

WKKF INVESTMENT IN NEW ORLEANS

In 2008, following the community's recovery from Hurricane Katrina, WKKF increased its support of children and families suffering from high rates of poverty and trauma, naming New Orleans a priority place for its investments. We partner with organizations, governmental entities and communities to transform New Orleans into a child-centered city where children and families can thrive.

The mental and physical health of children and their parents is critical to ensuring they have the strength and tenacity to lead healthy lives. WKKF address the social and emotional impacts of trauma in New Orleans children by supporting innovative programs that help them process their emotions and give voice to what's going on inside. Additionally, the foundation supports the physical health of children by increasing access to health services and healthy food, including improving the nutrition of school foods.

WKKF believes every child deserves the best education, regardless of race or income, and focuses its work on helping children from birth to age 8. The foundation supports high-quality early childhood education, building the skills and knowledge of teachers and supporting approaches that engage parents in their children's education. WKKF works in the city's unique and diverse education system to increase the number of students who are ready for school and can achieve lifelong success.

Helping families achieve economic security is the most effective way to break the cycle of poverty for subsequent generations. The foundation seeks to build a network of educational partners, industry leaders and local employers that create career pathways into the region's fastest growing industries to effectively engage opportunity youth and young men and boys of color, so they can achieve success in work and life.

NEW ORLEANS SNAPSHOT

EDUCATION & LEARNING:

Children 3-4 year olds enrolled in preschool	7.2%
High school graduation rate	73%
Public school students considered truant	29%

FOOD, HEALTH & WELL-BEING:

High school obesity rate	16.7%
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births	9.3
Allegations of abuse and neglect per 1,000 children	13
Births per 1,000 teen mothers (age 15-19)	39

FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY:

Unemployment rate	7%
Child poverty rate	43.8%
Youth ages 16-19 neither in school nor working	18.2%

Sources:

New Orleans Health Department – 2007-2011
 Louisiana Department of Education – 2014
 New Orleans Health Department – June 2013
 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – 2007-2013
 Kids Count Data Center – 2010
 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics – February 2016
 The Data Center Youth Index – 2014, 2015
 Cowen Institute for Public Education Initiatives – 2015



PARTNERING TO SECURE NEW ORLEANS' FUTURE

In the 10 years since Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, the city has emerged stronger, earning the reputation as a resilient city. However, 39 percent of New Orleans' children are still living in poverty, more than before Katrina. At the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, we have been privileged to work alongside its residents on this journey through recovery and into the rebirth of New Orleans. Following are some of our partners working to support children and families in New Orleans:

Liberty's Kitchen

Brighter futures for disconnected youth

Liberty's Kitchen is working to provide young people a path to self-sufficiency and financial security through food service-based training, leadership and work-readiness programs. A two-year, \$400,000 grant from WKKF is helping Liberty's Kitchen expand the reach of its youth development programs. Liberty's Kitchen also operates a café and catering business that serves more than 4,000 nutritious meals to 1,500 students every school day and recently launched a bulk foods retail partnership with Whole Foods centered at The ReFresh Project.

Edible Schoolyard

Educating children and families about healthy eating

Founded in New Orleans by FirstLine Schools, Edible Schoolyard New Orleans is a comprehensive seed-to-table initiative that includes hands-on lessons on gardening and cooking to educate students about healthy eating and cooking, the environment and sustainable practices. A WKKF grant supported ESYNOLA's growth from a few raised garden beds to five teaching gardens and two teaching kitchens. ESYNOLA's garden classes are aligned with state curriculum standards in science.

Orleans Public Education Network

The power of poverty and school readiness data

A three-year, \$477,000 grant from WKKF is helping the Orleans Public Education Network fulfill its mission of rebuilding the education system by engaging the entire community, especially parents, on decisions impacting children in the city. The WKKF grant supports OPEN's ability to use the Early Development Instrument, which maps population data to identify vulnerable communities and assess the connections between child poverty and school readiness. OPEN amplifies community voices and ensures that the changing school environment in the city and serves the needs of vulnerable and at-risk children and families.

Silverback Society

Improving educational outcomes for young men of color

Founded in 2007, the Silverback Society recruits, trains and supports community volunteers to mentor eighth grade boys before they face the challenges of high school and other experiences. The society teaches, motivates and inspires young men of color to seek increased knowledge and strengthen their leadership skills. The Silverback Society has had an immediate and

sustained impact on young men of color in New Orleans, often altering the culture of entire school campuses. School leaders report that younger boys on campus seek to emulate the older boys who are in the program and dominate in awards for academics and citizenship.

Kids Rethink New Orleans Schools

Amplifying youth voices to improve education

The mission of Rethink New Orleans is to engage youth and help them become impactful leaders in transforming and improving the education system in New Orleans. A two-year, \$400,000 grant from WKKF supported Rethink New Orleans' efforts to empower young people to use their valuable, first-hand knowledge of the school system to identify innovative, actionable solutions to drive meaningful change and create a vision for improving New Orleans schools.

Institute for Women and Ethnic Studies

Supporting healthy minds, fostering community well-being

The Institute of Women and Ethnic Studies seeks to increase the ability of families, caretakers and educators to provide nurturing environments that improve the emotional resilience and well-being of children in some of the underserved communities before and after Hurricane Katrina. Supported by a three-year, \$600,000 grant from WKKF, IWES is committed to building community-based partnerships that support the health of women, their families, adolescents and people of color, including programs that cultivate both mental and physical health.

WKKF NEW ORLEANS TEAM

Joe Scantlebury | Vice President for Program Strategy
Rhea Williams-Bishop | Director
Deirdre Johnson Burel | Program Officer
Jonathan R. Njus | Program Officer
Christy Slater | Program Officer

W.K. Kellogg Foundation

1 Michigan Avenue East
Battle Creek, MI 49017-4012
communications@wkkf.org | (269) 969-2079