

# 2017 / 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



**ASAP**  
AFTER SCHOOL  
Activities Partnerships



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# WHAT HAPPENS AFTER GRADUATION STARTS WITH WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SCHOOL!

For ASAP, 2017-18 was another banner year for connecting youth to enriching out-of-school time experiences that develop important skills, foster positive relationships, and broaden horizons. While ASAP's initiatives continue to flourish in schools and communities throughout the city, more and more of ASAP clubs have set their sights on state and national competitions. With the help of the School District of Philadelphia and many other sponsors, an unprecedented number of students represented Philadelphia this year at national championship chess and debate tournaments around the country, in places like Columbus, Ft. Lauderdale, Washington D.C., and Chicago.

In the case of ASAP Scrabble, the rest of the country came to us as ASAP helped bring the Hasbro Gaming Championships to Lincoln Financial Field, home of the Super Bowl Champion Philadelphia Eagles. The event was the largest in Hasbro's history, with more than 230 of the best scholastic Scrabble players from the U.S. and Canada.

In addition to these programmatic milestones,

ASAP also saw its role grow as a leading partner in the city's out-of-school time landscape. ASAP has ramped up its participation in support of several collective impact campaigns charged to improve the well-being of city families, including the *Philadelphia Youth Sports Collaborative* task force, *Read By 4th*, and the *Citywide Out-of-School Time Initiative*. As ASAP hopes to seize the momentum created by these efforts, we have made key investments in our staff capacity to allow us to scale opportunities for youth and strengthen our focus on program fidelity and evaluation.

With all the new developments at ASAP, what remains constant is our network of dedicated partners, caring adults, generous funders, and stakeholders who answer our call to action each and every year. The activities and accomplishments detailed in this report are testaments to the importance of collaboration and community, and a celebration of all the many individuals and organizations who have helped us make a difference in the lives of children throughout our city. We are most grateful for your support and partnership.



*Justin Ennis*  
**Justin Ennis**  
Executive Director



*Wendy B. Glazer*  
**Wendy Glazer**  
Board Chair



With 140 clubs meeting weekly and competing monthly, ASAP Chess develops the problem-solving and strategic-thinking skills of more than 1,700 youth.



## BY THE NUMBERS

144 clubs

1,751 youth

94%

### Develop Positive Habits

ASAP club leaders say chess has helped their students develop habits that are important to their academic success

## FROM A STUDENT

“School provides you with the fundamentals, but it’s your choice to learn further outside the classroom. If you really do want to put yourself into something you can make it happen. Especially when you are supported by people like ASAP.”

Mateo  
10<sup>th</sup> grade

proud member of the  
Esperanza Academy chess team

## Philadelphia Scholastic Chess League

From November through February, more than 350 of the city's best chess players from 47 elementary, middle, high school chess teams participated in ASAP's 2017-18 Philadelphia Scholastic Chess League. These bi-monthly competitions put students' ability to focus and problem-solve to the test, with each match testing lasting up to two hours.

## State and National Championships

With the support from Lindy Communities, ASAP sponsored more than 100 students to the Pennsylvania State Scholastic Chess Championships in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in March 2018. Philadelphia students dominated the event once again, bringing back more than 50 individual and team awards.

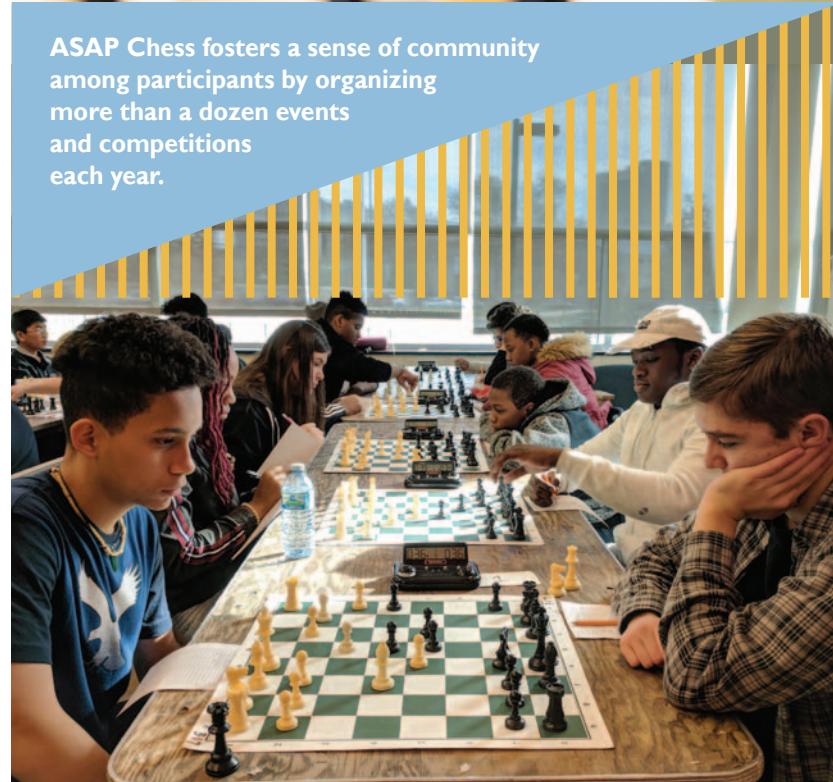
Later in the spring, a number of ASAP chess teams and students represented Philadelphia on the national stage, competing at the All-Girls Nationals in Chicago, Illinois and the United States Chess Federation K-12 Nationals in Columbus, Ohio. These trips were made possible through the support of the School District of Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Chess Society.

## Philly Girls Play Chess

In July 2017, ASAP held its 2nd annual Summer All-Girls Chess Camp, a week-long program designed to help girls in grades 1-12 hone their strategic-thinking skills while also developing close bonds with fellow chess-playing girls from across the city. Campers were visited by female chess icons Adia Onyango and Women's Grandmaster Jennifer Shahade who played friendly simul matches and shared their stories of perseverance and excellence in a traditionally male dominated sport.



**ASAP Chess fosters a sense of community among participants by organizing more than a dozen events and competitions each year.**





Through ASAP Debate, over 450 youth in 37 middle and high school clubs explore important issues while building critical reading and public speaking skills.



## BY THE NUMBERS

37 clubs

479 youth

100%

### Graduation Rate

Reported by high school seniors active in ASAP's debate league

93%

### College Matriculation Rate

Reported by high school seniors active in ASAP's debate league

## FROM A STUDENT

“I have realized the importance of understanding where the opinions and ideas of myself and others stem from, and how essential these ideas are to creating a more unified world.”

Dante  
12<sup>th</sup> grade

Reflects on how debate has informed his thoughts on gun reform following recent incidences of mass shootings

## ASAP Debate Competitions

Using topics selected by the National Speech & Debate Association, ASAP's debaters pore through hundreds of pages of evidence, including scientific studies, expert commentary, and major legal decisions in order to prepare written cases, oral arguments and impromptu rebuttals. Then at competitions organized by ASAP, students present their cases alongside like-minded peers from across the city. After each match, students receive feedback from their peers and debate judges trained by ASAP to help them refine their arguments in time for the next competition.

### High School Topics

-  Universal background checks on gun purchases
-  Employee status for NCAA athletes
-  Catalonian independence from Spain
-  U.S. capital gains tax
-  Presidential authority to use military force

### Middle School Topics

-  Free tuition for community college and technical schools
-  Genetically-modified organisms
-  Universal background checks on gun purchases



ASAP Debate provides a platform for young leaders to have critical conversations and exchange ideas

## State Championship

This year 18 ASAP Debaters advanced to represent Philadelphia at the Pennsylvania State Championships

## Summer Debate Academy

Through ASAP's 2017 Summer Debate Academy more than 40 students (grades 7-12) spent two weeks crafting pro and con arguments for a topic with great importance to their generation: Do social media networking sites have a positive impact on the United States?





For more than 1,300 youth in 47 clubs, ASAP Drama nurtures young people's powers of expression, teamwork skills and cultural knowledge through participating in group performances and attending professional productions.



## BY THE NUMBERS

47 clubs

1,346 youth

100%

Experience a Sense of Belonging  
ASAP club leaders say drama has given  
their students a sense of belonging

## FROM A STUDENT

“Performing lets people see who I really am without the shyness. I’ve learned how to love myself and love who I’m meant to be. I embrace myself and let others see who I am.”

Ceanni  
7<sup>th</sup> grade

cast member of the 2018  
ASAP-ASPIRA production of  
The Little Mermaid

## In Search of the American Dream

This year, eight ASAP Drama clubs followed an original curriculum entitled In Search of the American Dream. Over several months, students read stories and performed originally-devised pieces that explored themes central to the American Dream, such as class, immigration, and gender. To provide additional context for how the American Dream has influenced the course of American history, ASAP coordinated trips to professional productions and museums, including the National Liberty Museum.

## Multi-School Musical

ASAP Drama and ASPIRA's 3rd annual multi-school musical production of The Little Mermaid engaged more than 200 students (K-12) in every aspect of the show's production including set design, lighting, and stage management. To support the students, ASAP assembled a team of theater professionals, including a set/prop designer, costume designer, production manager, stage manager, musical director, and a choreographer. The cast and crew participated in four full performances total reaching a combined audience of 1,000 classmates, family and community members.

## Student Masterclass and ASAP Drama Festival

In partnership with the Lantern Theater, ASAP held its 3rd annual Student Masterclass at the University of the Arts in February 2018. The full-day event featured workshops designed to build students' performance skills and expose them to different technical elements of the theater arts.

ASAP Drama clubs reconvened in May for an end-of-year Drama Festival where students performed in front of their peers and competed for individual and ensemble awards.



ASAP recruits teaching artists and other theater professionals to support drama clubs throughout the city

# ASAP SCRABBLE

Through weekly play and citywide events, ASAP Scrabble strengthens the essential building blocks of literacy and mathematics for nearly 1,400 students in 89 clubs.



## BY THE NUMBERS

89 clubs

1,372 youth

90%

**Improve Classroom Performance**  
Teachers say being in Scrabble club has a positive influence on their students' classroom performance

## FROM A COACH

“After school, they could be anywhere. They could be on the basketball court. They could be in trouble, hanging out on the corner. But these are middle school kids literally saying: I don’t want to do that. I want to be a part of THIS. I want to be a part of the fabric that celebrates words, and celebrates knowing new skills and having the strategies to be successful.”

**Kelly Andrews**

ASAP Scrabble Coach,  
AMY Northwest

## Scholastic Scrabble League

This year's Scholastic Scrabble League featured 8 middle and high school teams and more than 75 students from District-run and public charter schools competing bi-weekly from November through February. League champions were crowned with a culminating tournament held at the African American Museum in Philadelphia.

## Hasbro Gaming Championships

In April, ASAP Scrabble co-hosted the 2018 Hasbro Gaming Championships at Lincoln Financial Field. The event was the largest in Hasbro's history and featured more than 230 students from across the United States and Canada competing for the chance to be named the best Scrabble team on the continent, including 115 students from Philadelphia!

## Community Scrabble Events

To connect Scrabble-loving youth and their families like-minded peers from across the city, ASAP hosts a variety of community Scrabble events throughout the year. This year's events including the Winter Classic at the School District, Spring into Scrabble at the Free Library of Philadelphia, and Keep Calm and Scrabble On at the National Museum of Jewish American History.

## Partnership with Read By 4th

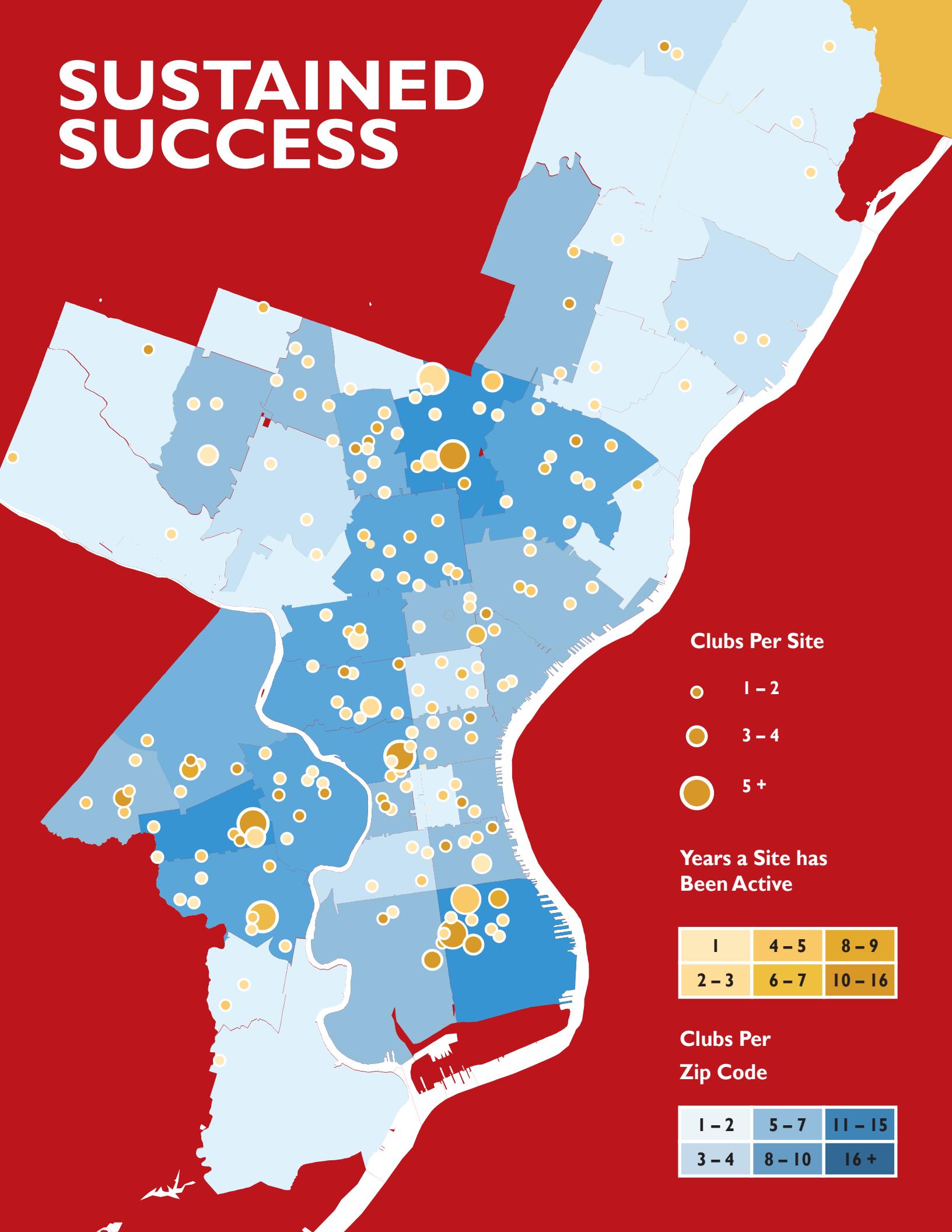
For the last several years ASAP has partnered with Read By 4th, a collective impact campaign with the mission to raise the number of children in Philadelphia reading at grade level by the time they enter the 4th grade. Starting in 2017, ASAP Scrabble Manager Janette Chien has led a monthly Read By 4th working group of out-of-school time practitioners and stakeholders to identify strategies for using the non-school hours to foster a lifelong love of reading among children.



With nearly 1,400 kids playing citywide, ASAP Scrabble is largest program of its kind in the country



# SUSTAINED SUCCESS



ASAP's program model can be adapted to a wide range of settings to help teachers, informal educators, and volunteers foster the personal growth and sense of belonging for participating youth.

4,948  
youth

317  
clubs

## CLUBS BY SITE TYPE

ASAP has coordinated programs in every zip code and nearly every public school over the past decade.

229  
schools

Public • Public Charter • Parochial • Independent

50  
community centers

Recreation Centers • Libraries

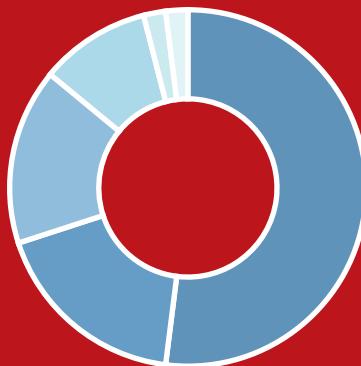
38  
other

Faith-based • Juvenile Justice Center

ASAP's greatest strength remains its network of partners and stakeholders, especially principals, teachers, volunteers, and after school staff. These relationships enable ASAP to sustain programs through periods of transition and to respond nimbly to the emerging needs of schools and communities.

## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

### Race/Ethnicity



- 52% African-American
- 18% Hispanic
- 16% Caucasian
- 10% Asian/Pacific Islander
- 2% Multi-racial
- 2% Unknown

### Gender



### Economically Disadvantaged

Using data provided by the School District of Philadelphia, ASAP places emphasis on serving schools with the greatest concentration of economically disadvantaged youth.



# ASAP DIRECTORY

With the help of the Philadelphia Media Network, the 2017 ASAP Directory of After School Programs appeared in the Philadelphia Daily News on Wednesday, September, 13, 2017, with more than 1,200 listings for sites that provide out-of-school time recreation and enrichment opportunities for youth in Philadelphia.

To highlight the role OST programs play in keeping kids healthy and happy, the Pennsylvania Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) signed on as a sponsor of the 2017 ASAP Directory and mailed an additional 10,000 copies to families throughout the region.

ASAP has begun partnering with the **Citywide Out-of-School Time Initiative (COI)** to redesign the ASAP Directory and find new ways to market the resource strategically to families throughout the city. To determine what new features and functionality are most important to families seeking out-of-school time programs, ASAP and COI hosted several focus groups with parents and family-serving agencies in the spring of 2018. The new-and-improved ASAP Directory, dubbed the OST Program Locator, is expected launch in 2019.

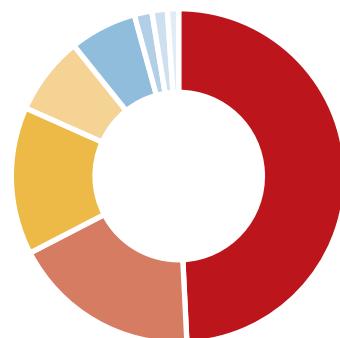
# 12,112

Online ASAP Directory Visits



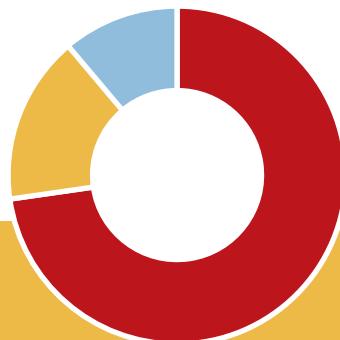
## 2017/2018 FINANCES

### Revenue



- 49% Foundations
- 18% In Kind
- 14% Government
- 8% Individuals
- 6% Corporate
- 2% Other
- 1% Earned Revenue
- 1% Investment

### Expenses



- 72% Program Services
- 16% Management & General
- 11% Fundraising

# IMPACT & EVALUATION

In September 2016, ASAP was selected as part of the Building Evaluation Capacity Initiative organized by the Scattergood Behavioral Health Foundation. Through this initiative, ASAP has worked with specialists from the Yale University Consultation Center to incorporate best practices for program monitoring and evaluation. ASAP's first step in this process was to refine the organization's logic model, featured below.



# ASAP SUSTAINING SUPPORT

ASAP would like to recognize and thank our sustaining funders for fiscal year 2018 who, through their generous support, assist us with improving the lives of Philadelphia's youth.

## Leading Supporters

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### Corporate



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- Eileen and Rick Bazelon
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- Nelson Foundation
- The Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia
- Youthadelphia

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- Mendoza Group
- Meridian Bank
- Philadelphia Fund Alliance
- PNC Bank
- TompkinsVIST Bank
- Wawa Foundation

### Government

- Office of Philadelphia City Councilwoman, Cindy Bass
- Office of Philadelphia City Council President, Darrell L. Clarke



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