



Mission and Vision

Now celebrating its 21st year of service to Atlanta, Moving in the Spirit is a youth development program that uses dance to transform the lives of children living in Atlanta's urban communities. Moving in the Spirit is a unique synthesis of dance training, performance, leadership and mentor opportunities that encourages young people to make positive lifestyle decisions, attain higher levels of academic achievement and cultivate a healthy self-concept. We reach over 200 children and teens annually with classes that **EDUCATE**, **INSPIRE** and **UNITE** young people in order to help them become compassionate leaders.



Population Served

Moving in the Spirit works with a diverse group of young people, including those from Atlanta's most challenged neighborhoods and low income families. During 2006-2007, we served children ages 3-5 (22%), 5-7 (30%), 8-12 (40 %) and 13-18 (8 %). Participants were 77% African American, 2% Hispanic, 5% Asian, 5% Native African, 2% Multi-Racial and 9% Euro-American. Moving in the Spirit provides need-based scholarships to approximately 80% of participants, to ensure that children have access to our programs regardless of their family's ability to pay.

Financial Statement

Expenses

Program Services	\$ 297,489
Management and General	95,228
Depreciation	6,828
Fundraising	<u>120,638</u>
Total	<u>\$ 520,183</u>

Public Support and Revenue

Contributions	\$352,516
Government Grants	72,173
Performance and Teaching Fees	45,684
Benefit Income	57,223
Donated Good and Services	53,583
Other Income	<u>17,982</u>
Total	<u>\$ 599,161</u>



Programs and Highlights

The Apprentice Corporation consisted of 13 members who received 7 hours of weekly instruction between September and July. These talented teens performed at engagements for Mayor Shirley Franklin, The US Social Forum, and Fulton County Dance Week. They also collaborated with Atlanta Young Singers of Callanwolde to create a new dance piece which they performed with the chorale. For two weeks in July, the dancers toured from Atlanta to Athens, GA, then to Asheville and Morehead City, NC, sharing their powerful dances with new audiences.

The Junior Company consisted of 19 members who received 4 hours of weekly dance and leadership training. They performed for local audiences at the annual Lynda Lee Scholarship Show, as well as for seniors at the Adopt-A-Grandparent program. Junior Company dancers toured to Augusta, GA, where they performed, conducted workshops and engaged with other youth groups.

Men in Motion dancers participated in weekly dance classes, life skills workshops and special field trips throughout the program year. These young men worked with Chris McCord to create unique choreography which they then performed in their own special show. Councilman H. Lamar Willis showed his support for Men in Motion by attending and introducing the performance to a sold-out crowd.

Stepping Stones provided 158 participants with 60-90 minutes of weekly dance instruction. These dancers performed in Moving in the Spirit's year-end show at the Rialto Center, for a crowd of over 500 people! In addition to offering Stepping Stones at our home theater, Moving in the Spirit partnered with the following agencies to make our classes available in a variety of community venues: The Study Hall at Emmaus House, Atlanta Children's Shelter, Refugee Family Services, The Whiteford Community at Coan Middle School and Warren/Holyfield Boys & Girls Club.

With the generous help of our donors, supporters and volunteers, Moving in the Spirit's 20th year of service was a tremendous success. We celebrated our **Anniversary** at The Fox Theatre with a gala that yielded over \$30,000 of program support. We kicked off 2007 on a new wood dance floor, made possible by **The Dewberry Capital Foundation** and Home Depot. Moving in the Spirit began an exciting partnership with **Atlanta Ballet**, providing our students with free weekly ballet classes at their studio. We also performed for over 3,000 K-12 students in Atlanta Public Schools through the revitalized **School Arts** program. Finally, board members, faculty, alumni and stakeholders collaborated to develop a 5-year **Strategic Plan**. The plan focuses on achieving sustainability, maximizing human resources, and strengthening our community impact.

Evaluations

Moving in the Spirit designed the evaluation component of its youth programs to be an integral part of our activities. We are delighted to share some of the incredible outcomes from the 2006-2007 program year:

Responses to the Pro-Social Behavior Checklist indicate that students raised their capacity to focus, enhanced their listening skills, and increased their ability to have positive interactions with peers. A comparison of pre- and post- test responses to The Piers-Harris 2 Self Concept Test shows significant improvements in students' self-concept, satisfaction with self, intellectual functioning, freedom from anxiety and positive behavior. Through a Movement Assessment, Moving in the Spirit determined that students increased their learned dance skills by 33% during the program year. Compared to Georgia's 56% graduation rate, 100% of Moving in the Spirit's 2007 senior class graduated from high school and went on to college.

In the year-end Feedback Survey participants stated that Moving in the Spirit encouraged them to improve in the following areas: participating in safe and fun recreation (88%); finding alternatives to gangs/negative peer involvement (86%); finding alternatives to using or selling drugs (86%); and working hard in school (84%). Parents stated that Moving in the Spirit encouraged their children to improve their team work and cooperation (96%), creative thinking (80%), and dance ability (80%).

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