2018 marks the fifth anniversary of Code in the Schools.

I’m eagerly looking ahead to the celebrations, strategic planning, and other milestones of organizational maturity this year will bring. At the same time, it’s really gratifying to look back on all we have accomplished since our founding. When we started the organization in 2013, we could not have imagined that four years later we would grow to an annual budget of nearly $700K and employ a staff of almost 20, including two Baltimore Corps fellows. In 2017 alone Code in the Schools grew by 73% year over year and served over 3,000 youth, the vast majority of whom are under-represented minorities from low-income families and half of whom are female.

As highlighted in this report, we enhanced the quality and reach of our flagship programs while complementing them with some exciting new efforts. Our CodeWorks summer boot camp partnered with University of Baltimore to provide students with the opportunity to earn a transferable college credit. As a result of our after-school Prodigy Program, a team of youth developers came together early in 2017 to build a text alert system named “Bad Batch” to combat opioid overdoses. With this project as a model, we are now actively partnering with organizations to understand their issues and develop specialized curriculum and mentorship to support students in developing solutions.
In October, our first Girls in Computer Science Summit brought together over 30 high school girls to explore a variety of careers with hands-on workshops including web development, data analysis, geographic information systems, and product development. Finally, thanks to a generous grant from the Abell Foundation, we worked closely with the Baltimore City Public School system during 2017 to provide recommendations on Computer Science CTE curriculum and develop closer partnerships between educators and industry advisors.

As we move into 2018, we look forward to celebrating our fifth anniversary with you. More importantly, we are eager to leverage the momentum of our successes to scale our impact even further. Access to quality computer science education in Baltimore is vital to the future of our youth, our businesses and our economy. If you are already a supporter of Code in the Schools, we sincerely thank you. If you are just getting acquainted with our organization, we welcome you.

Gretchen LeGrand
Executive Director
OUR MISSION

We are committed to expanding access to quality computer science education programs in Baltimore City to ensure that all Baltimore residents are prepared to be active members of the 21st century economy. We achieve this through fun and innovative in-school, after-school, and summer programming for youth age 4-21, as well as professional development for educators throughout the region.

WHAT WE DO

We provide a wide range of innovative in-school, after-school, and summer programs in partnership with community organizations, Baltimore City Public School System, local government, and industry. We expose youth to key concepts early, help them develop 21st century skills and capabilities, and build pathways from school to jobs and higher education. Our team of dedicated and knowledgeable instructors travels between 22 partner sites in fourteen Baltimore City zip codes teaching key skills in under-served areas.

WHY IT MATTERS

By 2020, there will be one million open jobs in computing nationwide. Baltimore's residents, especially our youth, cannot afford to be excluded from this $500-billion dollar opportunity. By helping youth develop the skills increasingly in demand by business, we prepare them for jobs that support families and lead to well-paying careers. At the same time, we are building a competitive local labor force that will increase the city's position as an innovation hub and attract more businesses, ensuring a prosperous future for all Baltimoreans.
STUDENTS SERVED IN-SCHOOL

2,187
Pre-k through 5th

592
6th - 8th grade

STUDENTS SERVED OUT-OF-SCHOOL

110
Pre-k - 5th

135
6th-8th

220
HS, post-high

470
Summer

91% of students served identify as African American
94% of students served qualify for FARM

PARTNERSHIPS

22 community partners in
14 Baltimore City zip codes
7 in-school partners
18 after-school partners
Charitable Giving Breakdown

- 6% Individual contributions
- 14% Corporate contributions and sponsorships
- 80% Private Foundations

Budget $561K
Revenue $690K
Growth YOY 73%

Foundations
- Abell Foundation
- France-Merrick Foundation
- Weinberg Foundation
- R. W. Deutsch Foundation
- Family League
- IGDA Foundation

Corporate Contributors
- Big Huge Games
- AT&T
- Northrop Grumman
- PNC Foundation
- Wells Fargo

Sponsors
- SmartLogic
- Sparkypants
- Oath
Special Programs and Events
Bad Batch Alert

In October 2016 CITS Co-Founder Michael LeGrand recruited four Prodigy Program students to help build an overdose prevention service. The project was part of TechHealth, an initiative put forth by the Baltimore City Health Department to support the creation of innovative public health solutions. Since then the service has registered hundreds of users, has been featured on Vice News, and garnered attention from harm reduction advocates around the world.

CodeWorks

In Summer 2017 we continued our partnership with MOED YouthWorks, employing over 60 youth in a 5-week coding bootcamp at the University of Baltimore. Students had the opportunity to earn a transferable college credit, learn relevant programming languages like Javascript, and participate in professional development workshops with leading local industry professionals.
Girls in CS Summit

The first of its kind in Baltimore, our Girls in Computer Science Summit exposed more than 30 high-school-aged girls to a wide range of relevant computer science topics like UI/UX design, digital marketing, mapping in GIS, and cybersecurity. Over the course of the event, interest in pursuing a career in Computer Science increased by 16%.

5th Annual Game Jam

In its fifth year, 2017’s Game Jam was our best one yet! With over 60 youth divided into 20 teams our space was filled with lots of energy, creativity, and perseverance. Our expert volunteers supported students as they raced against the clock to develop games with a communication theme. The grand prize winners were a team of first-time coders who blew the judges away with their game!
"I like CITS because it allows me to learn how to code, which is an interest I have that my class doesn’t have enough time to thoroughly teach. Prodigy Program helps me by not only teaching me one of my favorite hobbies, but the environment I learn in is not as strict as at school so you’re not as stressed as during the school day."

Ana, a freshman at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, is one of our newest and most dedicated Prodigy Program scholars. Despite having just joined the group, she is already participating in the advanced track where she is learning Python development.

"Code in the Schools gave me a foundation. I hadn't been exposed to much tech before them. Now I am a sophomore Computer Science major at Morgan State University. During the summer, I was an intern through the Facebook University program. Code in the Schools taught me the skills that I needed in order to teach myself how to do things I didn't know how to do."

Marissa, one of our most successful alumna, has come back to work with the organization as a workshop facilitator and app developer.

"It is a privilege to teach this powerful tool to disenfranchised youth of Baltimore City and give them a leg up in any dream or career they choose."

Two summers ago, David was randomly placed in CodeWorks and quickly excelled despite never having studied coding before. After CodeWorks he joined Prodigy Program where he worked on the Bad Batch Alert project. Today, David is a full-time instructor with us and teaches elementary students the basics of computer science.
Admin Staff

Charlotte James
Communications Director

Dianne Conley
Director of Strategic Partnerships

Gretchen LeGrand
Executive Director

Qubilah Huddleston
Manager of Student
Recruitment and Retention

Eboni Akpan Zook
Program Director

Ezra Halstead
Manager of Operations
Board of Directors

First Column: Dana Ledyard (President), Crystal Coache, Bilal Ali
Second Column: Chike Aguh, Dan Halka, Will Miller, Marlon
Third Column: Alissa Ganser, Shervonne Cherry, Matthew Calderone, Elliot Pearson
Looking Ahead

As we enter our fifth year and reflect on all that we’ve accomplished, we look to the future to envision what it will bring. Ultimately, we seek a future where all students have access to computer science education and where the local and national tech workforce reflect the diversity of our population. In the shorter term, because of continuing advocacy efforts by Code in the Schools and many others across the state, we foresee substantial progress in the next five years. We’re looking forward to:

- Computer Science being offered in every high-school in the state. Currently only 50% of Maryland High Schools and 15% of Baltimore City High Schools offer CS courses.
- Courses in computational thinking being offered in every Elementary and Middle School around the state.
- Partnering with Code.org and The Council of Educational Administrative and Supervisory Organizations of Maryland (CEASOM) to prepare educators statewide to offer these innovative courses.
- Partnering with the Mayor’s Office of Information Technology to ensure Prodigy Program alumni have access to skilled internships and job opportunities in city agencies.

We look forward to your continued support to provide all students with access to computing education and career opportunities. There are many ways you can help make our work possible from hosting a program at your school or community center, to volunteering your time, or making a donation.

Please visit codeintheschools.org or email info@codeintheschools.org for more information.