



TFA Greater New Orleans | 2024 Annual Report

Turning Possibilities into Impact



Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Taking a moment to pause and reflect on the work we have done and the lessons we have learned over the past year is one of the best ways to look toward the future. This year as I reflect on the 2023–2024 school year, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude and pride in the work our corps members, students, alumni, and other members of our education community have accomplished together. This year has been one of growth and impact. One where we have been focused on turning the endless potential and possibility in our system into sustained impact for our students and schools. Thanks to the unwavering support of individuals like you, we have been able to continue advancing our mission of attracting exceptional, diverse leaders into the education system and striving toward ONE DAY every child having the opportunity to attain an excellent education.

Despite the challenges that currently exist in our education system, we have made significant strides in our programs and initiatives. From launching our Ignite High Dosage Tutoring Program that has proven to accelerate learning and achievement for students, to the expansion of the Instructional Coaching Fellowship teacher and leader cohorts, our team has worked tirelessly to create positive change in the school communities we serve. In fact, 100% of our schools reported academic growth for students in Ignite, and exploring new ways we partner with schools to have impact has proven to build on the work of TFA over the past 30 plus years. These accomplishments are a

testament to the dedication and passion of our GNO staff, teachers, and school partners. One of the most remarkable aspects of our work has been the growth and evolution of Teach For America over the almost 35 year history here in New Orleans. In that time, Teach For America has brought in nearly 70,000 leaders to teach in urban and rural communities across America, with over 3,000 of those leaders placed right here in the Greater New Orleans region. Whether through generous donations, supporting the development of our corps members and alumni, or simply being a champion for our work in the community, each of you has played a vital role in our success. Your belief in our mission fuels our drive to do more, to reach further, and to continue making a difference for the kids and families in New Orleans.

As we look to the future, we are excited about the next stage of possibilities ahead. We are in an all-hands-on-deck moment where in order to create the conditions that will support our kids’ ability to have a bright future, it will take everyone at all levels supporting education. We must work in partnership to accelerate learning for kids with high rigor and expectations, while also fostering an environment of joy, connection, love, and belonging that makes kids want to be in school, learning. We have ambitious plans to expand our reach and deepen our impact by growing our teaching corps consistently over the next three years, continuing to expand Ignite, and activating our alumni through

relevant programming and support. We know that with your continued support, we can achieve even greater things. Together, we will continue to build a brighter, more equitable future for all kids in New Orleans.

On behalf of everyone at Teach For America Greater New Orleans, I want to express my deepest thanks for your trust, your partnership, and your commitment to our shared vision. We are honored to have you by our side as we continue to fight for educational equity and fulfill the promise of a great education for our kids.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Ge’ron Tatum
Executive Director
Teach For America



Our Mission

Teach For America finds, develops, and supports a diverse network of leaders who expand opportunity for children from classrooms, schools, and every sector and field that shapes the broader systems in which schools operate.



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Major Moments

Pre-Service Learning



Collective Brunch



Learning Summit



Ignite Fellowship



Coaching Fellowship



Alumni Induction

Alumni-Led Schools

Frederick Douglass High School

Towana Pierre-Floyd – School Leader

Towana is a New Orleans native and a graduate of both Howard University and the University of Houston who started her career in education in 2005. She has an extensive background in education starting in the classroom to now serving as the School Leader of Frederick Douglass High School and as Managing Director of High Schools for KIPP New Orleans Schools.

Towana says that TFA impacted her educational journey by teaching her that teaching is leadership. She learned through being a corps member that **“you are leading from within your sphere and you are constantly working to expand your locus of control so that your impact can be great.”**



Towana Pierre-Floyd | School Leader | 2005 GNO Alum

1

KIPP Renaissance opened in 2010 and was re-opened as Frederick Douglass in 2014-15 with a school letter grade of a D. They grew to a B rating by the end of that school year and **achieved their first A rating** in the 2015-16 school year.

2

Maintained a B rating throughout COVID.

3

2021-2022 School Year named **#1 Open Enrollment High School** in New Orleans

4

Scored 105/150 on the Progress Index for the 2023-2024 School Year

5

Partnership with Bard Early College

Goals Set for the Future

- ◆ Be a proof point for open enrollment schools in New Orleans.
- ◆ Continued growth of STEM programs, to allow more students to get their EMS/EMT certificate.
- ◆ Further expansion of travel program, opening doors for students to visit different countries.
- ◆ Obtain more sponsorships/resources for students to participate in extracurricular activities.
- ◆ Become a National Blue Ribbon School.



Alumni
Working at Douglass

Jonny Bartlett
2005 GNO Alum

Emily Bisso
2006 NY Alum

Jarvis Dillard
2020 GNO Alum

Stephanie Hinton
2007 SLA (GBR) Alum

Towana Pierre-Floyd
2005 GNO Alum

Jen Schnidman
2006 Delta Alum

Sophia Unterman
2016 GNO Alum

Over **100**

students have been able to graduate high school with not only their high school diploma but also a **college associate’s degree**.



Jarvis Dillard | 2020 GNO Alum | Advisory Board Member

“Douglass has been my favorite place to work. The goal is to make sure our kids get the best education possible, and I see it and feel it everyday. It’s a lot of work but when you think about what’s at stake, it’s worth it.”

Jarvis Dillard, 2020 GNO Alum
12th Grade English Teacher
& Founder of Douglass Theater Program



Impact by the Numbers

TOTAL TEACHING FORCE: ALUMNI & CMS

ALUMNI LEADERSHIP

20,000+
Total Students Impacted

1,110
Total GNO Alumni

Alumni
Leadership

50 1st & 2nd Year
Corps Members

265 Alumni Teachers

658 Work in
Education

35
School Leaders

18
Social
Entrepreneurs

CORP MEMBER DEMOGRAPHICS

44%
Black, Indigenous, or
People of Color

MEETING SCHOOL NEEDS

45%
of Corps Members taught high
need subject areas like STEM or
Special Education

87% Teach a Third
Year or More

38
Policy &
Advocacy
Leaders

27
School System
Leaders

Impact in Schools



IGNITE SCHOOL
PARTNER



CORPS
MEMBERS



ALUM
TEACHERS



ALUM LEADERS
& STAFF

ORLEANS PARISH

- ✶ ✶ ✶ Abramson Sci Academy
- ✶ ✶ Alice M. Harte Charter School
- ✶ ✶ Arthur Ashe Charter School
- ✶ Audubon Charter School – Gentilly
- ✶ ✶ Benjamin Franklin High School
- ✶ ✶ Booker T. Washington High School
- ✶ ✶ Bricolage Academy
- ✶ D. D. Eisenhower Charter School
- ✶ ✶ Dorothy Height Charter School
- ✶ Edna Karr High School
- ✶ Einstein Extension Charter School
- ✶ Einstein Charter School – Village De L'est
- ✶ ✶ Elan Academy
- ✶ Eleanor McMain Secondary School
- ✶ ✶ Frederick A. Douglas High School
- ✶ ✶ G.W. Carver High School
- ✶ ✶ Harriet Tubman Charter School – Blue Campus
- ✶ Harriet Tubman Charter School – Montessori
- ✶ ✶ Homer A. Plessy Community School
- ✶ Isidore Newman School
- ✶ ✶ John F. Kennedy High School
- ✶ ✶ KIPP Believe Charter School

- ✶ ✶ KIPP Central City Academy
- ✶ ✶ KIPP Central City Primary
- ✶ ✶ KIPP East Primary
- ✶ ✶ KIPP Leadership Charter School
- ✶ ✶ KIPP Leadership Primary
- ✶ ✶ KIPP Morial Charter School
- ✶ Lafayette Academy
- ✶ ✶ Langston Hughes Academy
- ✶ ✶ Lawrence Crocker College Prep School
- ✶ Louisiana for the Blind
- ✶ Living School
- ✶ ✶ Livingston Collegiate Academy
- ✶ ✶ Lycee Francais De La Nouvelle
- ✶ Mildred Osborne Charter School
- ✶ ✶ Morris Jeff Community School
- ✶ New Harmony High School
- ✶ ✶ New Orleans Charter Science & Math High School
- ✶ New Orleans Military-Maritime Academy
- ✶ Opportunities Academy
- ✶ ✶ Phillis Wheatley Community School
- ✶ ✶ ReNEW Dolores T. Aaron Elementary School
- ✶ ✶ ReNEW Laurel Elementary School

*All data is self-reported for alumni impact.

JEFFERSON PARISH

- ✶ A.C. Alexander Elementary School
- ✶ Chateau Estates Elementary School
- ✶ Grace King High School
- ✶ Green Park Elementary School
- ✶ ✶ Jefferson Rise Charter School
- ✶ John Ehret High School
- ✶ ✶ Laureate Academy Charter School
- ✶ Marie Riviere Elementary School
- ✶ ✶ Metairie Park Country Day School
- ✶ Patrick F. Taylor Science Technology Academy
- ✶ Paul J. Solis Elementary School
- ✶ Riverdale High School
- ✶ Ruppel Academie Francaise
- ✶ West Jefferson High School
- ✶ Young Audiences Charter School – Burmaster
- ✶ ✶ Young Audiences Charter School – Kate Middleton

ST. BERNARD PARISH

- ✶ Andrew Jackson Middle School
- ✶ Arabi Elementary School
- ✶ Chalmette High School
- ✶ ✶ N.P. Trist Middle School
- ✶ Rowley Alternative School

NEIGHBORING PARISHES

- ✶ Bonne Ecole Elementary School
- ✶ Coteau-Bayou Blue Elementary School
- ✶ Encore Academy
- ✶ Ethel Schoeffner Elementary School
- ✶ Florida Avenue Elementary School
- ✶ Laplace Elementary School
- ✶ Luling Elementary School
- ✶ Tchefuncte Middle School

- ✶ ✶ ReNEW Schaumburg Elementary School
- ✶ Rooted School
- ✶ Rosenwald Collegiate Academy
- ✶ ✶ Samuel J. Green Charter School
- ✶ Sophie B. Wright Charter School
- ✶ St. George's Episcopal School
- ✶ ✶ Success at Thurgood Marshall
- ✶ The Good Shepherd School
- ✶ The Net Charter High School – East
- ✶ The Net Charter High School – Gentilly
- ✶ ✶ The Willow Charter Elementary School
- ✶ ✶ The Willow Charter Middle & High School
- ✶ ✶ Travis Hill School
- ✶ Waldorf School Of New Orleans
- ✶ ✶ Rosenwald/Walter L. Cohen College Prep High School
- ✶ ✶ Warren Easton Charter High School

By 2030, twice as many children in Greater New Orleans will reach proficiency in third grade reading, indicating they are on a path to economic mobility and a future filled with possibility.



Greater New Orleans



Our Core Capabilities in Action



Francesco Russo | GNO 2021 Alum | Warren Easton Charter School

Find Promising Leaders

“As a first-generation college graduate, I was in a unique position to help students avoid the mistakes I made! In order to prepare my students, I relied heavily on the community of individuals, businesses, the government and nonprofits to expose students to all their possible futures. Businesses and nonprofits supported our internship program, career exploration and rugby team directly. Students found mentors, scholarships and networked through these opportunities. Two of my students earned full tuition scholarships. In addition, my rugby team’s average GPA went up during the season. I can confidently say that coaching and teaching has led to more community involvement with Warren Easton. I can also say that the generosity of the community gave my students the opportunities they needed to build their self-confidence, efficacy and advocacy skills.”



Dani Garcia | GNO 2023 Corps Member | ReNew Schaumburg Music Teacher

Impact Students & Schools

“Teaching music is exciting because it is such a diverse and creative subject, especially in early elementary! The amount of activities you can do with the range of PreK to 2nd grade is pretty amazing since you can go from simple circle dances to recorders and ukuleles in just a few years. I also love being able to plan my own lessons with the materials of my choosing. Lesson planning is probably my favorite part of teaching, especially when I’m creating one from scratch.”



Emma Merrill | Colorado 2013 Alum | Las Sierras Academy

Develop Systems-Change Leaders

Emma Merrill began her career in Denver, Colorado, before moving to New Orleans, where she identified the need for stronger support for English Language Learners (ELs) at George Washington Carver High School. She advocated for the creation of a formal ESL program to support multilingual students, particularly newcomers to the country. Over five years, Emma invested in her own learning, attending training sessions and visiting schools with successful EL programs. In 2021, she founded Las Sierras Academy, New Orleans’ first immersive program for newcomer students to develop English proficiency alongside academic skills. This essential program helps high school newcomers gain the tools needed to graduate on time and access postsecondary opportunities.



TFA GNO Corps Members & Staff at Solitary Gardens

Foster Community

In addition to their impact as classroom teachers, our corps members give back to our local community every year through community service with organizations such as STEM Library Lab, GreenLight NOLA, Solitary Gardens, and the Louisiana SPCA. We are honored to support these impactful organizations as we all work together to strengthen our community!

Our Alumni in Action

Teach For America has alumni making waves across industries, driving change both in their careers and through their passion for giving back. From classrooms to boardrooms, and through their philanthropy, TFA alums in the area are shaping a brighter future for Greater New Orleans. Although they all weren't corps members in GNO, their work has brought them to this region. We're proud to spotlight their incredible impact on our vibrant community.



Charles Aponza

2012 GNO Alum

CEO of Brighter Horizons Construction Inc & Host on GHTV's Bargain Block New Orleans
Brighter Horizons Constuction Inc.



Jacob Landry

2006 Hawaii Alum

Founder & CEO
Urban South Brewery



Brittany Whitby

2014 DC Alum

Director of Content and Coaching and CEO and Founder
Leading Educators and B Nicole Consulting



Jeanie Donovan

2008 GNO Alum

Deputy Director
New Orleans Health Department



Eric Seling

2006 St. Louis Alum

VP, Finance and Operations
Greater New Orleans Foundation



Caileen Coleman

2012 GNO Alum

Senior Development Manager
American Cancer Society



Melissa Sawyer

1998 GNO Alum

Co-Founder & CEO
Youth Empowerment Project



Sorbriqué Grant

2007 NYC Alum

President & CEO
Climb Hire



Garrett Dorfman

2008 Jacksonville Alum

Senior Product Manager
Amazon

Fostering Alumni Leadership

Alumni Advisory Board

This group of Alumni leaders worked together to create memorial events for alumni thought the year. They hosted three major events which were the Mardi Gras Meet up, the Collective Brunch, and our Alumni Induction Ceremony. They also worked to establish the inaugural Alumni Mentorship Program. The Alumni Mentorship Program was created to assist in teacher retention, increase teacher satisfaction and help guide new teachers on their transition.



Instructional Coaching Fellowship

The Coaching Fellowship is a local initiative designed to support experienced educators and mid-level leaders as they build their leadership capacity to develop and retain educators and instructional coaches in schools throughout the region. Coaches in the Coaching Fellowship either assist with coaching Corps Members or coaching teachers at their current schools.

Teachers coached by an ICF Fellow had this to say about their experience:

100%

agree or strongly agree that their ICF coach provided high-quality coaching that positively impacted student outcomes in their classroom.

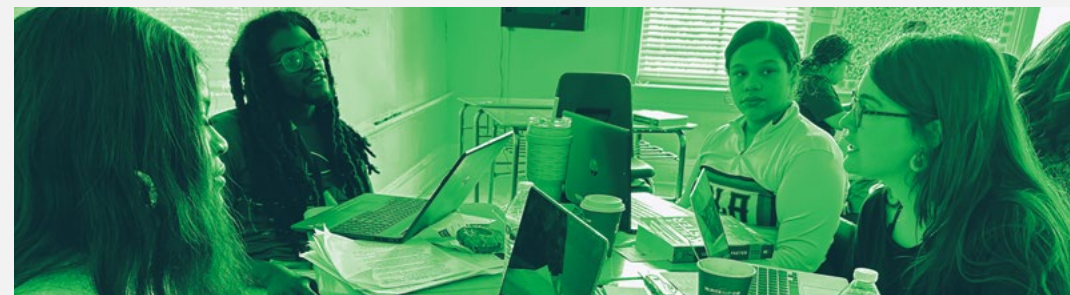


Pre-Service Coaching

As veteran teachers, our Alumni know what it takes to plan and prepare for a new school year. During the summer, Alumni can apply to coach incoming Corps Members on content specific development to support them before they go off to work with their schools. This opportunity provides alumni with employment over the summer and leadership development.

86%

The Coaching Fellowship had a significant impact on 2nd year Corps Members choosing to stay in the classroom for a third year, with 86% of 2nd year CMs continuing in classroom teaching roles for a 3rd year.



► For the 24-25 FY, the Instructional Coaching Fellowship will expand to both a teacher cohort and a leader cohort.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed being able to be a part of this wonderful program for a second time. I learned so much and I’m truly thankful I was able to deepen my understanding through the program again. I was honestly thinking of leaving teaching after this year, but becoming a coach to two enthusiastic first year teachers has reignited my passion for teaching, and I will be going back into the classroom (while also being grade level lead and some possibility for coaching and observation!) for my 13th year of teaching! This program has been one of the best career opportunities I’ve been able to participate in.”

Jayde Larson-Rodriguez , 2013 GNO Alum
Lead Pre-K teacher & Professional Development Facilitator
KIPP Believe

Looking Forward

By 2030, twice as many children in Greater New Orleans will reach proficiency in third grade reading, indicating they are on a path to economic mobility and a future filled with possibility.

“Statewide school performance score has increased for the third consecutive year, as Louisiana students achieved the highest score under the current 150-point system. Louisiana’s 2024 statewide school performance score improved by nearly two points. The 2024 statewide score is 80.2, a 1.7 point increase from 2023 when the statewide score was 78.5.”

Louisiana Department of Education
Louisiana Believes

Teach For America Greater New Orleans works alongside educational leaders in our region to help continue student achievement growth.

Three Parishes We Serve

As we draw closer to our 2030 goal, we are proud of the growth and progress we have made to positivity impact literacy in GNO.

While there is still a long way to go, we are fortunate to work with amazing educators, leaders, organizations, and the community to create the change we are working towards.

We continue to make changes to our recruitment process and corps member programming to support students’ development and growth.

Parish Served	2021–2022 SY**	2023–2024 SY**	2030 Goal
Orleans	22%	36%	44%
Jefferson	35%	37%	70%
St. Bernard	34%	43%	68%

**Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) Third-grade reading Mastery and Advanced rating assessment scores from Spring 2024.

Ignite Fellowship

The TFA Ignite Fellowship is a virtual high-impact tutoring program supporting students in kindergarten through third grade in accelerating their reading proficiency. Ignite fellows (tutors) support two to four students three or four times a week in approximately 45-minute sessions.

71 Total Number of Fellows

100%

of schools reported that Ignite fellows had a positive impact on their student academic growth.

94%

of students had a positive relationship with their Ignite Tutor

How It Works



1 virtual fellow with 2-4 in-person students



Ignite site leader supports 10-12 fellows



2-3 hours per week during school hours



Based on school's high-quality curriculum

168

Students Served

3

School Partners

Elan Academy
(Orleans Parish)

Laureate Academy
(Jefferson Parish)

ReNEW Laurel
(Orleans Parish)

“We emphasize growth as part of our literacy goals, and research shows the positive impact of high-dosage tutoring for scholars needing academic intervention. Ignite contributes to Élan’s capacity to provide effective tutoring during the school day for our scholars”

– Dr. Melanie Askew Clark , Élan Academy | Head of School & Founder
2012 Memphis Alum

To learn more visit:
teachforamerica.org/ignite-fellowship



Our Board

Teach For America Community,

Teaching is one of the most impactful professions that a person commits their life to. Since 1990, Teach For America has placed teachers in classrooms across the Greater New Orleans region making a greater impact on students and their education. Over the years, I have seen these Teach For America teachers blossom into master teachers, community leaders, entrepreneurs, and systems-level leaders who are growing students’ achievement in education and supporting the overall growth of our city. Teach For America GNO has committed itself to developing the best teachers, and now creating a greater impact on their Alumni by providing them with development opportunities.

As a long-standing board member and former Board Chairman of Teach For America Greater New Orleans, I am proud to support the work they are doing in this community. Having strong leadership and dedicated staff, TFA GNO has done the work alongside others in this community to effect change in education. With TFA’s overall goal of doubling the number of students who can read proficiently by the end of third grade, changing the trajectory of their lives, we should all feel a sense of connection to this work. Implementing a high-dosage tutoring program, continuing to evolve and grow the corps member program, and developing veteran education leaders, Ge’ron Tatum and his amazing team at TFA GNO are working hard to change outcomes for students.

Having a passion for seeing our community grow both economically and culturally, supporting this work just makes sense. Being able to partner with Teach For America allows me to understand what those working in our school system have to think about and plan for daily. I can only imagine what it would be like to see the joy on a student’s face after a job well done. I support this work in hopes of more joyful moments for students, teachers, families, and our community as a whole.

I want to thank my fellow board members, alumni advisory board members, generous donors, and community members for your continued support of Teach For America and opening doors for the future of education. I would like to challenge others to step up and answer the call to support our students and teachers in the Greater New Orleans community.

Sincerely,



William H. Hines
Teach For America GNO Board Member
& former Board Chairman
Managing Partner, Jones Walker LLP

Teach For America
Greater New Orleans Advisory Board

Kathleen Parke Edmundson | GNO ‘90 Alum
Director
Nexus Energy

William Hines
Managing Partner
Jones Walker LLC

John Hope
SVP, Head of Originations
West Region
Captial One

David Robinson-Morris
Founder & CEO, REImaginlutions, LLC
Executive Director,
Center of Contemplative Mind and Society

David Wallace
Founder & Principal Consultant Development,
Me Awakening Minds

Scott Shirey | SLA ‘98 Alum
Executive Director of Leadership
Firstline Schools

Mary K. Garton | GNO ‘91 Alum
Chief Student Enrollment Officer
NOLA-PS

TFA Greater New Orleans
2023–2024 Alumni Advisory Board

Rahmel Fuller | GNO ‘15 Alum | Board Chair
Manager | Learning Design
YouthForce NOLA

Scarlet Feinberg Cornlius | GNO ‘94 Alum
Director, Post-Secondary Strategy & Programming
KIPP New Orleans Schools

Ronicka Briscoe | GNO ‘06 Alum
Chair, Department of Education
University of Holy Cross

Amanda Hollman | GNO ‘06 Alum
Director
Human Captial | Crescent City Schools

Gary Briggs | GNO ‘11 Alum
Director, Professional Learning Systems
New Teacher Center

Jacob Gleghorn | GNO ‘11 Alum
Chief Strategy Officer
New Orleans Career Center

Sonia Scott | GNO ‘17 Alum
Director of Scholar Support
Collegiate Academies

Jarvis Dillard | GNO ‘20 Alum
English & Theater Teacher
Morris Jeff Community School

Our Generous Donors

\$100,000+

Entergy New Orleans
LLC

Booth-Bricker Fund

Louisiana Department of
Education

\$50,000–\$99,999

Stephan Rosenthal

\$20,000–\$49,999

Pro Bono Publico
Foundation

Volunteer Louisiana

Baptist Community
Ministries

RosaMary Foundation

Ella West Freeman
Foundation

\$5,000–\$19,999

George Loening

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McIlhenny Family
Foundation, Gustaf
Westfeldt

Noelie Alito

William Sizeler

Emanuel Blessey

Stacey Olson

We also have immense appreciation for all of our donors from our grassroots campaigns that provide donations less than \$1000. All financial support large and small goes a long way to support our ability to have impact in the Greater New Orleans region.
Thank you!

\$1,000–\$4,999

Louis Shepard

Betty Lauricella

James Lapeyre

Joel Jurtzberg

Amy Gainsburgh-Haspel

Eason Weinmann
Foundation

Lamar Villere

Christian Brown

Pattabi Seshadri

The Impact of Public Partnerships

Teach For America Greater New Orleans is grateful for public partnerships that enable us to recruit, train, and support teachers in our community



NOLA Public Schools

Through our partnership with NOLA Public Schools' System-Wide Needs Fund program, we recruited more than 20 new teachers to lead in classrooms across New Orleans, 67% of whom identify as Black, Indigenous, and people of color. The System-Wide Needs fund provided critical funding to bolster our recruitment and retention program.



Volunteer Louisiana

Through our partnership with Volunteer Louisiana, we have enrolled all of our corps members as AmeriCorps members, enabling them to join a national service corps dedicated to community impact. This partnership also provided critical funding that enabled leaders to jumpstart their teaching careers.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Teach For America Greater New Orleans is committed to using our resources in service of our mission.

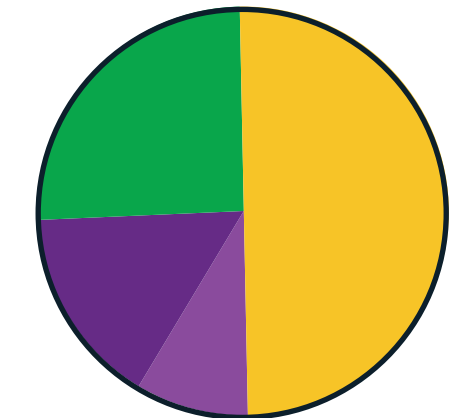
Revenue

- 22% Corporate Contributions
- 15% Foundation Contributions
- 11% Individual Contributions
- 21% School Partnerships
- 31% State Funds



Expenses

- 50% of our expenditure focus:
Core capabilities—talent sourcing, talent development, and talent matching of alumni and exceptional teacher leaders
- 31% Fundraising & General Operations
- 18% Community Partnerships & Innovation
- 10% Ignite





Contact

(504) 648-6900

greaterneworleans@teachforamerica.org

Visit to learn more and apply:

teachforamerica.org/greater-new-orleans

Social Media

 Teach For America Greater New Orleans

 Teach For America Greater New Orleans

 @tfa_gno

Donate



One Day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education.

 Teach For America