



Urban League of
The Upstate

ANNUAL SERVICE REPORT 2014

GREENVILLE | SPARTANBURG



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Urban League of the Upstate | Annual Report | 2014

Dear Friend,

Promote education, equip economically, and transform generations! This year, the Urban League of the Upstate began a transformation. We changed our mission and vision, began restructuring our departments and programs, all while providing quality services to over 4,000 Upstate residents.

I had the opportunity to travel with the National Urban League to visit China on a cultural exchange trip. We took a bus from the Upstate to participate in the 50th Anniversary for the March on Washington in DC. 100% of our Project Ready students graduated from high school with 95% of them attending college, enlisting in the military, or securing employment. We gave out more than \$25,000 in scholarships and helped over 500 students fill out FAFSA forms and prepare for the SAT and ACT.

We helped more than 238 families stay in their homes, 152 received emergency food & shelter, and more than 1,221 (221 direct services; 1,000 at Career Fair) people received employment services. Our new vision is a thriving community where everyone has the opportunity to live, learn, and work. This past year we worked hard to accomplish this vision and I know the information in this report will give you a glimpse of this work. Your support of the Urban League makes this happen and we could not do it without each of you!

Yours in the Movement,

Jil Littlejohn
President & CEO

John F. Slipke
Board Chair



Housing

Our Housing and Supportive Services Department prepares individuals and families to achieve economic independence through housing, financial literacy, and professional development.

Our housing and supportive service programs include:

- Housing Counseling
- Foreclosure Prevention
- Home Ownership
- Emergency Food & Shelter (EFSP)
- Senior Supportive Services



Everyone has the opportunity to Live

Ms. Sabrina Sitton, a married mother of two daughters enrolled in our comprehensive housing counseling program during FY 2012-2013 for assistance in avoiding the foreclosure of her home. She heard about the Urban League's housing counseling program from family and friends and decided to seek our assistance.

During the initial assessment, it was discovered these first-time homeowners were seriously delinquent on their mortgage and in jeopardy of losing their most important asset, their home, due to her husband's loss of employment. Our housing counselor gathered information regarding the family's hardship and the structure of their mortgage loan. The counselor completed a financial analysis and along with the customer developed an Action Plan that would identify the steps to a successful resolution.

Our experienced counselor and determined customer worked for several months and submitted a proposal to the lender. At intake, the mortgage loan was an adjustable rate mortgage (9.4%) with an unpaid principal balance of \$78k. Through our efforts, her loan was modified to a fixed rate of 2.0035% and a principal reduction of approximately \$19,500.

Today, Ms. Sitton and her family still reside in their home.



Education & Youth Services

Our Youth Services Department works with children and youth ages 5 to 18 to help give them the tools to succeed in their academic career. We also work with youth and young adults to help ready them for successful careers.

Our education programs include:

- Project Ready Mentoring
- Project Ready Pre-College Enrollment
 - Senior Signing Day
 - Scholarships
 - SAT/ACT Preparation
 - FAFSA Assistance
- Urban Achievers After School Program
- Right Step Juvenile Diversion Program



Everyone has the opportunity to learn

Kendreana Drummond

entered the Right Step program on November 12, 2013. She was recommended to the program because of a shoplifting charge. She admitted that it was a wrong decision. She stated that she wanted to attend college to become a nurse. Kendreana completed all of her community service and attended all of the mandated classes affiliated with the Right Step Program. Kendreana completed the program on April 1, 2014, and we are proud to say that Kendreana graduated from Greenville High School in June. She is now enrolled at the College of Charleston where she is pursuing her nursing degree!



Workforce & Employment Services

Our Workforce Development Department offers comprehensive programs that give adults of all backgrounds a competitive advantage in today's market. The League's programs are designed to put people to work, with supportive service to ensure their success.

Our workforce development programs include:

- Career Link
- SC Advanced Manufacturing
- Career Bootcamp
- Job Readiness Courses



Everyone has the opportunity to Work

I came to the Urban League as a last chance. It seemed no matter where I turned the doors were being shut. My driving force was to be a good role model for my son, so I was determined not to turn back to bad habits.

When I met with my Urban League counselor, she made sure I stayed on the right track. I first completed my GED and then enrolled into job training classes. I created a resume, learned interviewing skills, and how to properly dress. The first few interviews were unsuccessful but my counselor reminded me that giving up was not an option. My son was watching me.

After a few months, I landed a job at the Spartanburg Marriott. After only a little less than a year, I received an employee excellence award. I know I would not be where I am today if it weren't for the Urban League!



Mr. Durrell Floyd

Events

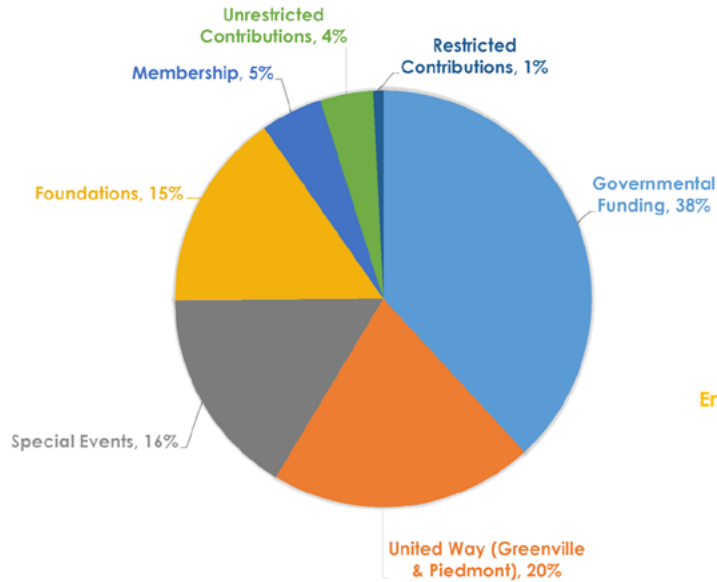
Our annual signature events provide an excellent opportunity for businesses to not only enhance their corporate image through event-related marketing, promotions, and networking opportunities but to also support our programs that make a significant impact in someone's life.

- Annual Business Meeting
- Equal Opportunity Day Dinner
- Whitney M. Young, Jr. Humanitarian Gala
- Career & Networking Fair

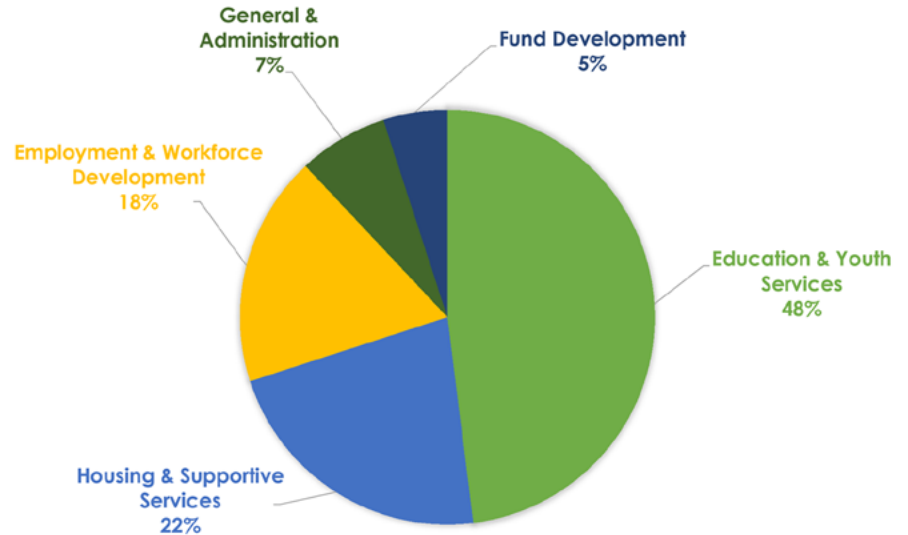




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\$1,364,662



EXPENSES
\$1,363,312

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and all you do for our community!*

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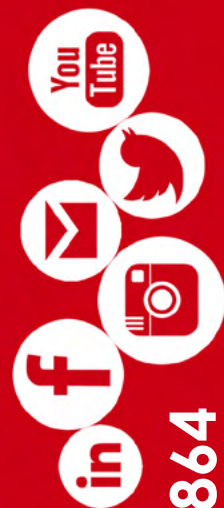
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