Dear Friends:

2020 was a year none of us will ever forget. The year started with early warning signals of an impending pandemic followed by a break-neck decision to shut down schools and afterschool programs. Then came spring and summer, filled with the heartbreaking murder of George Floyd, a renewed call for racial equity and programmatic cuts that, like the pandemic, disproportionately affected Black and Brown youth. The fall brought a delayed start to the school year, a mix of in-person and remote learning, and emergency school and afterschool closures. Yet, as life unfolded amidst dramatic uncertainty, **ExpandED remained steadfast in its focus on New York City’s young people**, keeping the wheels of New York City’s K-12 afterschool system turning to advance educational equity.

Why afterschool? As 2020 validated, even in extenuating circumstances, afterschool plays an essential role in the lives of children, families, and communities. Throughout the pandemic, youth-serving community organizations have remained a nurturing place kids go to work on projects that build their academic and social skills, talk to mentors who help them process their feelings, think about their next steps and careers, and connect with friends. As Jennifer, an 8th grader from Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, said via video chat after an afternoon of online social activities and a hands-on STEM lesson, **“Afterschool is the highlight of my day.”**

As the largest nonprofit focused on strengthening New York City’s afterschool system, ExpandED brought stability to the afterschool sector within the turmoil of the pandemic. We supported programs as they innovated and transformed delivery models, and assisted educators so they could run exceptional online and hybrid programming. In addition, ExpandED developed new and exciting partnerships. Google.org invested $1 million in ExpandED’s Pathways Fellowship for aspiring computer science teachers of color while LinkedIn and RBC partnered with ExpandED to support work-based learning for high school students.

I am profoundly grateful for the financial support of the hundreds of individuals and institutions that made it possible for us to meet the urgent needs of schools, community organizations, families, and children across New York City. We compiled this report as a record and reminder of what we can accomplish when we come together with the goal of ensuring that all children thrive. **ExpandED is taking the ten highlights below and all the lessons learned into 2021 to build an afterschool system that helps all kids thrive.**

In partnership,

[Saskia Traill](#)
President & CEO

ExpandEDSchools.org
5 BOROUGHS

4,215 EDUCATORS TRAINED

1,153 PROGRAMS SUPPORTED

119,740 K-12 STUDENTS SERVED

88% STUDENTS OF COLOR

79% LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS
I. ADVANCING THE AFTERSCHOOL SECTOR

ExpandED was founded in 1998 with the mandate to establish the nation’s first city-wide system of afterschool. In recognition of the need for academically, socially, and emotionally vibrant afterschool programs to fill the otherwise empty weekday window of 3-6 p.m., New York City responded. Today, a joint public-private partnership supports a system that currently provides afterschool spots to xx% of New York City’s 1.1 million K-12 public school students.

The work, however, is far from over. Today, ExpandED continues to advocate for funds to support and grow the afterschool sector, with the aim of ensuring that eventually 80% of New York City students will have access to afterschool programs that support their academic, extracurricular, and social-emotional growth.

As the leading afterschool intermediary, ExpandED distributes the funds it secures to community-based organizations that operate over 1,000 afterschool programs that collectively serve more than 100,000 students across the five boroughs of New York City. In all five boroughs, providing over 100,000 students per year with access to engaging, hands-on learning projects in literacy and STEM, fun extracurricular activities, and social and emotional support. By providing ongoing professional development for afterschool educators and developing innovative programming available to all afterschool programs throughout the city, ExpandED works to elevate afterschool quality and achieve real results for students.

As an afterschool systems-builder, ExpandED looks at the afterschool hours as an opportunity to address a variety of needs. In addition to filling the afterschool hours for younger students, ExpandED also supports middle and high school STEM and work-based learning programs that give middle and high school students the chance to learn about careers and develop professional skills with an eye to 21st Century workforce requirements. And, in an effort to diversify the teaching profession, which remains overwhelmingly white and female, ExpandED’s Pathways Fellowship places aspiring teachers of color as afterschool educators, giving them the chance to develop their teaching skills and confidence.

The afterschool hours provide a tremendous opportunity to address many of the issues facing us today. By building and advancing the afterschool sector, ExpandED endeavors to make the afterschool hours as meaningful as they can be for students, families, and communities with an eye towards contributing to a more equitable and just society.

2. SERVING AFTERSCHOOL PROVIDERS

ExpandED works in service to nonprofits running school-based afterschool programs throughout the five boroughs. ExpandED supports these organizations in a variety of ways. In some cases, ExpandED provides funds to nonprofits so they can operate programs and offers coaching and professional development to increase quality. Organizations may also choose to adopt an enrichment model developed, tested, and scaled by ExpandED. ExpandED ensures fidelity to the models and tracks outcomes. In 2020, we were excited to expand evidence-based models for advancing Social-Emotional Learning (SEL), literacy, STEM, and work-based learning.

3. DEVELOPING AFTERSCHOOL EDUCATORS & ASPIRING EDUCATORS

When ExpandED set out to establish and support the afterschool sector it knew that great programs would require trained professionals. In order to reach this high bar, ExpandED established a professional development training facility to provide educators with the training they would need to run effective programs. Throughout the year, ExpandED typically runs more than 200 trainings for more than 4,000 afterschool educators. Topics run the gamut from building relationships with young people to using books to explore social and emotional themes to infusing computational thinking into afterschool activities.
AS AN ARCHITECT OF NEW YORK CITY’S AFTERSCHOOL SYSTEM, EXPANDED has a long and deep history with the agencies and policymakers who decide how to allocate public funds. When Covid hit and New York City and State faced sharp drops in revenue, ExpandED leveraged its relationships to stave off cuts and help protect more than $400 million in city and state funding for afterschool programs. And in fiscal year 2020, ExpandED directly awarded $4.7 million in grants to 59 unique organizations across the five boroughs.

Communities and families have continued to rely on these programs throughout the pandemic for social and emotional connection and support, learning opportunities, and homework help. Online advocacy efforts replaced the usual face-to-face interactions, successfully driving home the point that #AfterschoolIsEssential.
In April 2020, as the pandemic was deeply affecting New York City’s families, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the elimination of the Summer Youth Employment Program, which annually provides paid summer jobs to 70,000 youth, a portion of whom receive skills training through programs ExpandED supports. Aware of the devastating impact this would have, ExpandED spearheaded a tri-sector collaboration—the Youth Empowerment Summer, or YES—to advocate for and develop a solution to provide young people with access to virtual work-based learning experiences.

Together with more than 100 partners from the nonprofit, government, and corporate sectors, ExpandED successfully advocated to restore $52 million in public funding and raised more than $2 million in private sector funds. The private innovation funds allowed us to design high-quality work-based learning and fund a cohort of nonprofit partners who designed content to support providers in delivering programming.

As a result, 35,000 young people throughout New York City learned business concepts and professional skills such as project management, communication, and collaboration in teams while building their peer and professional networks. Work experiences provided a stipend that for many was critical to covering their families’ basic expenses.

“"It’s nice to start off the day knowing that people are there for you and then I get the chance to learn.”

— Leomary, 18
LAST SPRING, AS NEW YORK CITY EMERGED AS THE EPICENTER OF THE PANDEMIC THAT LAID BARE SYSTEMS OF RACIAL INJUSTICE, New Yorkers sought ways to take action. Companies including LinkedIn and Royal Bank of Canada along with the technology trade group Tech:NYC turned to ExpandED to see what they could do. ExpandED gratefully connected these businesses to community-based organizations that traditionally manage summer jobs programs. Together, more than 1,000 corporate partners created virtual experiences that gave young people the chance to grapple with real business issues, design solutions, engage with mentors, and build skills. It was a lesson in creative problem-solving and the power of partnership between K–12 education and corporate America that will have long-term implications.

Q&A WITH KAPIL DATTANI OF LINKEDIN

What made you think about starting a mentoring program?

This year was certainly a wake-up call for everyone to ask themselves what they should be doing to continuously foster an inclusive society. When I self-reflected around what I could be doing better, I realized I had access to so much that I could share, including meaningful relationships with a network of people who want to give and an employer that helps professionals grow in their own capacity. In return, I wanted to learn on a consistent basis about the needs of young people.

I took this concept and approached my manager (Rachel Steinberg) and colleague (Michael Levine), both ExpandED board members, and we brainstormed about a way to bring everything to life. We decided to build a program that centered young people’s needs, set a measurable end goal and offered a consistent schedule to give relationships the chance to develop.

Read the full interview:
bit.ly/ExpandEDLinkedIn.
As one of 28 afterschool intermediaries from around the U.S. to participate in the Every Hour Counts Coalition, and as the proud fiscal agent and home to Every Hour Counts, ExpandED contributes to a national conversation about the needs of young people across America. The coalition came together to generate policy recommendations for the incoming Presidential administration. The Biden-Harris Presidential Transition Memorandum resulted in a call with members of the new administration in which the Every Hour Counts coalition further pressed its priorities, including $50 billion in critical support for communities and $500 million for community learning centers.
In 2020, ExpandED helped afterschool programs get online, trained educators to run engaging virtual programs, and assisted partners as they re-engineered service delivery. The Department of Youth and Community Development requested that ExpandED support the community organizations that run the City’s Learning Labs, established for children of essential workers who could not be with children on remote learning school days. During the fall of 2020, ExpandED trained over 500 Learning Labs staff members and developed three manuals explaining how to use the DYCD Connect data management system to report on their progress.

Looking ahead to 2021 and beyond, ExpandED will work with educators and providers to sustain technological innovations. The goal will be to boost quality for the field in terms of access to online training and useful pedagogical resources, collaboration across vast geographical areas, and increased efficiency collecting and utilizing qualitative and quantitative data on programming.

How satisfied are you with ExpandED Schools’ support?

98% of respondents indicated that they were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with our support.
EXPANDED SUPPORTS NEW YORK CITY AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS to offer relevant and engaging lessons in STEM and literacy, which continued through remote, hybrid, and in-person learning throughout 2020.

Building from a federally-funded competitive research award in 2015, ExpandED introduced its STEM Educators Academy to more than 100 new afterschool sites across New York City in 2020. Through a partnership with the New York Hall of Science, ExpandED offers 60 afterschool-tested lesson plans and instructional videos to train teams of school day and afterschool educators to coordinate and run design-based engineering activities in afterschool.

ExpandED’s literacy team trained educators in evidence-based literacy models for early elementary, upper elementary, and middle school. Educators learned about working with young people in remote settings, how to optimize online read-alouds for young children, overcome the physical distance to engage students with texts, and use culturally-diverse poems, song lyrics, and books to address social and emotional needs and engage students in relevant and authentic discussion.
IN NOVEMBER, EXPANDED ANNOUNCED PLANS to accelerate the expansion of its work-based learning programs in New York City. Over the next two years, ExpandED will strengthen and grow the system of work-based learning programs for middle and high school students throughout the City. As part of the effort, ExpandED will train nonprofit and school staff and disseminate tools to encourage career awareness and exploration, skill development, and post-secondary planning for college and career. To increase access to work-based learning, ExpandED will leverage its relationships to unite the business sector, public institutions, and nonprofit organizations to provide young people with career-development opportunities to strengthen their prospects and address post-pandemic workforce needs.
WHAT WOULD AFTERSCHOOL LOOK LIKE IF EDUCATORS DESIGNED ACTIVITIES USING BEST PRACTICES IN SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING?

In 2020, ExpandED and national partner Every Hour Counts worked to answer these questions through the National SEL Demonstration Initiative. Launched in 2016 with generous funding from New York Life Foundation, the initiative trains middle-school partners in practices designed to inspire student engagement, success, and positive identity formation. In 2020, the initiative—more relevant than ever given the pandemic and renewed call for racial equity—grew from three to five cities to span New York City, Dallas, Omaha, Providence, and Madison.

Q&A WITH JACQUES NOISETTE
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

What will happen in the second phase of the National SEL Demonstration Initiative?

As we work with our counterparts across the five cities, we will concentrate on three key areas. First, we want to enhance the focus on educational equity by integrating policy and practices that could lead to systemic change. Second, we want to increase opportunities for youth agency and family engagement through locally designed innovative approaches. Lastly, we want to strengthen SEL in the expanded-learning field nationally by growing our learning community and disseminating best practices.

What have been the successes to date?

Through professional development, communities of practice, and coaching, we have built the capacity of more than 300 educators and have worked with community leaders across the five cities to support social-emotional skill development in schools and afterschool programs that have reached over 4,000 middle school students. We have received positive feedback from educators who have implemented the SEL strategies we teach, and we have made great strides in creating a culture of communication, respect, and agency among and between educators and students.

Read the full interview:
bit.ly/ExpandEDSELInitiative
Since the 2016–17 school year, ExpandED’s Pathways Fellowship has offered aspiring teachers of color the opportunity to explore teaching as a viable career path through work in afterschool. Over the course of 10 months, Pathways Fellows, who are typically juniors and seniors in college, receive training, mentorship, and personalized career coaching while completing a practicum in a publicly funded afterschool program. In October, ExpandED received a $1 million investment from Google.org in support of Fellows who wish to teach computer science. In awarding the grant, Google stated on The Keyword blog:

Google.org’s $1 million investment in ExpandED Pathways Fellowship computer science track will empower aspiring teachers of color from underserved communities to fulfill their professional goals through a 10-month afterschool teaching practicum. Ultimately, this will help increase the number of diverse computer science educators in New York City and nationwide.

WITH A TEMPORARY HIATUS IN IN-PERSON TRAININGS, the pandemic jumpstarted efforts to use technology to deliver trainings and tools to more afterschool educators and programs. Before 2020, workshops took place in ExpandED’s training facility in midtown Manhattan. In the aftermath of the shutdown, our training team transitioned to online learning. In fact, ExpandED’s first remote training took place just one day after the stay-at-home order was issued. ExpandED offered 33% more workshops in 2020 than in 2019, and attendance skyrocketed. There was a 96% uptick in total attendees over the previous year.

In addition, ExpandED created new workshops to reflect the current issues of our time and help educators learn how to lead difficult conversations. In order to make it easier on educators to access materials at their convenience, ExpandED began using the online platform Teachable to store and share early literacy training videos and modules. ExpandED is now working on moving its STEM content to the platform. This repository of information will give educators from across the five boroughs access to the resources they need to build their skills and lead great programs.

Examples of some of the new workshops launched in 2020:

- Anti-Racism and Wellness in the Classroom
- Leading STEM Design Challenges Remotely
- Exploring Tough Topics with Children Using Books
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**FY 2020**

**NET ASSETS FROM PRIOR YEARS FOR USE IN FY20**

$2,316,563

**FY20 REVENUE AND SUPPORT**

$12,930,568

**TOTAL**

$15,247,131

**EXPENSES**

$11,619,833

**NET ASSETS YEAR-END (RESTRICTED & UNRESTRICTED)**

$8,831,546

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**2020 REVENUE BY SOURCE**

- **60%** Public Revenue
  - $7,726,465
- **35%** Private Revenue
  - $4,586,316
- **4%** Contracted Revenue
  - $523,845
- **1%** Other Revenue
  - $97,942

**2020 EXPENSES**

- **82%** Program Services*
  - $9,507,676
- **14%** Management & General
  - $1,637,331
- **4%** Fundraising
  - $474,826

* In FY20 82 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR SUPPORTED PROGRAM SERVICES