VISION

Joining God in the renewal of the South Bronx

MISSION

A House on Beekman’s aim is to create a seamless series of programs from birth to career that empowers the next generation of the South Bronx to reach their full potential.

FIVE STRATEGIC ANCHORS

- Birth to Career Support
- Rooted in Relationship
- Long Term Flourishing of Families
- Purposefully Local
- Comprehensive Care
OUR LONG TERM VISION

Once our seamless series of programs is complete and we begin to see the cycles of poverty broken, we hope that the kids who grew up in A House on Beekman will go to college and come back to work for complete renewal of our neighborhood. We want to come alongside our program graduates as they become doctors and nurses who provide adequate health care for our community, as they create businesses that make the South Bronx thrive economically, as they become landlords that provide affordable, quality housing for the families that have been here for generations, as they become teachers and principals that turn around our broken school system, and as they become politicians and lawyers that fight for our community. The next generation of the South Bronx has the potential to set the tone for generations to come. We believe that with the right resources and opportunities our kids can change their neighborhood, their city, and their world!
OUR PROGRAMS
Currently we have a seamless series of programs up and running from birth to middle school, with camp as a transition program from preschool to elementary school, and then to middle school. In the next several years, we plan to follow our current middle school students into high school and beyond to complete our mission for a seamless series of programs!
LOOKING BACK

Our founder, Sara Miller, followed God to the Bronx in 2008, not intending to start a nonprofit but simply to be a good neighbor. But as she listened to her neighbors and formed deep friendships, A House on Beekman was formed out of a collective dream to see the next generation thrive in a way that hadn’t previously been accessible. In the summer of 2012, four pregnant moms showed up at an abandoned church and Babies to Three, our first program, began. In 2016, we celebrated our five year anniversary. We’ve learned a lot along the way, and 2017 ushered in a new season at A House on Beekman, focusing the next five years on three main things, going:

DEEPER
WIDER
& LONGER
We will continue to figure out ways to do what we do better, more effectively and with more impact, by investing in and developing the best staff and volunteers, partnering further with local leaders, and giving our students more opportunities to grow and learn.

We are working towards tripling the capacity in our current programs by growing our staff, volunteers and space, in order to serve more children and families in our neighborhood to reach a tipping point of change.

We are working to complete our seamless series as we follow our current students into high school, college and beyond!

AND THIS PAST YEAR, WE TOOK MAJOR STEPS IN ACCOMPLISHING THESE GOALS!
DEEPER: AFTER SCHOOL

Going deeper in our After School program, "Beekman Stars," was all about growing in their love for art, advocating for others in need, understanding of self, and educating themselves on how to care for their neighborhood.

We raised our voices and marched for hurricane relief efforts in Puerto Rico.

We organized a "curb your dog" campaign, canvassing our neighborhood with flyers to share our concerns.

Yoga with Hula Hoops in Saint Mary’s Park was a peaceful, engaging activity where kids learned ways to release stress.

We had several professionals come in to teach our students different skills, like video editing and drumming!

FOR THE AFTER SCHOOL STAFF:

Our After School staff was able to work once a month with an ERP (Emotionally Responsive Practice) consultant who would observe our 2nd - 5th grade age groups and offer feedback and guidance. This played a significant role in the program, as our staff was able to better facilitate moments and offer different options for our kids to express their feelings in a supportive community. This also provided an opportunity for our staff to be reflective and consider their own responses. Ultimately, integrating ERP into the Beekman Stars program significantly improved the leader/student relationship and overall community.
Highlight: All Staff Development

CCDA Conference

In October 2017 our entire staff attended the Community Development Association (CCDA) National Conference in Detroit. CCDA had a huge impact on the founding of A House on Beekman. We grew in unity as a staff, attended workshops on subjects that specifically pertains to the work we do, and worship God with people who engage in similar work across the country. The CCDA conference was considered a highlight of the year by the majority of our staff members.

Spiritual Direction with Bob Strader

One of our main focuses this past year was to highlight the faith component of our organization. It truly is the foundation of all we do! We were awarded a capacity grant that enabled us to bring in a consultant, Bob Strader, who holds a Doctor of Education and a Master of Divinity from Abilene Christian University. Bob gave feedback into our Bible curriculum, led staff meetings, led conflict management trainings, helped oversee our summer camp program, and helped develop our Program Directors into spiritual leaders as they oversee their staff. In addition to this, Bob had consistent 30 minute meetings with each staff member, that was a safe place to process their faith and how it relates to their life and job. Bob has become more than just a consultant to our staff, but a trusted friend who feels like one of our own!
We added two part-time 3 year old PreK classes, in addition to our full time 4 year old class, bringing our total enrollment = 35 students.
Program Highlight: Emotionally Responsive Practice

If you have been keeping up with A House on Beekman for the last few years, you’ve likely seen us mention our use of Emotionally Responsive Practice (ERP) in our classrooms (or even earlier in this report!). Learned by on-site experts from Bank Street College of Education, ERP builds on the connection between emotional well-being and learning potential. ERP has given our teachers tools to help our children process their feelings and social dynamics which, in turn, has increased their capacity to learn and mature. The trauma many of our children have faced coming in to our programs by the age of three is more than some people will face in their entire life. There are several contributing factors to this, but among them are the incarceration of a loved one, witnessing community or domestic violence, as well as housing instability and homelessness. It has become abundantly clear that in order for our students to reach their full potential, we have to interact directly with the trauma. Some of the primary techniques teachers have learned to use in the classroom include: reflective language and drawing, bibliotherapy and emotionally responsive literature, enhancing the capacity for pretend play, drawing, building and story acting to support symbolic processes, and the use of transitional objects to promote healthy relationships and lessen anxiety. When they step into school in the morning, they are met with a warm welcome from our teachers, and a teddy bear for comfort to know that they are safe, loved, and well supported in any emotion they need to process.
LONGER: MIDDLE SCHOOL

This past year we moved one step closer to completing our seamless series by adding our Middle School program, "dreamBronx." The three pillars of dreamBronx are: Fellowship, Scholarship, and Service. There is much to highlight for this brand new program, but we picked a few of our favorites from each pillar below:

Fellowship:
"Meet the Community"

This program introduced our students to over 25+ volunteers and professionals that came in to share all about their career and their life journey. This program was an opportunity to not just broaden the fields of careers for our students but it also provided them with reassurance that challenging times can be met with perseverance and ingenuity to yield successful outcomes.

Scholarship:
Urban Coders

dreamBronx partnered with a local start-up, The Urban Coders. Students were able to learn some of the basics behind coding as well as the thought process of a coder.

Service:
Christmas Gifts

dreamBronx students exercised their own privilege by wrapping and sharing gifts with a local shelter. Students hand delivered the gifts to the shelter and spent some quality time with the kids.
Program Highlight: dreamBronx hits the road!

Last year the middle school students went on-not one-but TWO trips outside of New York City! For some of our students, this is the first time they've ever travelled outside of our neighborhood.

Philadelphia - Summer 2017
Students got the opportunity to travel to Philadelphia, PA on a chartered bus in an effort to bring those history books to life! Upon their arrival, they set out on a 2 hour scavenger hunt across the city where they encountered the Liberty Bell, Constitution Hall, Betsy Ross, and the original Union Jack Flag, among other landmarks.

Atlanta - Spring Break 2018
dreamBronx then embarked on a much longer journey - 14+ hours in a 15 passenger van, all the way to Atlanta! The journey itself took our students on a geographical and cultural change, as some saw farm animals in their “natural habitat” for the first time, they rode through the Appalachian Mountain range, and they felt the red clay dirt of Georgia. Our students got the opportunity to read the last writing of Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Civil Rights museum, taste the many flavors of Coca-Cola at their national museum, and enjoy the Atlanta Aquarium - all on the first day! Day two the students experienced their first college tours, visiting Clark-Atlanta University, Morehouse College, and Spelman College. This visit inspired many of our students to make one of these colleges as the college of their choice when they graduate.
## FINANCIALS

WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM:

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**INDIVIDUAL GIVING:**
Year after year, our bread and butter are individuals who are committed to do their part to fight injustice and see the next generation of the South Bronx thrive - whether they can give $10 or $10,000.

800 TOTAL GIFTS + 297 TOTAL DONORS = $497,825

AVERAGE GIFT SIZE = $622
MOST COMMON GIFT SIZE = $25

ON AVERAGE WE SAW A 59% INCREASE IN GIVING FROM RETURNING DONORS FROM LAST YEAR

We've worked hard to grow our foundation giving, and the hard work is paying off!
HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT:

- Preschool: 41%
- Elementary Afterschool: 22%
- Middle School: 15%
- Babies to Three: 8%
- Camp: 5%
- General Admin: 9%
- Fundraising: <1%

TOP THREE EXPENSES:

- STAFF: 6:1 student to teacher ratio for our preschool and after school programs
- FOOD: 17,459 meals and 14,938 snacks
- SPACE: 9 classrooms = 4,000 sq/ft.

TOTAL # SERVED: 220
THANK YOU!

Thanks to YOU, our donors, volunteers, board members and staff for your support. But thanks most of all to our neighbors and families who have welcomed us in to your homes and walk alongside us every day!