

Real Solutions Real Change

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



Strategies for Youth
CONNECTING COPS & KIDS®

Why We Give

James L. Wilson & Nancy Wilson Saunders The Marjorie H. Wilson Charitable Trust

Our family trust has been a significant contributor to Strategies for Youth (SFY) for the past five years.

We give because we believe that SFY programs have a positive social impact on the quality of life in many communities. We think it is important that police receive the kind of knowledge and training opportunities that allow them to interact more effectively with young people and that more youth have the same opportunities to learn to appreciate and understand our police. SFY has conducted police and youth training in many of our Indiana counties, including our home county of St. Joseph, as well as Lake, LaPorte, Porter, LaGrange, Steuben and Allen. To each, SFY brings new policing approaches through its *Policing the Teen Brain* and greater youth awareness through the *Juvenile Justice Jeopardy* games.

Based on its proven successes, we want to support SFY's efforts to reach other communities facing a serious and challenging issue, increasing law enforcement presence in schools. As more officers are deployed to public schools, and many communities face increasingly challenging school fiscal and social environments, we want to support programs that encourage positive communication between police officers in the communities they serve and youth in the communities they live.



Marjorie H. Wilson, surrounded by family and friends in South Bend, IN.



E. Peter Alvarez,
SFY Board Treasurer,
Law Associate,
Choate Hall & Stewart

I give to Strategies for Youth because I think we need a multi-faceted approach to better police/youth interactions. We need officers trained to use best practices when encountering young people and we need to work with young people in the community to give them the tools to avoid or de-escalate police encounters. We need more collaboration and trust between law enforcement and the communities they are sworn to serve, and I think SFY brings this vision closer to reality. By giving, my sincere hope is that more youth across the country will feel like they are truly being served by those sworn to protect them.



David G. Richardson,
Managing Director,
KPMG LLP

I give because I care. I care about our communities. I care about our law enforcement and public safety officers who protect our communities and help create an environment that allows our kids to safely thrive and realize their aspirations. I care about our kids' future and what opportunities they have to realize their aspirations to be faithful and productive citizens.



“Your financial backing is vitally important to advancing SFY’s critical mission. I thank you in advance for your support in helping SFY achieve its mission.”

—Stephen A. Landsman

Dear Friends:

This annual report summarizes another productive, impactful year for Strategies for Youth (SFY). SFY’s innovative programs, developed to improve better relations and understanding between law enforcement and youth (primarily inner city youth of color), are having significant impacts everywhere SFY presents them. SFY’s programming is materially reducing the number of devastating incarceration of youth for either no offense or minor infractions. SFY’s work is now being recognized nationally as best practice.

Here’s just one example of a huge win for SFY in 2017: the National Basketball Association’s affiliate, NBA Cares, selected SFY to be a 2017 partner for its NBA Legends youth sports clinics and mentoring programs. SFY presented our *Juvenile Justice Jeopardy™* game in 14 cities to 1,485 youth from St. Louis to Las Vegas, from Newark to Kansas City. The kids got so engrossed by the game that former NBA players had to come and coax them back to the basketball courts!

In 2017, SFY also began training officers in three new locations: Idaho, Maryland and Washington, D.C. We worked statewide in Idaho, and in Baltimore, and are training all 400+ officers at the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA).

The old adage, “Be careful what you wish for” could be applied to SFY as it continues to gain traction in communities and law enforcement agencies across the country. The increased demand for SFY’s programs outstrips the resources that are available to fulfill all the requests. Your financial backing is vitally important to advancing SFY’s critical mission. I thank you in advance for your support in helping SFY achieve its mission. Your recognition of the importance of this work is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Stephen A. Landsman

Stephen A. Landsman

Chair, Board of Directors

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New Partnerships

2017 opened up the opportunity for Strategies for Youth to partner with some new organizations to expand our outreach to youth. Youth at *Juvenile Justice Jeopardy™* games often start off with their arms crossed, acting bored or disengaged. It's exciting to see them come to life as the game progresses, jumping up to ask or answer questions, and responding to the scenarios in the game.

Empowering Kids Around the Country

The State of Kentucky was introduced to *Juvenile Justice Jeopardy™* due largely to the efforts of Strategies for Youth supporter and Children's Law Attorney, Amanda Mullins Bear. In 2017, the Kentucky State Bar Association sponsored *Juvenile Justice Jeopardy* games through out the state. *JJJ* was even featured at the annual Kentucky Bar Association Conference in May 2017.

JJJ received a warm welcome at Baltimore recreation centers, court programs and after school programs. "Communities desperately need the *JJJ* game to save the lives of our youth," said Rhea Butler of the YMCA Weinberg Center of Baltimore. "This game fills a gap," added Jerrell Bratcher, a community organizer. "We need a mechanism for these discussions and *JJJ* offers it. Kids don't feel lectured or threatened. They come out feeling empowered because they get to voice their opinions and ask questions."

SFY also developed custom programs in 2017 for Washington D.C. Metropolitan Transit Authority officers to present to youth. The programs help explain the rules of conduct on the public transportation, on waiting platforms, and point out the dangers of some of the risk-taking behaviors common with youth.

JJJ Partners with NBA Legends

SFY was honored to share a special partnership with the NBA in 2017. Their program, *Full Court Press: Prep for Success*, is designed to support the development of youth both on-and off-the-court. Their events enabled SFY to bring the *Juvenile Justice Jeopardy* game to youth in fourteen cities across the U.S.



80% OF YOUTH

say most of the *JJJ* game information is new to them

“*Juvenile Justice Jeopardy™* is a wonderfully proactive way to provide young people accurate information, help them understand the best ways to interact with authority figures and help them stay out of the juvenile justice system.”

—Amanda Mullins Bear
Children's Law Attorney, KY

1485 YOUTH

in 14 cities played *JJJ*
at NBA Sports clinics



Policing the Teen Brain™

Expanding Our Trainings



© Liz Hafalia / San Francisco Chronicle / Polaris

SFY continues to grow! In addition to our successful *Policing the Teen Brain™* curriculum for patrol officers, we now offer *Policing the Teen Brain in School™* training, as well as the newly minted *Parenting the Teen Brain™* training. These trainings advance our mission of helping adults to take a more developmentally appropriate, trauma informed and equitable approach to their interactions with youth.

Policing the Teen Brain™

Patrol Officers know that kids are different... what they don't typically understand is why. To fill this knowledge gap and to help improve their interactions with teens and young adults, Strategies for Youth offers the *Policing the Teen Brain* training. Each training is developed with police officers, involves community-based youth-serving organizations, and local youth who are invited to participate in role-plays. Methods of instruction include interactive discussions with adolescent development experts and psychiatrists, scenario films, and involvement of community youth. In 2017, SFY introduced this training in three new locations: Idaho, Baltimore, MD, and Washington, D.C. In Idaho SFY conducted trainings statewide and developed a cadre of trainers, *PTB* training was offered to the Baltimore police, and in Washington, D.C., SFY worked with the Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Transit Police.

Policing the Teen Brain in School™

More and more police work takes place in the nation's public schools, but the patrol car beat and the school hallway require different frames of mind, knowledge and skill sets. News coverage of troubling interactions between School Resource Officers and teens illustrates this fact. The *Policing the Teen Brain in School* training teaches officers methods of positive intervention designed to help avoid the need for arrests or use of restraints. The training also teaches best

PTB trainings result in
reducing juvenile arrest by

25-50%

“Officers reported that after the training, they were more likely to take an extra moment when assessing a youth's behavior and ask themselves what could be behind this behavior; therefore questioning their own initial internal interpretations and assumptions about that youth.”

—Alan D. Cole, Probation Dept.
Solano County, CA

1,211

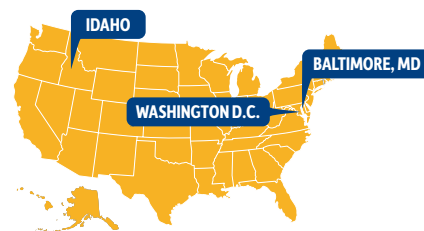
law enforcement officers and
School Resource Officers
trained in 2017

practices for working with youth in special education classes. Through interactive lectures, scenario-based examples, and discussions with child and adolescent psychiatrists who are experts in learning disabilities, officers learn how to identify disabilities, intervene successfully with those youth, and promote positive relationships between law enforcement, students, and school administration. In 2017 we saw an uptick in the number of requests for training law enforcement officers working in schools.

Parenting the Teen Brain™

Parenting the Teen Brain is a shorter training that helps parents to better understand their teen's behavior and learn how to collaborate and de-escalate conflicts with their teen. Parents also learn how to locate social services in their area for additional support instead of calling the police.

New PTB Inroads in 2017



© Liz Hafalia / San Francisco Chronicle / Polaris

“ Before Training: Youth are ungrateful, disorderly, stupid, unwanted. They don't care and we can't do anything about it. I am looking to get out of patrol for 2 days.

After Training: I now understand that kids want help but don't know how to ask for it. I will be more patient with kids. The training has better taught me to recognize mental health needs. ”

— *Patrol Officer with 7 years experience*

News Coverage

NEWS COVERAGE

From Indiana to South Carolina, from Fox Media to NPR, SFY was featured in local and national media 23 times in 2017.

CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY



On February 16, 2017, Chief Patrick Flannelly of Lafayette, IN, gave testimony in a hearing before the Congressional House Committee on Education and the Workforce. His talk on juvenile justice reform included a resounding endorsement of Strategies for Youth's programs.



In 2017, SFY was featured in local and national media

23 TIMES

Policy Influence

SFY continues to be committed to ensuring that law enforcement agencies adopt and enforce best practices for interacting with youth. One important aspect of accomplishing this goal is through policy influence at the local, state and national levels.

ASSESSMENTS AND POLICY REVIEW

In 2015 SFY recognized that not all law enforcement agencies have comprehensive policies to guide law enforcement officers’ interactions with youth. SFY created, with the support of Case Western’s Professor Gabriella Celeste of the Schubert Center for Child Studies and community organizations in Cleveland, a 5-part, comprehensive set of developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed, racially equitable policies, vetted extensively by the U.S. Department of Justice in 2016. This set of policies is being considered for adoption in Cleveland and was provided to the Baltimore Police Department as part of SFY’s work there.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

On the state and national level we were presented with a some important opportunities for thought leadership in 2017. SFY participated in 18 speaking engagements to audiences including lawyers, city leaders, law enforcement, judges, juvenile justice advocates, and community workers. SFY presented on panels at Georgetown and Boston University. Lisa Thureau gave the key note speech for Case Western’s Schubert Center for Child Studies in April 2017. SFY also organized a panel of judges to speak on police/youth issues for the National Council of Family and Juvenile Court Judges annual meeting in Washington, D.C. in July 2017.

In 2017, SFY’s speaking engagements reached over

1,200 PEOPLE



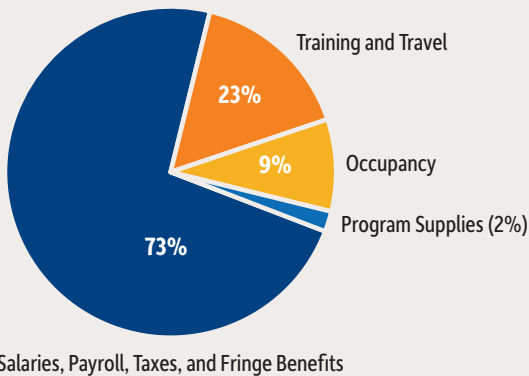
Lisa Thureau (L) spoke on *Race and the 4th Amendment* at Georgetown Law Symposium: *The Right to Remain Children: Race and Juvenile Justice 50 Years After Gault*.
Photo: Bill Petros Photography

Financials

SFY’s Annual Report covers the calendar year for 2017; these financials reflect SFY’s Fiscal Year, July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

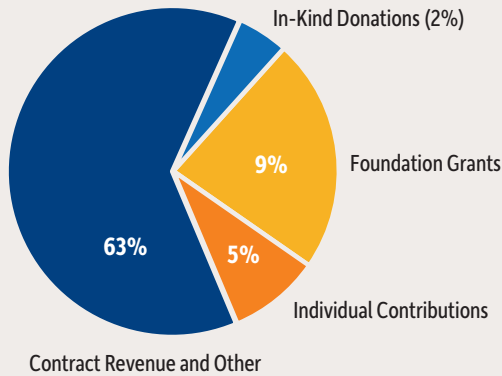
OPERATING EXPENSES, 2017

Total Expenses: \$902,497



SOURCES OF FUNDING, 2017

Total Income: \$906,130



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We are grateful to two legal firms, Holland & Knight and Choate Hall & Stewart, whose staff generously supported SFY with *pro bono* legal research and memo drafting in 2017.

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