2017

LOS NIÑOS PRIMERO
ANNUAL REPORT
VISION

To inspire Latino children to be lifelong learners and exemplary members of the community.

MISSION

To prepare underserved Latino pre-school children for educational success by providing opportunities to develop their language, cognitive, social, and motor skills. Together with certified teachers, engaged parents, and trained teen volunteers, we inspire a passion for learning.
LOS NIÑOS PRIMERO
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The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character--that is the goal of true education.

Martin Luther King, Jr.
Our largest growth period yet!

Los Niños Primero continued flourishing in 2017. An organization that started 17 years ago with 17 children, last year grew more rapidly than at any other point in its history, serving over 300 children and 200 families throughout the year. In June, we opened the summer program to three new locations expanding our horizons to Hapeville and developing a stronger partnership with Sandy Springs community with Holy Innocents Episcopal School and North Springs Methodist Church. The new locations embraced the LNP children and families and with this expansion we were able to provide opportunities for academic, social, and cultural growth to 258 children. Finally, we continued offering Saturday school to 78 3-4 year olds. Music, art, and yoga enriched their academic and life experiences.

This year we also welcomed 14 new certified teachers from Atlanta Public School and Fulton, and 132 teen volunteers generously devoted their time to helping the children achieve academic success. These teens are not only as positive role models for the children, an inspiration to the community at large, especially considering 32% were once LNP students themselves.

In this spirit, we created the Martha B Mead scholarship fund to recognize two extraordinary teens on their way to college. We will continue to honor Martha B Mead, who dedicated her talent and generous heart to LNP organization for 17 years.

2017 was a year of innovation with the creation of the LNP Academic Guidelines and the incorporation of mindfulness as daily practice to improve concentration. In November, we open the first pre-k after-school to help 15 students prepare for kindergarten. Teachers and parents worked together in a co-teaching model to enable parents to continue the learning at home.

As we continue our journey in promoting and supporting education we could not be more grateful to our donors, community partners, and volunteers for making all of these accomplishments possible and for creating the backbone of our organization. By educating minds and cultivating generous hearts at early age, we will bring hope to individuals and eventually a change to the world.

Maritza Morelli
Executive Director
FROM GOALS TO ACTION

Los Niños Primero wrote a new chapter in 2017 with the expansion of three locations increasing our services by 43%.

2017 GAINS

- 43%+ children (258 total)
- 26%+ families (190 total)
- 40%+ extra curricular activities
- New community partners, donors & grants!

NEW PROGRAM FEATURES

- ACADEMIC GUIDELINES enabling us to replicate the program and ground the children’s learning experiences in LNP core values.
- NEW AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM for 4 year olds who are not receiving services
- FAMILY LEADERSHIP program Fostering Family Leadership for parents adopted from United Way
- TEEN LEADERSHIP program developed through partnership with the Fanning Institute at the University of Georgia
For four weeks the curricular content was based on the STEAM (Science, Technology, Art, and Math) program with the addition of yoga and mindfulness. We hope that incorporating mindfulness every day as a part of the routine had an impact on the children’s concentration.

A qualitative analysis and feedback from teachers shows consistent improvement in the children's ability to learn, concentrate, behave, and interact in a classroom setting. Quantitatively, we saw an improvement in test results, which illustrated a firmer grasp of the material learned.

LNP’s main focus is to provide children with opportunities to enhance their education and be ready for school. In 2017 we implemented the LNP Academic Guidelines as a pilot experience. Our holistic approach of considering the children who are immersed in two cultures, with a capacity to learn academic content related to their social, psychological and emotional world was the center of their experience this summer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LANGUAGE SKILLS</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRE-TEST</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POST-TEST</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAINS</td>
<td>371%</td>
<td>131%</td>
<td>259%</td>
<td>154%</td>
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When I was younger I did enjoy the LNP because it gave me a head start in my knowledge. It also gave me a real first time experience with school which includes children of the same age group, adults, and the bus ride home. Attending LNP I met a few kids my age and am still friends today.

Having an adult that were not my parents showed me that entering school my mom wasn't going to be there to tell me what to do but a teacher would. Bus rides as a kid was early in the morning and I was not much of a morning person but I loved waking up to go to LNP. I find it cool for me to go back somewhere I used to enjoy going when I was kid and help children who are now going through what I went through and hope that they love it as much as I did.

I think LNP is a great place for young children to go to during the summer to give them a head start in education so when it does come to the point that they start school they know how to behave and what to expect. I volunteered during most Saturday schools and loved working and helping the children learn something new whether it was colors, shapes, numbers, or signs. I also love working with children because they take in information like sponges which expands their knowledge to become as smart as can be.

I find it cool for me to go back somewhere I used to enjoy going when I was kid, and help children who are now going through what I went through, and hope that they love it as much as I did.
EMBRACING COMMUNITIES

Holy Innocents schools, North Springs Methodist Church, the Nazareno Presbyterian Church and The Weber school partnership were the center of our LNP organization by open their door to offer the program in their facilities.

The Weber School committed the students from the Spanish classes to raise funds to furnish the literacy after-school program. They transformed the classroom from a dingy, tattered space to and inspiring state to learn.
LNP offered educational classes at the main campus and at the 3 new sites in 2017. We had an exceptional attendance and parent participation. 90% of the parents attended at least one program and they reported being very pleased with the experience. The skills parents acquire through our programs have enabled them to become more prepared and self-sufficient. The parents trust Los Niños Primero for guidance for their children's academic, psychological and social concerns.

Mrs. Vazquez said “I am very grateful to LNP, my child learned a lot. It is wonderful to see how LNP transformed my child for the better.”

The new families who enrolled in the after-school literacy program are elated to have their children learning and preparing for kindergarten. These young students do not have access to a public pre-k program and do not have the financial means to afford a private pre-K. They are learning reading, writing, social and language skills through our program. With this early introduction and our focus on co-teaching with the parents, these students will be more confident as they enter kindergarten.
2017 SUMMER PROGRAM

132 teen volunteers

8,284 hours donated

30 LNP alumni

22 schools represented
## Financial Summary

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grants</strong></td>
<td>$80,760</td>
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<td><strong>Donations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial and</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
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<td>Misc.</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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THANK YOU