



**Project  
Transformation**  
North Texas

**2016–2017  
Impact Report**

## Empowering Voices

During 2016–17, we spent significant time reflecting on the importance of “voice,” which permeates Project Transformation North Texas and all that we do.

Reading aloud each day with volunteers, our program provides our children with the opportunity to use their voices, literally, as they develop literacy skills during the summer months when research shows they would otherwise regress. But this is just the start. Our programs do much more for the voices of even our youngest participants. Focused on the social-emotional skills encompassed by our organizational pillars—celebrate diversity, serve community, and cultivate leadership—our programs also promote holistic learning through ownership, action, and reflection, giving our children and youth a safe place to share their unique voices and learn the potential that they have as leaders and change agents.

During their service with Project Transformation, our college-aged PT Corps Members explore numerous opportunities for servant leadership to discover how they can use their own unique voices as ambassadors and advocates throughout their lives—in career and vocation. Beyond spiritual development and vocational discernment activities, we know that the relationships our PT Corps Members form with each other, our volunteers, church partners, and our children and youth have a lasting impact on their lives. Relationships are at the heart of what our PT Corps Members, and each of us, experience through Project Transformation, which teach us about hearing the voices of our neighbors and sharing voice to empower communities to thrive.

Our work would not be possible without our many partners, including our church partners, community volunteers, and stakeholders, all of whom use their voices to support and connect our mission as we serve North Texas together. Project Transformation is thrilled to provide a platform for the many voices that come together to make Project Transformation what it is – a place where lives and communities are transformed through relationships. The staff, board, advisors, and I, driven by our mission to connect children, college students, churches, and communities, set about to enable the transformation of more lives and more communities by growing our programs, and the love created through them, in the coming year. We do so as your joyful and grateful partners in ministry.

Very truly,

Alyson Gregory Richter

**Our mission  
is to engage young  
adults in purposeful  
leadership and ministry,  
support children in  
holistic development,  
and connect churches  
with communities.**

**Over 1,000  
children served**

**10 site churches**

**124 PT Corps  
Members**



## 2016–2017 Afterschool Program: Elementary Students (Grades 1–5)

We served **168 students in seven low-income Dallas communities** in our Afterschool Program. Programs were led by our college-age AmeriCorps Members (PT Corps Members), and included literacy instruction, homework help, arts enrichment, nutritional assistance, and recreational exercise.

*Of the children who regularly attended the program, 83% were promoted to the next grade level for the 2017–18 academic year.*

## 2017 Summer Program: Elementary Students (Grades 1–5)

We served **665 children, grades 1–5**, in our Summer 2017 Program.

Students read for 40 minutes, one-to-one, with a volunteer each day to improve fluency, vocabulary, and text comprehension as well as to increase their confidence in reading. We partnered with **more than 1,300 volunteers in our reading program**. We are thrilled that **93% of our children improved or maintained their grade level reading**.

The programs for the younger ages are evidence-based and designed to help children develop a love for reading and learning through fun enrichment activities.



## 2017 Summer Program: Youth (Grades 6–9)

We served **327 middle-school aged youth, grades 6–9**, in our Summer 2017 Program. Our youth were members of a daily book club, which allowed them to practice their reading fluency and comprehension. This summer, the youth gave **246 book reports** during book club, resulting in **95% of the youth improving or maintaining their grade level reading**.

Following the eight-week program, **150 participants attended Urban Camp, a nontraditional education setting where they developed new skills, built deep relationships with their peers, and grew in self-confidence**. The overnight skills-development camp, when the PT Corps Members serve as camp counselors, is the culmination of the summer experience.

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*Urban Camp has made a big difference in my life like the friends I have made and all the memories. You have the freedom to be yourself and play sports. Urban Camp is a place you can be yourself no matter what!*

— Guadalupe, age 13

— ” —





## 2017 Summer Program: Leaders in Training Experience (Grades 10-12)

We served **78 high school youth, grades 10-12**, in our 2017 Summer LITE (Leaders in Training Experience) Program, which provides high school students with the knowledge and skills they need to become well-rounded citizens and to pursue higher education or employment following graduation. Servant leadership is at the heart of this program. LITE participants volunteered with our program reading one-to-one with children in the morning. They also planned and implemented their own service projects. ***Our students volunteered a total of 4,316 hours this summer!***

In the afternoons, our LITE students focused on college/career readiness, writing workshops, critical thinking, ethics, diversity, and global awareness. Following the eight-week day camp, our LITE students embarked on a college tour, exploring multiple options for higher education in Texas and Oklahoma.

## Program for PT Corps Members: College-aged Young Adults

124 PT Corps Members, representing 63 colleges and universities and 17 different home states planned and implemented the Summer 2017 Program for our 1,070 children and youth across North Texas. 55 had served with us previously; and, perhaps most exciting, 18 of these exceptional young people serving with us had participated in Project Transformation as children and youth.

The PT Corps Members lived together at Southern Methodist University (Dallas sites) and Austin College (Texoma Area site), shared meals, hosted worship services, and engaged in social events together. In this environment, PT Corps Members exchanged program ideas and feedback, formed lifelong friendships, and had a forum to share how this 10-week term of service truly transforms the trajectory of their lives. In fact, post-program surveys indicated that **91% of PT Corps Members will continue to serve their home communities due to their experience with Project Transformation.**



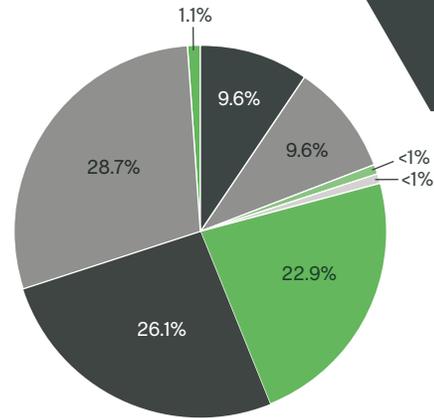
## Volunteer Experience

**Over 2,300 volunteers** dedicated their time and talents to Project Transformation throughout the program year, volunteering **more than 7,700 hours** reading with children, serving dinner to PT Corps Members, and hosting Family Fun Nights at our ten site locations. 99% of volunteers reported that they had a positive experience and would volunteer with us again. The work of Project Transformation would not happen without our volunteers!

## Financial Overview

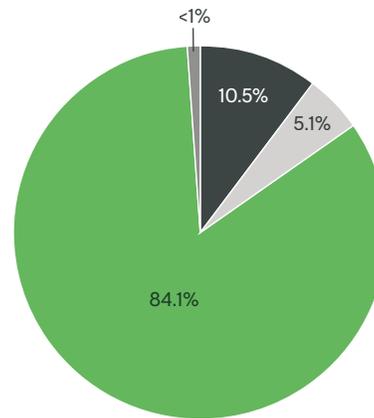
### Income

Church	\$202,777.15	9.6%
Individual	\$203,155.46	9.6%
Program Fees	\$17,374.50	<1%
Corporate	\$18,435.07	<1%
Foundations	\$483,317.62	22.9%
AmeriCorps	\$551,907.10	26.1%
In-kind	\$606,499.80	28.7%
Other Income	\$23,369.21	1.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,106,835.91</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Expenses

Administration	\$219,558.08	10.5%
Development	\$107,760.38	5.1%
Program	\$1,744,688.61	84.1%
Other Expenses	\$1,579.82	<1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,074,525.41</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Board Leadership:

Joan Craig McKee,  
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Neisha Strambler-Butler  
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### Texoma Area Advisory Council:

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Joan Douglass

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Rev. Brian McPherson  
Rev. Cheryl Murphy

Dr. John Sissney  
Rev. Rob Spencer  
Rev. Adam Spore  
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### Staff Leadership:

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LaDonna Gaut, *Program Manager*

Cristian Gomez, *Program Manager*

Alyson Gregory Richter, *Executive Director*

Katie Jenkins, *Partnerships Associate*

Katy Oliphint, *Partnerships Associate*

Chrissie Ozuna, *Program Manager*

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Veronica Taylor, *Finance and Operations Manager*