other	\$117,306
Total	\$205,250
Cyber Charter Revenues	
School funding	\$249,404
Government grants and other	\$33,059
Total	\$282,463



ASPIRA OF PA PROGRAMS

PEQUEÑOS PASOS DE ASPIRA

LOCATION AND CONTACT INFO

Director Paula Schroeder
407 E. Roosevelt Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19120
Phone: 215-324-7012

NEW 2011-2012 ADDRESS

6301 N. 2nd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19120
Phone: 215-455-2300
Fax: 215-455-6312

Student Profiles

	Pasos Preschool
Hispanic	84%
African American	7%
Caucasian	1%
Asian	2%
Other	6%
Low-Income	96%

BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

ASPIRA of PA developed and has operated Pequeños Pasos ("little steps"), the largest Preschool/Head Start program partnered with School District of Philadelphia, for the last five years. It currently has a waiting list of around 300 families. In Pasos's semi-annual teacher evaluation by the School District, they noted the high quality of instruction in their evaluative report.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Pasos Preschool Expenses	
Salaries, related costs, and outside professionals	\$1,993,595
Occupancy	\$381,996
Management fee	—
Other	\$326,034
Total	\$2,701,625
Pasos Preschool Revenues	
School funding	—
Government grants and other	\$2,516,821
Total	\$2,516,821



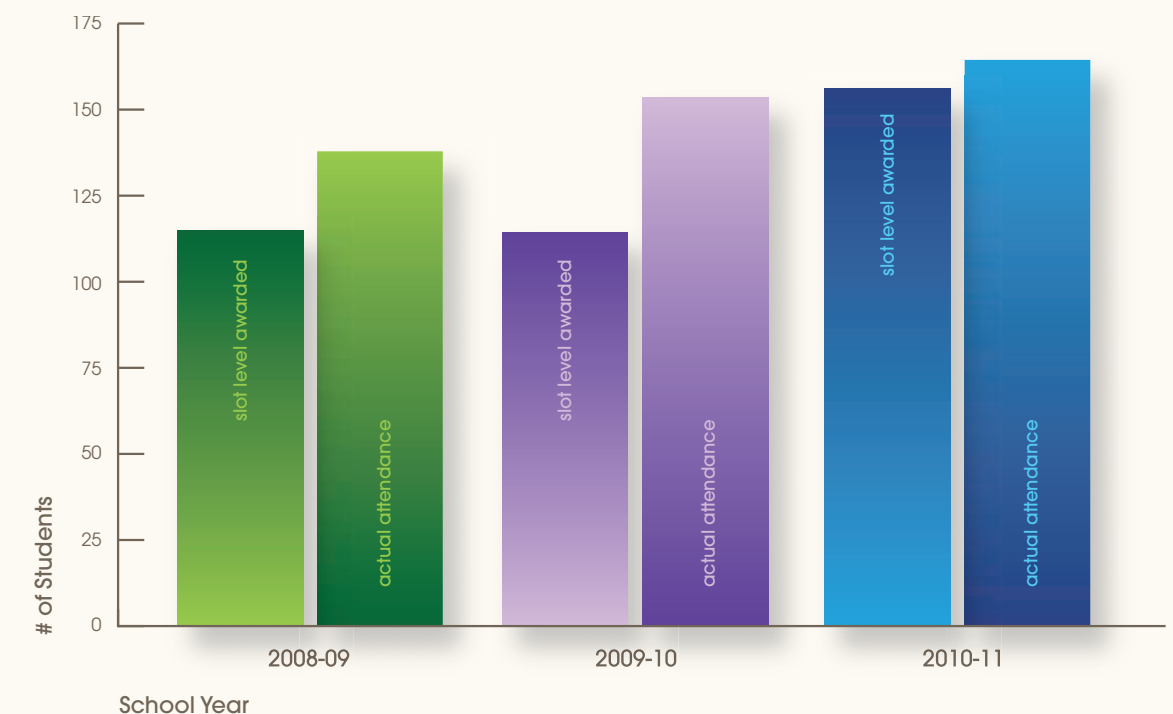
ASPIRA OF PA PROGRAMS

K-5TH GRADE AFTERSCHOOL SUCCESS CENTER

BACKGROUND AND ACHIEVEMENTS

ASPIRA of PA's Afterschool Success Center at Hostos serves over 150 K-5th grade students throughout the year. The program offers academics, enrichment, and cultural activities through project-based learning. This program received awards from its funders for consistently overachieving attendance and retention goals, and was recognized in the Fall of 2010 in Public Health Management Corporation's (PHMC) *The OST Highlighter* as an outstanding afterschool program in Philadelphia for its extensive community partnerships that allow the program to offer a wide menu of services to children.

3-YEAR ENROLLMENT TREND



HOSTOS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

This year's afterschool staff made a concerted effort to engage students in activities aligned with their school day program. Through this year's program theme, "Past, Present, and Future of Philadelphia," students increased their literacy and 21st century skills through project-based learning. Student projects included a student constitution and a newspaper.

SUMMER COQUI CAMP

The focus of this year's K-5 summer program was to develop a community garden at Antonia Pantoja Charter School. Students also collected plastic caps to help patients of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society receive free treatment.

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

The K-5 Afterschool Success Center relies on the support of many organizations from the tri-state area to help achieve program goals and objectives. We give special thanks to our partners: Taller Puertorriqueño; Youth Education for Tomorrow (YET) Literacy Initiative; Einstein Medical Center and Johnson & Johnson; Boys Scouts of America and Girl Scouts of America; Starfinder Foundation; The Anger and Conflict Management Program of Saint Gabriel's System; Drexel University College of Medicine/Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA); St. Christopher Hospital for Children; and PECO/Organization of Latino Employees (OLE).

CONTACT INFO

Marta Sierra
215-455-1300 x 191
msierra@aspirapa.org

LOCATION

Hostos Charter School

FUNDED BY

Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC)