

# Dear Friends of LaAmistad,

As I look back on this past year, it gives me great joy to reflect on the communities and hundreds of people within them that have embraced LaAmistad. Civic organizations, foundations, corporations, church congregations, school staff and individual families have all contributed to the success of the organization either by providing services or volunteer hours, or by sharing their financial resources.

When I first met Bill Maness in 2000, I could never have imagined that his modest plan to help the Latino children living across the street from Peachtree Presbyterian be successful in school could transform into LaAmistad as it is today. With your support, in this past year we served over 900 clients through volunteers who contributed over 14,000 hours. We operated in multiple locations across Atlanta in facilities donated by churches or businesses that so graciously opened their doors and hearts to us.

During the 2012-2013 school year (our 2013 fiscal year), LaAmistad After School had two locations. During 2013-2014, that number grew to four and by the end of 2014-2015(our 2015 fiscal year), the number increased to seven. We now serve students in Atlanta, Fulton County and DeKalb County Public School districts. With each of these replications, we have worked hard to ensure that proper staffing and infrastructure are in place to deliver the quality programs that we have designed.

Another focus of the organization during this past year was governance. The addition of an Advisory Council, as well as the formation of Human Capital and Replication Committees, offered additional support to the Board and senior staff members.

To communicate the impact of LaAmistad on a community that it serves, we turn to Ms. Kellye Worlds, E Rivers teacher from a new APS location added during the past year. "Baltazar has made great progress since we first met over a year ago when he was in first grade. He has progressed from speaking no English to speaking and understanding English. He strives to make great gains academically. Attending LaAmistad twice a week has really helped boost his confidence in the classroom. He is prepared with his assignments and is eager to learn. He said his goal is to learn to read this year. By knowing his letter sounds and working on blending words, he will make it."

After having experienced such a successful year, our prayer is one of thanks and gratitude and a wish that you will continue to partner with us for the coming year.

# Thank you sincerely for your support,

Cat DaCosta McAfee Executive Director

# **Our Vision:**

For Latino students and families throughout Georgia to thrive in their educational, personal, and career pursuits while working together to transform local communities.



Our Mission: To support Latino students and their families by providing a comprehensive support system comprised of tutoring, mentoring, and multiple resources which promote academic, physical, and personal growth.

# LaAmistad After School Locations

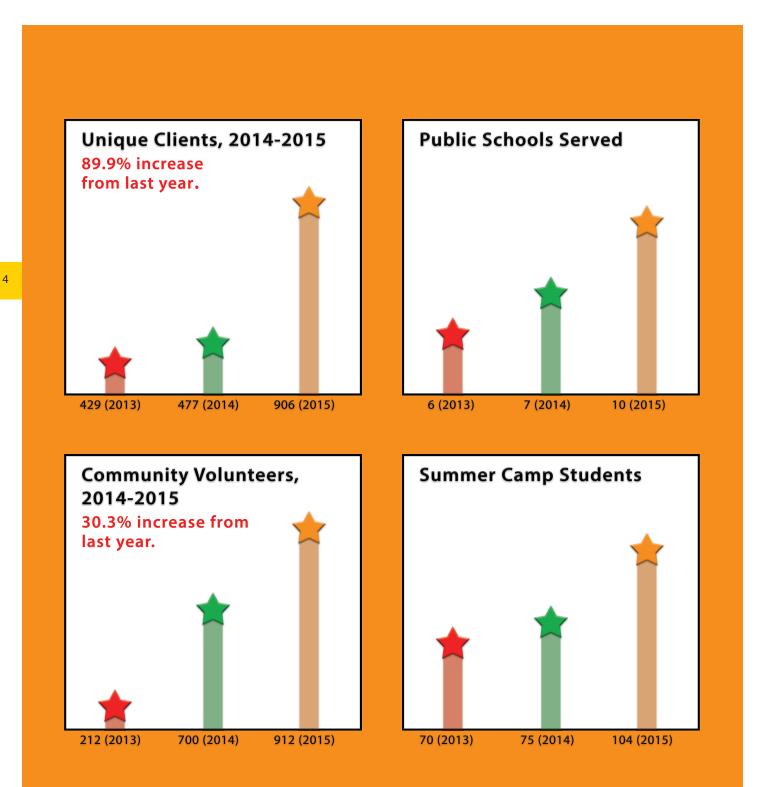
School System-County	After School Partner Location   Days   Time
Atlanta Public Schools-Fulton	Sarah Smith Elementary, Warren T. Jackson Elementary, Sutton MS, North Atlanta HS, Atlanta Classical Academy   Established 2001 Peachtree Presbyterian Church   Monday through Thursday   3:30-5:30 pm 3434 Roswell Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30305
Fulton County School-Fulton	High Point Elementary   Established 2012 Church of the Redeemer   Tuesdays & Wednesdays   3:30-5:00 pm 5182 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, Atlanta, GA 30342
Atlanta Public Schools-Fulton	Garden Hills Elementary   Established 2013 Westminster Presbyterian Church   Tuesdays & Thursdays   3:30-5:00 pm 1438 Sheridan Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30342
Atlanta Public Schools-Fulton	Garden Hills Elementary   Established 2013 The Cathedral of St. Phillip   Mondays & Wednesdays   3:30-5:00 pm 2744 Peachtree Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30305
Atlanta Public Schools-Fulton	E. Rivers Elementary   Established 2015 Covenant Presbyterian Church   Mondays & Thursdays   3:30-5:00 pm 2461 Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30305
DeKalb County Schools-Dekalb	Cary Reynolds Elementary   Established 2015 Church of the New Covenant   Mondays & Tuesdays   3:30-5:00 pm 3330 Chestnut Drive, Doraville, GA 30340
DeKalb County Schools-Dekalb	Kingsley Charter Elementary   Established 2015 Crossroads Church of Dunwoody   Tuesdays & Thursdays   3:30-5:00 pm 4805 Tilly Mill Road, Atlanta, GA 30360

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# LaAmistad English for Successful Living Locations

County	Location   Days   Time
Fulton	Peachtree Presbyterian Church   Established 2010 3434 Roswell Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30305
	Monday & Wednesday   7:00 - 8:30 pm
Fulton	Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church   Established 2001
	805 Mount Vernon Highway, Atlanta, GA 30327
	Tuesdays & Thursdays   7:00 - 8:30 pm
	Saturdays   9:00 - 12:00 pm
Fulton	Brookhaven Laundromat   Established 2014
	2987 Buford Highway NE, Atlanta, GA 30329
	Mondays & Wednesdays, Tuesdays & Thursdays   7:00 - 8:30 pm

LaAmistad has experienced tremendous growth over the past several years. The information below was taken with comparison to the past two years to show emphasis on the impact made by our efforts.





Reading scores IMPROVED



Community volunteers spent **14,305 hours** programming in 2015

# LAAMISTAD AFTER SCHOOL **91/A**

Math scores IMPROVED by



at the 2015 Animate Summer Camp from week 1 to week 4



LAAMISTAD AFTER SCHOOL LOCATIONS:

> 7 (2015) 4 (2014) 2 (2013)

## Ashley Hernandez STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

# **STATS:**

Name: Ashley Hernandez School: The Schenck School Grade: 4th Started LaAmistad: LaAmistad Fall 2011 Current Goal: To read a long Chapter book like the Wizard of OZ Wants To Attend: University of Georgia Future Career Goal: To be a 2,3, or 4th Grade Teacher One Day Hopes to Visit: Tokyo, Japan Favorite Food: Doughnuts



# 66

6

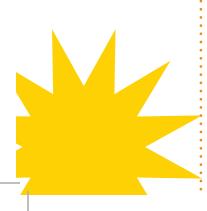
I never thought Ashley would be able to read and go onto college. Now, she has been given the opportunity to be successful in life.

,,

Third grader Ashley Hernandez is a walking testimony of how LaAmistad's services and community relationships can take a child who was at risk in reading and provide her with the tools needed to get on track towards one day being college bound. When Ashley began school, she was unable to grasp the basic reading skills that her peers were quickly mastering.

LaAmistad intervened, enabling Ashley to be tutored by someone certified in the Orton-Gillingham Approach. However, as someone with severe dyslexia, Ashley needed more than just specialized tutoring. She needed to attend a school where she could be immersed in an environment where her peers learned the same way she did.

As a result of the commitment of Ashley's mom to her daughter's education, Ashley's critical need for specialized education, and LaAmistad's advocacy, Ashley was granted a scholarship to the Schenck School. After just one full year of attendance, Ashley has improved from reading at a kindergarten level to reading at a beginning third grade level. She now loves attending school and reading. Ashley's mom, Ali, will be forever grateful to the Schenck School and LaAmistad, saying, "I never thought Ashley would be able to read and go onto college. Now, she has been given the opportunity to be successful in life." Is that not every parent's wish for his or her child?



# Marlene Oddo VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE

# **STATS:**

Volunteer Since: 2008 Location Served: Peachtree Presbyterian Church Found Out About LaAmistad: Mailer Hours of Volunteer Experience: 200 One Day Hopes to Visit: The rest of the 50 States. She has been to over 30! Favorite Food: Any Kind of Rice Dish



Every volunteer who comes to tutor at LaAmistad finds that a certain grade level of students "calls to them". For Marlene, it was the fifth grade students.

Marlene's passion to volunteer at LaAmistad stems from her history as a child growing up, she could have qualified to be a LaAmistad student herself as a child growing up speaking little English in Brooklyn, New York. Coming from a Puerto Rican family that only spoke Spanish at home, she can relate to the struggles LaAmistad students face with learning a new language while trying to keep up with academics in a second language. As she put it, "The New York Public School District taught me English." She has volunteered over 200 hours assisting LaAmistad students since 2008 with her trusty fifth grade volunteer partner, Harriett Swennes.

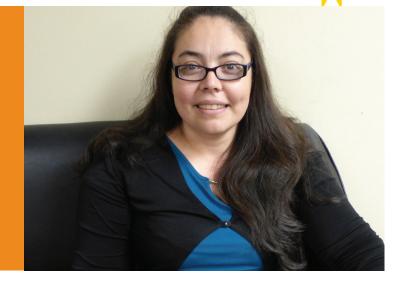
But Marlene's volunteerism does not just know the confines of the fifth grade classroom, but it overflows into other areas of the organization as well. Marlene is one of the few volunteers at LaAmistad who is fluent in Spanish and has stepped in many times when a translator was needed. She is also always one of the first to rise to the occasion when volunteers are needed to assist with activities and cultural opportunities that are outside of the normal tutoring hours. The generosity that she shows with her time and talents exhibit how important it is to her that each student and family at LaAmistad feels valued, receives the best education possible, and never misses out on an opportunity to enrich a young life. 66

The New York Public School District taught me English.

## Mayra Rojas SUPPORTIVE PARENT

# STATS:

Family Members: Mayra Rojas Years with LaAmistad: 2 years Years in United States: 19 years



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We are so grateful for the homework help LaAmistad gives to our children,

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Mayra Rojas is a parent whose dedication to her children and community is demonstrated in the form of a quiet and determined spirit. Mayra has three children in LaAmistad After School: Daniel (1st grade), Miguel (6th grade), and Jesus (7th grade). Mayra's opportunity to enroll her children came when LaAmistad opened its location at The Cathedral of St. Philip which served her boys' school, Garden Hills Elementary. Her older children joined LaAmistad After School's Teen Center program at Peachtree Presbyterian Church.

At first, this program did not have transportation from the school to the church which Mayra knew would limit the participation of some of the families who needed LaAmistad's support the most. Mayra took it upon herself to chaperone and accompany Garden Hills students during their walk from the school to the church. On some days, there would be more than 10 children that she would guide across Peachtree Road.

Mayra is always working to improve her English and on several occasions has served as a translator when needed. She also goes above and beyond the community service hours required of LaAmistad parents. She is a woman whom everyone in her community looks to for strength, assistance, guidance, and leadership. Mayra is very involved with her children's activities and is an active parent both at school and church.

Her acts of kindness were returned to her when her work schedule at McDonald's interfered with an opportunity for two of her boys to attend The Atlanta Classical Academy (ACA), an Atlanta Public School System charter school. Her managers saw how much LaAmistad and her boys' education had meant to her over her long career there and worked with her to allow her schedule to accommodate both LaAmistad and ACA events.

LaAmistad is so grateful to have parents like Mayra in the program. She not only inspires her boys to achieve a high level of education but inspires other parents to do the same for their children.

# Partner Spotlight

# The High Museum of Art SUPPORTIVE PARTNER



Huge white walls extended from floor to ceiling over the students' heads. Wonderment and curiosity about why they had been brought to the High Museum of Art was written across each of their faces. Then, highly regarded artists Fahamu Pecou and Jose Parlá spoke one sentence to the group, exchanging the curiosity with a call for creativity:

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Take the blank canvases in front of you, they announced, "and write or draw whatever you desire.

## "

This event was covered by 11 Alive News and allowed each student to make their mark on the High Museum of Art. After a short amount of time, the once blank - walled room was filled with illustrations revealing LaAmistad students' innermost thoughts and emotions. One student, Britney Leon, drew eyes on the walls since "she likes the details you can see in people's eyes...their emotions."

The illustrations created became part of an extended term exhibit at the High. The two professional artists, Parlá and Pecou, came in after the students were completed and put their mark on the exhibit by adding color to what was drawn. This activity made a significant "artistic impact" on the students.

To view the story featured on 11 Alive as well as other LaAmistad press coverage, please view the links found at www.laamistadinc.org/News\_Press.aspx.

# We would like to give a **Special thanks** to all of our partners that make LaAmistad possible!

**Community Partners** A Better Chance ALPFA Boy Scouts of America (Atlanta Area Council) **Breakthrough Atlanta Brookhaven Laundromat Buckhead Christian Ministries Delta Dental Insurance** Company Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials Hands on Atlanta High Museum of Art **Hispanic Health Coalition** Instituto de Mexico Junior League of Atlanta MALDEF Peachtree Presbyterian Preschool Ser Familia Sin Fronteras Story Corps The Gym at Peachtree The Latin American Association World Chamber of Commerce Yo Soy M

#### **Corporate Partners**

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**Partners in Education** Atlanta Classical Academy **Atlanta Public Schools** Austell Elementary School **Briar Vista Elementary** School Cary Reynolds Elementary School E. Rivers Elementary School **Emory University** Garden Hills Elementary School Georgia Institute of Technology Georgia Perimeter College Georgia State University High Point Elementary School Holy Innocents' Episcopal School Kennesaw State University **Kingsley Charter Elementary School Marist School** North Atlanta High School Pace Academy Sarah Smith Elementary School Sutton Middle School The Galloway School The Lovett School The Westminster Schools Warren T Jackson **Elementary School** 

#### **Faith Based Partners**

**Austell First United Methodist Church** Church of the New Covenant Church of the Redeemer **Clairmont Presbyterian** Church **Covenant Presbyterian** Church Crossroads Church of Dunwoody Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church Peachtree Presbyterian Church The Cathedral of St. Philip Westminster Presbyterian Church

# We would like to give a **special thanks** to all of our donors that make LaAmistad possible!

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#### Foundations Dollar General Literacy

Foundation FM Global Foundation Hodges Charitable Foundation John H.& Wilhelmina D. Harland Kimberly Clark Foundation Moran Family Foundation Publix Super Markets Charities **RBC** Foundation **Rotary Educational** Foundation of Atlanta Sandy Springs Society Sartain Lanier Family Foundation, Inc The Goizueta Foundation The Junior League of Atlanta The Whitehead Foundation Warren and August Hume Foundation Wells Fargo Comm Support Campaign

#### Groups

Atlanta Forum Credence Sunday School Class **Discovery Sunday School** Class Gene and Martha Wilson Class Georgia State University Heritage Sunday School Class Northside Soccer Academy Northside Soccer Family Peachtree Presbyterian Church Women Seekers Sunday School Class The Initiative Fund Corporations Aflac Brown Shoe Company, Inc. Chang & Company Continental Food & Beverage In Cox Enterprises Delta Air Lines, Inc. Fibertech Inc Holman and Company Interstate Auction Company Macy's/Bloomingdales's Mock & Associates Morris, Manning & Martin LLP Netweb Computer Consulting RBC Royal Bank Sea Palms Partners, LLC State Bank & Trust Co Sylvan Airport Parking LLC Turner Broadcasting Systems Vensure Employer Services, Inc

VP Limited LLC

#### Churches

Church of the Redeemer Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church Peachtree Presbyterian Church Peachtree Road United Methodist The Cathedral of St. Philip Westminster Presbyterian Church

#### **Special Events**



#### Gala

In September, LaAmistad held its first Annual Gala. The formal affair will be a yearly event for "Celebrating Atlanta's Heroes". The 2014 honorees were Rudy Bessera, Vice President, Latin Affairs at the Coca-Cola Company and Gabriela Gonzalez-Lamberson, Executive Director of Instituto de Mexico. Attendees to the event were treated to a fine dinner, live dancing music and a silent auction.

**Sponsors:** Peachtree Presbyterian Church, The Coca-Cola Company, Vensure Employer Services, Inc., Macy's East, Cox Enterprises, Inca Kola, Delta Air Lines, Selecto Scientifico, Peachy Airport Parking, RBC Wealth Management, Telemundo, Publix Super Market Charities.

#### LaAmistad Buckhead 5K

Each year, LaAmistad organizes a 5K Run thorough the residential areas adjacent to Peachtree Presbyterian Church. This past year's run which took place on February 28th hosted over 300 runners. LaAmistad students could be seen supporting runners by holding up signs of encouragement.

Winners: Deano Montreail, Male, 46, 20:14:73 and Torie Macdonald, Female, 26, 21:09:37

**Sponsors:** TalentQuest, The Gym at Peachtree, Chick-fil-A @ Howell Mill Road, The Sea Palms Resort on St. Simon's Island, Whole Foods Market, The Coca-Cola Company, Road Runner Sports, Don and Gwyneth Dennard, State Bank & Trust, The Gharib Group, and Dr. Michael H. Sebastian, Orthodontics.





#### **Golf Tournament**

On June 11th, LaAmistad hosted the 15th Annual LaAmistad Golf Tournament. At the event, supporters gathered together to support a great cause and enjoy 18 holes at Heritage Golf Links.

**The Bill Maness and Jimmy Mock** *"Walk With Me"* **Award:** Given for going beyond in the community to walk alongside those in need. Recipient Aaron Messner, *Senior Minister of Westminster Presbyterian Church.* 

**Sponsors:** Atlanta Forum, The Gharib Group, Holman and Company, Carlyle Catering, PhotoVentures

#### Anímate

Any educator knows that the long, extended summer weeks away from the classroom cause students to lose some of the progress made in the previous academic year. To combat that and provide LaAmistad students with a fun and relaxing summer event, we host Anímate. The four-week educational camp was conducted in June and included activities focused on math, reading, writing, sports, and fine arts. This camp has taken place for the past four years on the breath-taking campus of The Westminster Schools located in Buckhead.

With certified teachers working with students in rising grades 2-5, students were immersed in language arts activities as well as meaningful phonemic instruction in the lower grades and in-depth novels in the upper grades. Time was also set aside to help students maintain the previous year's learning in mathematics. In the afternoon, students could take part in a variety of organized sports, dance, and art that had a Latino influence to enhance cultural enrichment.



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



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# STAFF



Catrina DaCosta McAfee Executive Director



Michelle Ocampo Replication Coordinator



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Shirley Anne Cruz Assistant Director



Leigh Ann Griswold Business Manager



Alba Nuñez Parent Educator



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Brianna Bacorn Teen Center Director Director of Counseling

#### **After School Tutoring**

LaAmistad After School offers Latino students in grades 1 through 12 reading and math enrichment, mentoring, sports programs, and one-on-one tutoring, all of which support academic, physical, and personal growth.

#### **English Classes**

LaAmistad's ESL program, *English for Successful Living*, is the largest ESL program in the state of Georgia and has served more than 5,000 adult students since inception. ESL classes are held several days per week at Peachtree Presbyterian Church and Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church. Six different levels of classes are offered at each location for three 12-week sessions each year.

#### **Parent Partnership**

LaAmistad offers a variety of adult education classes specifically aimed at the needs of Latino families through our Parent Partnership Program. With LaAmistad's partner organization, *Ser Familia*, formally *Renovacion Conyugal*, it is able to offer year-round workshops in Spanish which are designed to educate and strengthen Latino families. The Microsoft Store at Lenox Square Mall provides parents with knowledge of basic computing and training in Microsoft Word and Excel.

#### **Internship Program**

The LaAmistad Internship Program, in collaboration with Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Kennesaw State University and several other high schools and colleges provides real-world experience for eligible high school and college students interested in the fields of education, international affairs, and advocacy. Interns work on a variety of projects, including research and statistical analysis, foundation research and grant writing, fund raising, student tutoring and classroom management, as well as completing daily tasks that are a part of the LaAmistad work environment.

#### Advocacy

LaAmistad hosts an extensive resource center that provides students and families with information on a myriad of subjects, including health insurance, scholarships, domestic violence, and financial services. Staff members at LaAmistad also serve as advocates for its students in *Atlanta Public Schools* and serve as an advisor to help raise awareness about the needs and circumstances of Latino children.

#### LaAmistad's Animate Summer Camp

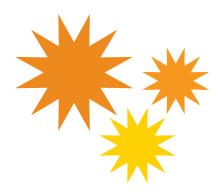
This year marked the 4th annual *Anímate* summer camp held at The Westminster Schools in Atlanta made possible by funding from the *Rotary Club of Atlanta*. Georgiacertified elementary school teachers instruct campers in language arts and math skills. Students also enjoy extracurricular activities such as swimming in The Westminster School's indoor swimming pool or immersing themselves in the fine arts provided through collaboration with Instituto de Mexico.

#### **Additional Summer Programs**

In order to maintain their academic, personal, and physical development during the summer, LaAmistad students participate in programs such as *Breakthrough Atlanta*, Pace Academy's Veranos Sin Limites, Peachtree Presbyterian and The Cathedral of St. Philip's Vacation Bible Schools, and, Sports Camp at The Gym at Peachtree.

#### **Preschool**

LaAmistad facilitates preschool enrollment for eligible Latino students at Peachtree Presbyterian Pre-school, which enrolls more than **400 students** annually. LaAmistad believes that a preschool education should be made available to every child. Since its inception, LaAmistad has sent more than 100 children to preschool, allowing children to begin their education with wonder and enthusiasm for learning, all while gaining a strong foundation for the rest of their educational experience.



# **STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2015
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 130,100	\$ 348,472
Grants receivable, net	92,333	290,081
Prepaid expenses	18,842	5,951
Equipment, net	14,684	10,347
Total assets	\$ 255,959	\$ 654,851
Liabilities and Net Assets Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilitie	s \$ 4,305	\$ 17,729
Total liabilities	4,305	17,729
Net assets:		
Unrestricted net assets	81,598	147,119
Temporarily restricted net assets	170,056	490,003
Total net assets	251,654	637,122
Total liabilities and net assets	\$255,959	\$654,851

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ΙΝΟΟΜΕ STATEMENTS <sup>1</sup>	FYE June 30	
	2014	2015
Revenue, Gains and Support		
Donations (including in-kind)	\$ 489,685	\$ 632,196
Grants and Awards	210,653	593,965
Special Event Revenue (net of expenses)	28,210	60,691
Program Fees and Other Revenue	15,316	26,020
Total Revenue	743,864	1,312,872
Expenses		
Program	592,385	800,115
General and Administrative	80,099	87,028
Fundraising	42,888	40,261
Total Expenses	715,345	927,404
Net Surplus	\$ 28,519	\$ 385,468
Fundraising 4%	BREAKDOWN OF LAAMISTAD EXPENSES FY 2015	
General and Administrative 10% Program 86%		n 86%

<sup>(1)</sup> The Income Statement above reconciles to the Statement of Activities and Statement of Functional Activities included in the 2015 audited financial statements, which is available upon request.

3434 Roswell Road, NW | Atlanta, GA 30305 | www.laamistadinc.org