

fairchancefifteen

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Fifteen Years of Fair Chance The Power of Community

Thank You

As we reflect on our 15th anniversary year and plan for the future, we are grateful for all our community has made possible. Fair Chance started as one person with a vision and has grown into a network of over 100 nonprofit partners, hundreds of committed funders, a generous and talented Board and Advisory Board and skilled staff and volunteers. In the last 15 years we have:

- Reached over 80,000 children;
- Expanded from Wards 7 and 8 to *citywide* in DC's neighborhoods of high-concentrated poverty and now -- through our new partnership with Venture Philanthropy Partners -- into Prince George's County, Maryland;
- Created additional services to support the continued sustainability of alumni partners; and
- Demonstrated our impact through ongoing data collection showing **Fair Chance partners double the number of children they serve and increase their budgets by 150 percent.**

We are proud of our legacy -- yet there is still so much more work to do.

Nationally, about 15 million children -- 21% of all children -- live in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold. Because we believe a child's zip code should not determine his or her future, we focus on nonprofits that provide educational and developmental opportunities for children and families in areas lacking access to quality education, health care and social services.

We increase the capacity of promising nonprofits to achieve critical outcomes predictive of life success. We ensure that strong, effective organizations are stable resources in the communities they serve -- for years to come. And because small, community-based nonprofits cannot afford fee-based consulting services, we invest our expertise and management assistance support free of charge.

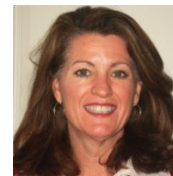
Our work is only possible because of the investments our community has made in us. Thank you for believing in Fair Chance!

We invite you to join us as we celebrate 15 years of service -- and to look ahead to the next 15. As we consider the need that still exists in DC and nationwide, we are documenting our unique model and sharing our data and successes. Again, there is still so much work to do. We hope you'll join us as we continue to grow.

Ours is truly a *community in action*-- helping achieve our vision of a city, region, and nation where every child has a Fair Chance to succeed.

Thank you for celebrating this milestone and for generously supporting Fair Chance in so many ways for so many years.

With much gratitude,



Gretchen Van der Veer, PhD
Executive Director



Heather Peeler
Board Chair

Fair Chance: Then and Now

While employed at the Robin Hood Foundation in New York City, Fair Chance founder Amanda Marshall conceived the idea of a peer organization dedicated to strengthening and empowering nonprofits.

Amanda moved to DC and put her idea into action, meeting with community-based nonprofit leaders serving children in Wards 7 and 8.

With initial seed funding from the The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, Fair Chance hired its first employee and began offering management assistance -- free of charge -- to its first class of three nonprofit partners. Our model soon attracted other nonprofits and funders.



Fair Chance founded by Amanda Marshall
Tobias Dengel is founding board member



Developed first iteration of program model



First Partner Graduation



Fair Chance expands to Wards 5 & 6



Maria Nagorski joins Fair Chance as Executive Director

Fair Chance serves 35 organizations and reaches nearly 12,000 children

2002

2003

Fair Chance is incorporated

2004

2005

2006

2007

Fair Chance hosts first Butterfly Ball (now the Butterfly Bash) and silent auction with sponsors, hosts, and individuals who continue to support the Butterfly Bash today



Network Services program created



10th Anniversary
65 nonprofits served

Fair Chance lays the groundwork for its Impact Academy Program which helps partners identify and track outcomes predictive of greater life success for youth

Network Services expands through partnerships with AmeriCorps VISTA & Boston Consulting Group



Fair Chance celebrates 15th Anniversary, serves over 100 nonprofits and expands to Prince George's County

2008

2012

2015

2016

2017

2011

Fair Chance expands programming citywide



2013

Gretchen Van der Veer becomes Executive Director

Impact Academy and Pathways Program launched



Life-Changing Outcomes

Framework

Since 2002, Fair Chance has built the capacity of our nonprofit partners to achieve life-changing results for children and youth living in poverty. In 2015, we developed a Life-Changing Outcomes Framework, drawing on research that reflects a broad consensus among child development experts on what is required to ensure that children and youth are on track for success across the following domains: *Education, Health and Wellbeing, Housing and Income, and Community*. With support from our Fair Chance investors, we are strengthening our program evaluation work to help partners develop and measure evidence-based approaches in their programs that align with our Life-Changing Outcomes domains. Starting in 2018, we will be able to track our partners' progress toward these outcomes.



Our Impact

Urban Ed 2009 Graduate



According to the DC Department of Employment Services, in certain parts of the city there are more jobs available than qualified applicants resulting in high unemployment rates. **For example, in Ward 8 the unemployment rate is 14.2% versus 4.4% in Ward 3.** When Roxanne Williams founded Urban Ed in 2000, her mission was to help youth in Wards 7 and 8 achieve steady employment by equipping them with training, resources, and experiences necessary for high-demand technology careers. However, when Urban Ed applied for a Fair Chance partnership, the organization, like many others in the nonprofit sector, was experiencing challenges during the recession.

Fair Chance worked with Urban Ed to rebuild their board, find additional funding, and launch new programs such as a technology camp for elementary students and a revived technology-training program for truant teens. Nearly a decade after their Fair Chance partnership, Urban Ed is thriving as a hub of opportunity for youth interested in STEM and IT, serving more than twice the number of students. **In 2016, Urban Ed became a licensed state educational institution under the DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) and youth in their programs have an 88% IT certification pass rate and 90% job placement rate.** Through IT education, Urban Ed puts youth on a pathway to stable careers and futures.

Last year, as a Fair Chance alum, Urban Ed applied for and received a Boston Consulting Group Fellowship providing further capacity building and organizational management expertise.



Roxanne Williams
Executive Director

"I know the value of capacity building, yet Fair Chance's scope of services, dedication of time, and talented staff make it like no other organization in DC."

Our Impact

Access Youth 2012 Graduate



Jodi Ovca
Executive Director

"Working with Fair Chance helped me balance my passion for others with the necessity of putting effective processes in place."

Students who are frequently truant or suspended have a greater risk of dropping out of school, being unemployed or becoming incarcerated. **In DC, 8,500 students are marked as truant, 5,200 are suspended, and 3,000 are arrested.** Access Youth identifies at-risk students and provides them with mediation, coaching, and life-skills training to reduce truancy, suspension, and arrest.

When Executive Director Jodi Ovca applied for the Fair Chance partnership, Access Youth had only two staff members and was struggling financially. Working with Fair Chance, Jodi was able to establish sound financial management practices and improve the grant submission process. This partnership resulted in increased funding opportunities. Today, Access Youth's budget has grown by 400%, and they have worked with over 400 students through their Truancy Prevention Program. As a result of Access Youth, these students **are three times more likely to avoid chronic truancy compared to their peers; 75% of students in the Suspension Prevention Program avoid suspension; and 75% of first-time offenders avoid re-arrest.** Fair Chance's support enabled Access Youth to continue as a critical intervention for students.

Last year, Access Youth applied and received an AmeriCorps VISTA member as a Fair Chance alum, providing additional staff capacity to support their mission.

Reach Incorporated 2013 Graduate



Mark Hecker
Executive Director

"In conversations with Fair Chance, I realized the power I had as a founder...The best product of those conversations was the realization I didn't have to follow the rules. I could build a different kind of organization."

Reach, Incorporated (Reach) was a two-person organization with an innovative approach to addressing literacy when Executive Director Mark Hecker applied for the Fair Chance partnership. Mark was ready to demonstrate that by teaching teens to serve as tutors and role models for younger students, he could improve literacy outcomes for both, but he knew there was so much about running an organization that he didn't know. During the Fair Chance partnership, Reach developed an employee handbook as well as a strategic plan. These two concrete documents were essential building blocks to align the Board and staff on Reach's future.

Since completing the Fair Chance partnership, Reach's budget has increased 578% in six years and over 350 students benefit from their services. **The organization's growth mirrors the gains made by Reach's students: elementary school students show an increase of 1.5 grade levels of reading growth per year and 75% of 11th grade students read at or above grade level** (as opposed to the DCPS average of 85% of high school students reading *below* grade level).

Our Impact

Healthy Babies Project, Inc. 2015 Graduate



Regine Elie
Executive Director

"Fair Chance let me know that it is ok to dream and have big ideas as long as with that goal there is a plan of action - or else all you have is a dream."

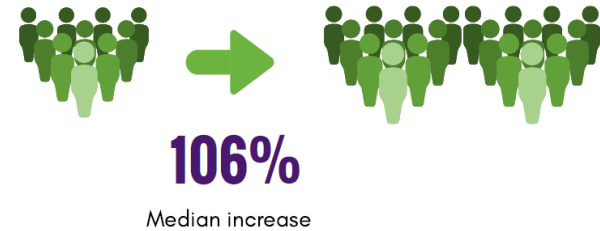
Healthy Babies Project (HBP) connects high-risk, pregnant DC women and families to health care, social services, shelter, and educational opportunities. HBP has over 25 years of fighting DC's nation-leading rates of teen pregnancy, infant mortality, and low birth weights disproportionately affecting families in low-income neighborhoods. According to Executive Director Regine Elie, HBP partnered with Fair Chance when they were in "a perfect storm for change." During the partnership, Fair Chance helped create an action plan to maximize opportunities for a new shelter facility, board members, partnerships, and programs.

With Fair Chance's help, a reconstituted Board was equipped with new systems and processes to improve effective governance. HBP realigned their financial systems to track expenses to income streams. The organization also added new programs educating clients to make smart choices regarding sexual behavior, relationships, and parenthood. And, through regular tracking of indicators, HBP now has data to demonstrate their effectiveness as a solution to reducing the number of low birth weight babies and infant mortalities. **In 2016, none of the clients lost a child, 3.8% of clients had low birthweight babies (better than the District rate of 10%), 1.8% of teen parents experienced an unplanned repeat pregnancy, and 93.6% of teen parents were enrolled in school or employed.** HBP has served almost 300 more teens and young parents in the four years since their Fair Chance partnership.

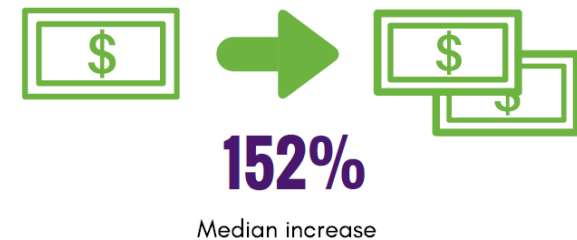
Alumni Results

Data from our alumni surveys show nonprofits continue to grow and are more sustainable within five years of a Fair Chance partnership.

Total Number of Children Served



Increase in Annual Budget



Strong Collaborations



More than half of respondents report collaborating with at least one other Fair Chance Partner organization

Our Supporters

You make our work possible.

We are grateful for *every level of* support our generous donors bring to Fair Chance.

Here, we proudly acknowledge our highest level donors from the last 15 years. You've done so much more than sustain Fair Chance -- you've empowered us to grow from a great idea to a network of more than 100 nonprofits creating life-changing opportunities in DC's poorest neighborhoods.

Individuals & Families

Mary Pat and Darren Alcus	Jessica and Jeffrey Drichta
Ambassador Yousef Al Otaiba	Jean-Marie and Raul Fernandez
Julia Baer Cooper and Jeff Cooper	Karen and Brendan Herron
Deena Barlev and Robert King	Sara Jacobs
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Adele Bonnie	Jane and Esko Korhonen
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The Scott and Patrice Brickman Family Foundation	Belinda and Adam Lehman
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Jennifer and Brian Coulter	Amanda and Alex Marshall
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	Richard and Judith Morrissey

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Sarah and Ted Stettinius
Rob and Kathryn Stewart
Stichman Family Foundation
Gretchen Van der Veer and Steven Beckham
Missy and Dexter Walker
Kirsten and Todd Walrath
Catherine Merrill Williams
Ashley and Ashton Wiltshire

"Fair Chance fills a much needed gap in educating small nonprofits in neighborhoods on how to more effectively operate their organizations. They've done a terrific job with identifying appropriate organizations and providing them with important organizational expertise."

Mike Kimsey
The Kimsey Foundation

Institutional & Corporate Funders & Collaborators

"Horning Family Fund believes that all young people in DC should have access to quality out of school time programs that help nurture them to achieve their greatest potential. We support Fair Chance because they strengthen the capacity of community-based nonprofits to do just that."

Dara Johnson
Horning Family Fund

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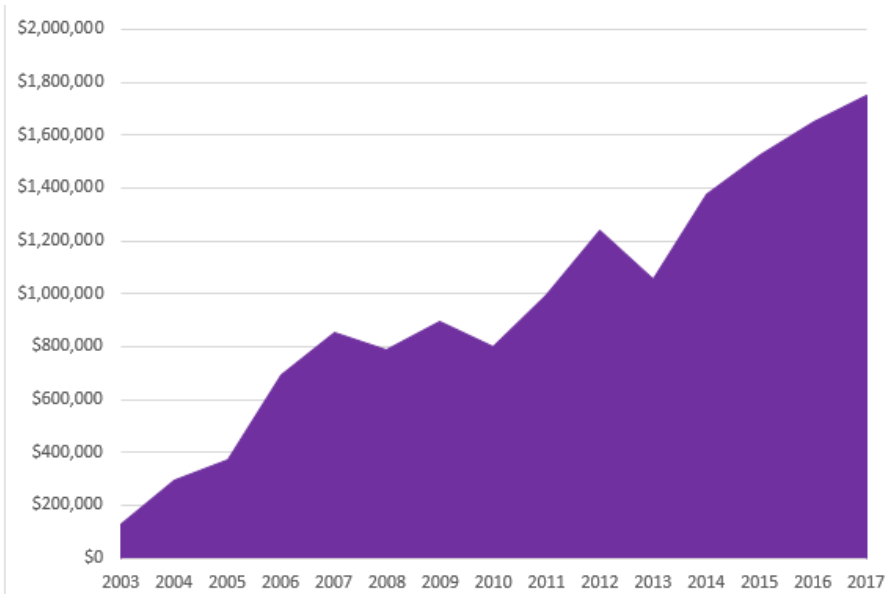
Thank you to all donors who have given and supported Fair Chance's mission. All 2016-2017 donors will be recognized in our upcoming 2017 annual report.

Every effort has been made for accurate records. If you see a mistake, please accept our sincerest apologies and contact Alison Rincon, arincon@fairchancedc.org or 202-467-2421.

Our Supporters

Since 2002, Fair Chance has steadily increased our budget to fund programming and build infrastructure for growth. We are grateful for partnerships with individual, institutional and corporate funders who believe in Fair Chance's mission and make our work possible.

Annual Budget



In 2015, we launched a new social impact initiative -- the *Fair Chance Fund*-- helping to scale high-potential nonprofits working in the most underserved neighborhoods. The Fund targets outcomes that research shows are predictive of putting children and youth on a pathway out of poverty.

Fund members make a three-year financial pledge and engage in a personalized, active experience of philanthropy, including opportunities to meet with nonprofit leaders and experts in the field and to learn more about issues facing our community. They also receive regular progress reports on their Fund investment.

We invite you to learn more by contacting Benjamin Bradburn, Director of Development, at bbradburn@fairchancedc.org or 202-467-2428.

"We joined the Fund because we have seen firsthand the transformative effect that Fair Chance has on the best promising, youth-serving nonprofits in our region. Fair Chance is outcomes-based capacity building at its finest and the ripple effect that it has throughout our community is unparalleled."

Mary Pat and Darren Alcus
Fair Chance Fund Founding Members

2016-2017 Fair Chance Fund

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
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| Patrice and Scott Brickman | Amanda and Alex Marshall |
| Jean-Marie and Raul Fernandez | Judith and Richard Morrissey |
| Karen and Brendan Herron | Kathryn and Rob Stewart |
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Members of Fair Chance Staff and Board at a Meet and Greet, September 2017

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Eleanor Maguire, *Secretary*
Amanda Marshall, *Founder*
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Thank you for a stellar year and helping us commemorate our 15th anniversary!

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