



Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools®

Program Description and 2013 Fact Sheet

The CDF Freedom Schools® program provides summer and after-school enrichment through a research based and multicultural curriculum that support children and families around five essential components: high quality academic enrichment, parent and family involvement, civic engagement and social action, intergenerational leadership development, and nutrition, health and mental health. In partnership with community based organizations, faith institutions, schools, colleges and universities, the *CDF Freedom Schools* program boosts student motivation to read, generates positive attitudes towards learning, and connects the needs of children and families to the resources of their communities. The *CDF Freedom Schools* model incorporates the totality of CDF's mission by fostering environments that support children and young adults to excel and believe in their ability to make a difference in themselves and in their families, schools, communities, country, and world. College students and recent graduates are trained as servant leader interns to deliver the Integrated Reading Curriculum at CDF Haley Farm. Since 1995, more than 100,000 K-12 children have experienced *CDF Freedom Schools* and more than 14,000 college students and young adult staff have been trained to deliver this empowering model.

Research has shown the *CDF Freedom Schools* program is making an impact in the lives of children and families across the country. In 2012, a four-year study of children enrolled at *CDF Freedom Schools* sites in Charlotte, NC found that over 90 percent of the children studied showed no learning loss, and 63 percent showed gains in reading and reading comprehension. In June 2011, the Harvard Family Research Project released a report called "Year-Round Learning: Linking School, Afterschool, and Summer Learning to Support Student Success." The *CDF Freedom Schools* program was one of the 14 innovative national programs highlighted in the report as having "demonstrated success in providing quality learning opportunities for youth." In 2008, a three-year study conducted for the Kauffman Foundation reported that students enrolled in Kansas City, Missouri's *Freedom Schools* program demonstrated significant improvement in reading. In summer 2013, *CDF Freedom Schools* partners served 11,871 children in 83 cities and 25 states (including Washington, D.C.).

Higher Education Partnerships:

- Miguel Contreras Foundation and UCLA Center for Labor Research and Education (CA), and Davidson College (NC) sponsor a *CDF Freedom Schools* program that is not housed on its campus.
- Alcorn State University (MS), Claflin University (SC) – **HBCUs** – Cuyahoga Community College (OH), Duke University (NC), and Stony Brook University (NY) sponsor **and** house *CDF Freedom Schools* programs on their campuses.
- California State University Dominguez Hills (CA), Greensboro College (NC), and UNC Charlotte (NC) house *CDF Freedom Schools* programs on their campuses that are sponsored by other organizations.

Public School District and Individual School Sponsor Organizations:

Academia Cesar Chavez Charter School (MN), Cincinnati Public Schools (OH), Covert Public Schools (MI), Durham Public Schools (NC), East Baton Rouge Parish School System (LA), Fort Worth Independent School District (TX), Guilford County Schools (NC), Hampton County School District 2 (SC), Helena-West Helena School District (AR), Kimberley Park Elementary School (NC), Los Angeles County Office of Education (CA), Marlboro County School District (SC), McComb School District (MS), Minneapolis Stadium View School (MN), Mount Airy City Schools (NC), Pasadena Unified School District (CA), Richland School District One (SC), Rochester City School District (NY), See Forever Foundation Maya Angelou Public Charter Schools (DC), and Sojourner Truth Academy (MN)

Juvenile Justice Facility Sites:

Four juvenile justice facilities run *CDF Freedom Schools* programs located in Laurel (MD), La Verne & Malibu (CA), Minneapolis (MN), and Houston & Katy (TX).

Homeless Family Shelter Partnerships:

The DC General Family Shelter houses a *CDF Freedom Schools* program sponsored by The National Center for Children and Families (DC). Guilford County Schools are serving homeless children at Greensboro College (NC).

CDF Freedom Schools programs in public schools, not sponsored by school or school district:

AL, AR, CA, DC, HI, IL, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, OH, OK, SC, TN, TX WI



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Sponsor Organizations:

Community Based: 47%
 Faith Based: 30%
 Public School: 13%
 Institute of Higher Learning: 6%
 Public Charter Schools: 2%
 Municipalities: 1%
 Juvenile Justice Facility: 1%

Program Data:

Children Served: 13,871
 Servant Leader Interns: 1,189
 Site Coordinators: 193
 Program Sites: 182
 Sponsor Organizations: 120
 Cities: 83
 States: 25

Intern Data (N= 1,189):

Male: 32 %
 Female: 68%
 African American: 71%
 White: 10%
 Latino: 7%
 Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander: 1%
 American Indian or Alaskan Native: 0%
 Biracial: 5%
 Not Reported: 6%

Program Site Locations:

1. Huntsville, AL	29. Springfield, IL	57. Winston-Salem, NC
2. West Helena, AR	30. Topeka, KS	58. Davidson, NC
3. Elaine, AR	31. Kansas City, KS	59. Trenton, NJ
4. Culver City, CA	32. Baton Rouge, LA	60. Las Vegas, NV
5. Altadena, CA	33. New Orleans, LA	61. Stony Brook, NY
6. Sausalito, CA	34. Shreveport, LA	62. Brooklyn, NY
7. Carson, CA	35. Somerville, MA	63. Rochester, NY
8. La Verne, CA	36. Baltimore, MD	64. New York, NY
9. Bakersfield, CA	37. Laurel, MD	65. Bronx, NY
10. Los Angeles, CA	38. Silver Spring, MD	66. Cincinnati, OH
11. Inglewood, CA	39. Covert, MI	67. Columbus, OH
12. Malibu, CA	40. Battle Creek, MI	68. Dayton, OH
13. Oakland, CA	41. Detroit, MI	69. Cleveland, OH
14. San Francisco, CA	42. Kalamazoo, MI	70. Johnstown, OH
15. Lynwood, CA	43. Lansing, MI	71. East Cleveland, OH
16. San Diego, CA	44. St. Paul, MN	72. Tulsa, OK
17. Long Beach, CA	45. Minneapolis, MN	73. Oklahoma City, OK
18. Washington, DC	46. St. Louis, MO	74. Pittsburgh, PA
19. Wilmington, DE	47. Kansas City, MO	75. Philadelphia, PA
20. Homestead, FL	48. Alcorn State, MS	76. Bennettsville, SC
21. Miami, FL	49. Greenville, MS	77. North Charleston, SC
22. Sanford, FL	50. McComb, MS	78. Orangeberg, SC
23. Miami Gardens, FL	51. Jackson, MS	79. Clio, SC
24. North Miami, FL	52. Charlotte, NC	80. Estill, SC
25. Atlanta, GA	53. Durham, NC	81. North Charleston, SC
26. Kailua-Kona, HI	54. Rocky Mount, NC	82. Columbia, SC
27. Chicago, IL	55. Greensboro, NC	83. Wallace, SC
28. Ford Heights, IL	56. Mt. Airy, NC	

For more information on enrolling your child in the *CDF Freedom Schools* program or starting a *CDF Freedom Schools* program in your community, please visit our website at www.freedomschools.org.