



**2018**  
***Year in***  
***Review***

**STRIVE**  
*How You Lead Matters*



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# A Note from Our Executive Director

And just like that, 2018 is coming to a close! What an exciting year it has been, and our plans for 2019 are no less ambitious. Looking back on the last 12 months, I find it remarkable how much we have accomplished — accomplishments that wouldn't have been possible without the continued support we've received from individual donors and foundations. Thank you!

The need for Strive's leadership development curriculum continues to grow as the body of research highlighting the critical role that leadership skills play in a student's academic and professional success grows. Increasingly, schools and communities are turning to Strive for solutions. Strive's proven leadership programs for students and professional development for coaches and educators provide support to organizations in building capacity at all levels.

Our year included the expansion of our Middle School Curriculum, the launch of Counselor Corps (Strive's new camp counselor training program), the development of new partnerships and, of course, continued focus on maintaining access to Sports Challenge through our need-based scholarship program. On behalf of the entire Strive team and our Board of Directors, I'm excited to share our 2018 results with you.

Thank you for your support!

Andrea Valentine  
Executive Director



# Sports Challenge



In July, we welcomed high school student-athletes from around the country to our 21st Sports Challenge leadership academy. We were excited to meet student-athletes from 12 new partner schools and organizations, as well as our first student-athlete from the state of Michigan!

Thank you to the Bacchieri Family Foundation, Premier Physical Therapy and Sports Performance, Kevin Morgan, and the Carpenter Foundation for sponsoring our keystone program!

*Bacchieri Family  
Foundation*



*Carpenter Foundation*

*Kevin Morgan*

**95** high school student-athletes



*from*

**15** states and **40** schools & organizations

*nearly*

**\$115,000**

in need-based scholarships to

**75** deserving student-athletes



# Middle School Curriculum



For the third consecutive summer, Strive’s leadership curriculum was taught as part of the Summer Learning Collaborative’s Tyler’s Camp, a summer camp for Delaware’s middle school youth that allows campers to have choice in their experiences.

Thank you to the Dodge Family Fund, the Laffey-McHugh Foundation, the Welfare Foundation, Kevin Morgan and the Carpenter Foundation for supporting the development of our Middle School Curriculum!

*Dodge Family Fund*

*Laffey-McHugh Foundation*

*Welfare Foundation*

*Kevin Morgan*

*Carpenter Foundation*

Through Tyler's Camp, 12 teachers received Strive's professional development and coaching as they taught Strive's curriculum to over 400 middle-schoolers.

We also continued our extensive research on the effectiveness of our curriculum and professional development.

We offered professional development and training in Strive's curriculum to **12 classroom facilitators** prior to and throughout the camp. At three of four Tyler's Camp sites, Strive-trained facilitators and counselors worked with approximately **400 middle-schoolers**.



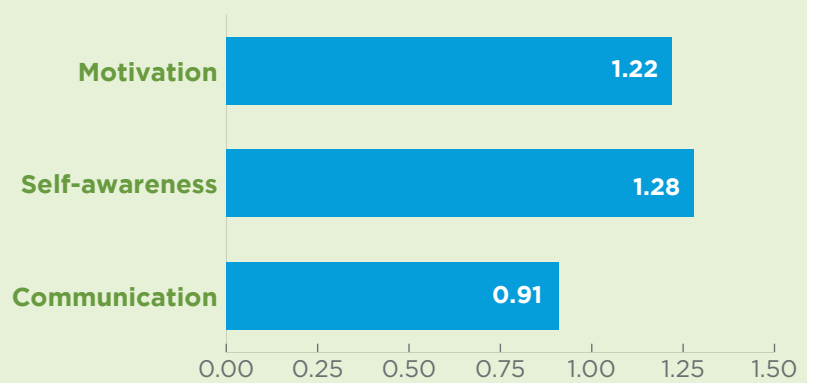
## Results

**YOUTH:** Results showed that the youth significantly improved in all three areas of focus for the curriculum: **Motivation**, **Self-Awareness** and **Communication**.

### Effect Size in Ratings of Executive Functioning Domains

Youth significantly improved in all areas of executive functioning with all effect sizes well within the zone of desired effects.

**The zone of desired effects begins at 0.40.** Effects were much greater than 0.40 in motivation, self-awareness and communication.



**FACILITATORS:** There was an **increase in confidence in facilitator ability** to teach social-emotional learning after completing Strive's professional development.

**41** teacher observations conducted by Strive staff

**CLASS:** Facilitators achieved middle to high CLASS ratings in each domain.



# New Programs & Partnerships



This year, Strive introduced new programs and established key strategic partnerships with other like-minded youth-serving organizations to develop new and innovative programs and projects.

“He was an **amazing counselor** and won the Counselor of the Summer Award. He **connected very well with the students**, had presence and worked hard.”

— Tyler’s Camp staff on Counselor Corps member



## ***Counselor Corps Program***

We launched Counselor Corps in June, providing leadership training to 30 youth who were hired by the Wilmington, Delaware, Department of Parks and Recreation Youth Career Development program to be counselors at Tyler's Camp.

## ***Live Like Blaine***

Live Like Blaine will be working with Strive as part of a multi-year partnership in which Strive will create a customized curriculum to reach female student-athletes for years to come. The Live Like Blaine Foundation honors the legacy of student-athlete Blaine Steinberg with a year-long leadership development program for high school female athletes. The program will showcase Strive programming in classroom and retreat settings and through the training of mentors. Strive will both facilitate sessions and train mentors to deliver lessons independently.

## ***DreamChasers***

Building on a relationship developed through our Tyler's Camp involvement in 2017, Strive will partner with DreamChasers to customize its curriculum for use in serving students through after-school programs in Wilmington, Delaware. The program will focus on building grit and social-emotional skills in students alongside DreamChasers' existing college access programming.





# In the Community



Throughout the year, Strive and members of our team sought innovative ways to engage and support key initiatives in and around our community of Wilmington, Delaware. These initiatives included The Teen Warehouse project, Serviam Girls Academy, The Baltimore Ravens LIFT Conference, Delaware Futures and La Esperanza Community Center.

## ***Fall Fellowship at The Teen Warehouse***

As part of our work with The Teen Warehouse project, we partnered with Dual School to design and facilitate a Fall Fellowship for a select group of Wilmington teenagers. Through a combination of project-based learning and leadership development sessions, the fellowship prepared the teens for mentorship roles they will be taking with middle school students in 2019.

## ***Strive Leadership Academy at Serviam Girls Academy***

From January through June, we continued the Strive Leadership Academy at Serviam Girls Academy. The program, designed for sixth- and seventh-graders at Serviam, included weekly in-school classes, taught by Strive, that focused on grit, communication, team building and goal setting.

In 2018, Strive delivered in-person programming, through Leadership Workshops and other community services, to *more than 3,000 participants*.

## Leadership Workshops

**180** *hours of programming*

**2,400** *individuals participated*

**43** *schools & programs participated*

**20%** *increase in participants from 2017*

## In the Community

**600** *individuals participated*

**170+** *hours of programming*

**\$30K** *in subsidized programming delivered*

“I saw an ***awakening*** of ***leadership***.”

— Peggy Heins, President, Serviam Girls Academy



# Special Events

This year we grew our Strive community by continuing traditions and starting new ones. We love finding ways to bring our Strive family together!



## ***Virtual 5K***

Our 3rd Annual V5K set records across the board, with 277 registrants from 31 states, four countries and three continents. With help from our sponsors—Champion Body, CoreTen Fitness, The Mill, and Premier Physical Therapy and Sports Performance—as well as supporters from across the world—we raised over \$10,000. The event served as an incredible opportunity to bring together friends, family and strangers alike in the spirit of fun, community, health and supporting our next generation of leaders.

## ***Vitamins***

Vitamins is an early-morning circuit workout that student-athletes and coaches take part in every day at Sports Challenge. In November, we brought this highly motivational and energetic event to Wilmington for the first time!

Participants included Sports Challenge alumni and their parents, as well as Strive staff, board members and friends. In true Sports Challenge fashion, two outstanding participants were awarded green shirts for their embodiment of the theme of the day: gratitude. High fives, hard work, encouragement and saying “thank you” were the winning combinations for our awardees. We can’t wait for next time!

## ***Giving Tuesday***

This year, we flipped the script on Giving Tuesday by giving back to schools and community organizations. We delivered free “pop-in” workshops to Greater Newark Boys & Girls Club, Nativity Preparatory School of Wilmington and Operation Upward, spreading the power of character-driven leadership and gratitude.



*Champion Body*

*CoreTen Fitness*



# Looking Toward 2019

While there is much to celebrate this year, there is more work to be done. Our key initiatives in 2019 will include the following:

- Continued research and expansion of our Middle School Curriculum.
- Refinement and second-year implementation of our Camp Counselor training program.
- Development of new strategic partnerships.
- Relocation of Sports Challenge to Haverford College.

# WAYS TO GIVE

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## Visit Us Online

[www.striveleadership.org](http://www.striveleadership.org)



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## Follow Us

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“

Find the **best**  
**in yourself** to  
**inspire the best**  
in those around  
you.

”

— Kevin Morgan, Strive Founder