

A large, circular collage of diverse youth and adults is positioned behind the title. The collage includes images of students in green graduation gowns, a group of young women in denim jackets, and a man and woman smiling. In the background of the collage, a banner with the text "RIGHT MOVES FOR YOUTH" is visible.

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

"Building Better Lives through extraordinary relationships."



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“ Through the power of group work and community collaboration, RMFY connects teens to positive people and opportunities that can improve their lives. We invite you to join us in this great work! ”

Letter from Board Chair & Executive Director

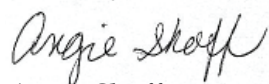
2020 has been a year of challenge, growth, and change for Right Moves For Youth. From the pandemic to civil unrest and calls for social justice, there have been many difficulties that have affected our students, staff, volunteers, Board and supporters like you. No longer could we meet our students at school. No longer could we meet together. Every aspect of how we engage changed, and this work has been hard. However, in true Right Moves For Youth spirit, the team significantly pivoted to find new virtual ways to engage students. The heart of this organization has met the challenge head on. The staff has continued to personally and professionally grow. We have modeled for our students the very life skills we are helping them develop: resilience, adaptability, flexibility, innovation, and courage to take appropriate risks that can lead to success. We were determined to move the mission forward.

Without you, none of this would have been possible. We would not have had the resources to pivot so quickly or so well. For your continued vote of confidence and support, we all say a huge thank you for your generosity.

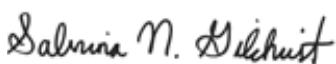
Your support of Right Moves For Youth has never been as important as it is today. As our students get back into the classroom, we will have more challenges ahead. We will quickly begin to realize the impact of the pandemic on our students. We will find more inequalities in how our students were able to respond to the challenges of virtual learning and non-existent social interactions. We will see first-hand how our students progressed with personal growth and how well they were able to focus on their individual plans for their future. I am confident that we have the right team in place to rise to address these new discoveries and needs as they help our students move forward.

Thank you for your continued support for Right Moves For Youth.

Sincerely,



Angie Shoff
RMFY Board Chairman



Sabrina N. Gilchrist
RMFY Executive Director



Angie Shoff



Sabrina N. Gilchrist



our mission

To help students in grades 6-12 graduate high school with a plan for their future success.

Right Moves For Youth (RMFY) is a school-based, youth development and student support program focused on helping teens develop the skills to succeed in school and life.

Using a group counseling model, RMFY helps students come to school, do the right things, strengthen social skills, and get ready for college and the workforce. In our program, students grow together and build positive relationships to excel academically, socially and emotionally!

Program Summary: 2019-2020

Many young people contend with social, emotional, economic and mental health barriers that can derail their educational pursuits. However, research shows that youth thrive when they build positive relationships with peers and mentors. Right Moves For Youth (RMFY) collaborates with the school system, local law enforcement, and other community partners to provide high quality, high impact youth development and student support programming. The mission of RMFY is to provide the resources and guidance to help underserved youth in grades 6-12 graduate high school with a plan for their future success. Our core program uses a group counseling model focused on: high school graduation; social-emotional well-being; career development; and, civic duty and leadership among teens. Through group mentoring and student support, we support the holistic health and social uplift of students. Due to remote learning of CMS students, we now provide services virtually. Upon return to in-person engagement, we will continue to supplement our work with a virtual component.

Other programs include:

- RMFY Ambassadors Program- This is our youth leadership initiative now in its sixth year. Students are supported as they tackle initiatives that are important to them and practice essential leadership skills that aim to teach the importance of giving back.
- Incentivized Programs- RMFY's "pay-to-play" intervention rewards students for good grades, attendance and behavior. By making the "right moves," students earn opportunities to engage in fun and enriching activities like our annual March Madness Basketball Tournament, field trips, and college tours.
- Service Learning/Civic Engagement- All RMFY groups are required to complete two service learning projects during the school year. Even though some of our students have significant challenges themselves, they report feeling encouraged to see that they have something to offer our community to make it better. These activities also help students discover skills, gifts and interests that they have.

The 2019-2020 school year presented us all with its fair share of surprises and challenges. These unprecedented times forced us all to do things very differently. What remained constant was RMFY's presence for our students and families.

WHO
WE
ARE

An
organization
in the
business of
building
positive
relationships
that develop
social capital





2019-2020

1,140
LIVES
CHANGED



184
VOLUNTEERS



99%
GRADUATION
RATE FOR
10+ YEARS



83%
IMPROVED
SUSPENSION
RATE FOR 10+
YEARS

200+
STUDENTS SERVED
THROUGH
ADJUNCT
PROGRAMS



66
GROUPS

98%
PROMOTION
RATE FOR
10+ YEARS



27
CMS MIDDLE
AND HIGH
SCHOOLS

Virtual Groups

66

Groups were in operation
across all 27 CMS sites prior
to COVID-19

200+

Hours spent contacting
students, parents,
volunteers, schools

68

Virtual groups were
facilitated following CMS
closures due to COVID-1

115

Students, Volunteers, and
Staff received awards in our
first ever Virtual Awards
Ceremony

138

Students were served
through virtual groups
from March-May

exciting programs + partnerships
for FY2020





The Bike Build with the City of Charlotte and The Spokes Group

Since 2008, the City of Charlotte, Right Moves for Youth and The Spokes Group have partnered to assemble, donate and distribute approximately 1,000 bicycles to middle and high school students from economically challenged neighborhoods in Mecklenburg County.

The Bike Build is traditionally a community event, where City of Charlotte employees and their families spend the morning together assembling the bicycles. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, two volunteers from City of Charlotte Fleet Management will assemble the bicycles this year, and Right Moves for Youth will deliver them to students before the holidays. “We had to scale down to ensure everyone’s safety. But we are still committed to building all the bikes on or before Saturday. It’s worth it to put smiles on kids’ faces when they get their new bikes this Christmas,” said Chris Trull, division manager for City of Charlotte General Services’ Fleet Management Division.

“Year over year, the Bike Build initiative has had lasting impact on the lives of so many children,” said Sabrina N. Gilchrist, executive director of Right Moves for Youth. “We are incredibly grateful that the City of Charlotte and The Spokes Group understand how important it is for young people to be seen, to be given a means of independence, and to be rewarded for their positive development. When our students receive brand-new bikes through this initiative, they realize that our community came together for them. They feel supported and become more motivated to succeed.”

“The Spokes Group has had a longstanding partnership with Right Moves for Youth over the years,” said William Beard, director of The Spokes Group. “We are more than happy to provide bikes as rewards for students.”

This type of adjustment is exactly why this long standing partnership has been so successful and why we say thank you again to the City of Charlotte and The Spokes Group.





24th Annual Twilight 5K Race

presented by



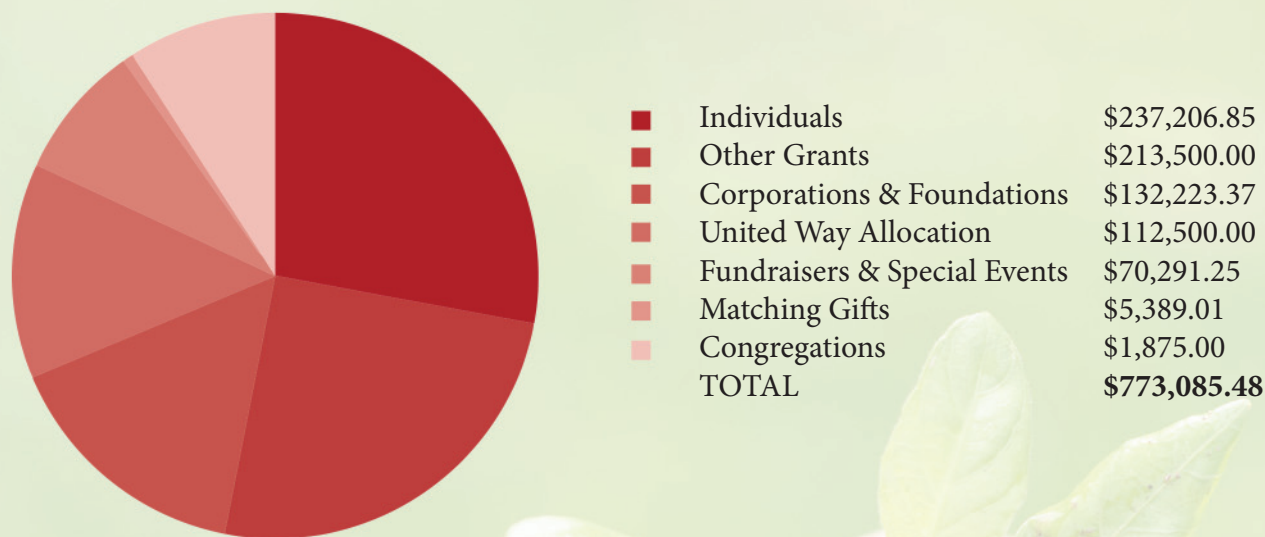
The 24th Annual Twilight 5K Road Race & Walk was a VIRTUAL success! The race began on May 8th and closed on May 15, 2020. Our virtual community of runners, walkers, and general supporters truly showed up for Right Moves For Youth! Thank you for continuously lifting our mission of helping teens graduate high school with a plan for their future success. RMFY serves over 1,000 teens in Mecklenburg County every year, and the Twilight 5K is our biggest fundraiser. Your support has been paramount, especially during such a challenging year. Thanks for your support in raising over \$70,000 for this year's Twilight 5K!

Special Thanks to our 2020 Twilight 5K Sponsors:

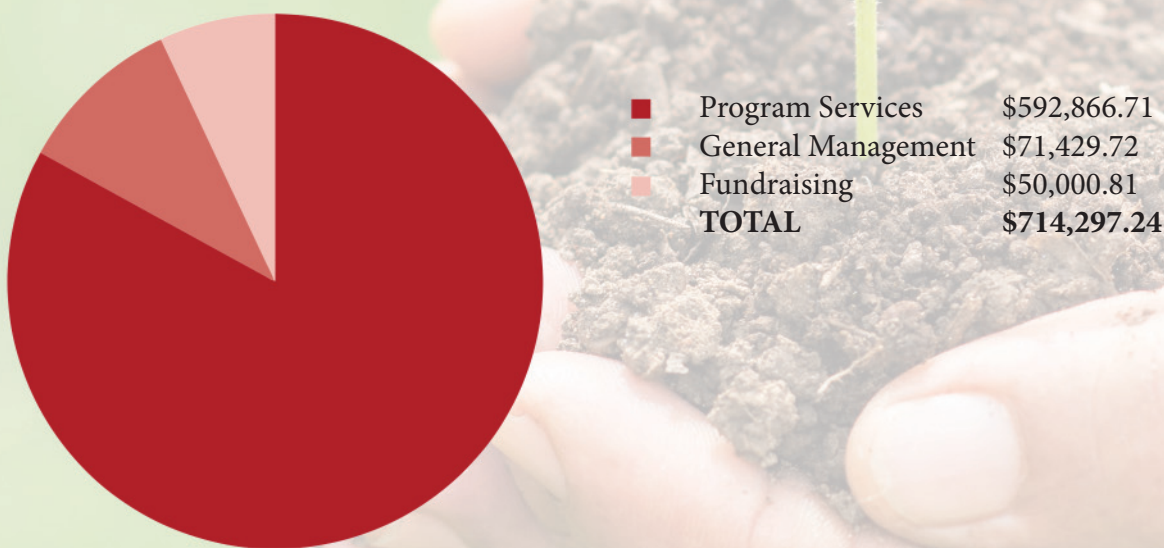


Financials

REVENUE



EXPENSES



our stories





“If my RMFY family hadn’t been there for me during my loss, I don’t know what I would have done! Their faith, encouragement and guidance helped me stay on track during the most difficult experience I’ve had in my life, the passing of my father my junior year of high school.” (Serena)

Right Moves has impacted my life in numerous ways. I’ve been in Right Moves for about 4 years now & enjoyed each and every year. Right Moves has helped me grow and learn more about myself. When I first joined I was this shy girl that didn’t know anyone but Right Moves helped me step out of my comfort zone & open up to new environments. As of 9th grade I was blessed to have the opportunity to become an ambassador and that connected me to different outlets and help with real world problems. I hope to have that opportunity again. Thank you! (Cailyn)

Right Moves For Youth is so important to me because it’s a positive outlet. Starting last year, I really enjoyed coming, because I was able to connect with other people and figure out myself as a person. I was able to focus on myself and my future more and also be able to empathize with others. I feel like school doesn’t really focus on the students and what they need. I appreciate RMFY for listening to us, and helping us create a better future for us. (Harrison)



RMFY gets to the heart of the matter. Our program builds bridges made of extraordinary relationships and increased opportunities that improve quality of life.

This year is my 5th year with Right Moves For Youth and going to be 4th year being an Ambassador. RMFY has been an experience so incredible, they have taught me the values of teamwork and communication that I did not have before. They have been opened my eyes to new experiences and while we have worked very hard for our end of group project each year they make it memorable and fun. Each year I'm excited to join because I like how interactive the group meets are and the fun field trips the ambassadors have. I want to thank Ms.Allison who I have known the longest she has always been there for me and I hope that I will continue with this program throughout my high school years and after. Thank you RMFY for everything I can't wait to see what the future holds for us. (Krishelle)

I have been in Right Moves since I was in 6th grade, and I'm currently in 9th grade. But I have been coming to meetings and had known what Right Moves was for longer because my older brother was in Right Moves before me and encouraged me to join. Right Moves has affected my life in a very positive way. I've enjoyed my time in Right Moves and have always felt at home. Everyone at Right Moves is very kind and makes sure that you are doing well and has your best interests in mind. They encourage you to think of the future and assist in anyway possible. If I ever have any questions I always feel comfortable enough to ask. From my years at Right Moves I have been able to talk to people more openly and have been more social. I was always very nervous and shy to speak to people, though I still work on improving that, I strive to be able to be more social and Right Moves has helped in that process. All of the projects and public speaking are always fun and that makes it feel easier to speak in front of everyone, especially since everyone at Right Moves is always kind. My time at Right Moves has been amazing, and I always enjoy going to meetings and being able to do activities with everyone there. (Brianna)

Hear what our alumni are saying about RMFY...



Right Moves for Youth was critical to my success.

“Being a part of Right Moves for Youth introduced me to the support that I needed to pursue higher education. As a first generation college student, I was unaware of the many steps that the process involved but through Right Moves for Youth, I toured schools, got help with applications, and was fortunate enough to have been rewarded a scholarship to support my studies. Now, I’m a sophomore at UNC Greensboro studying Public Health Pre-Dental with a double minor in Spanish and Communications. Looking back at my journey, Right Moves for Youth was a critical part of it and I am eternally grateful for the guidance, as the wisdom and values that I gained through this group remain with me forever.”

JANA

Myers Park High School RMFY member
UNC Greensboro



It will ALWAYS come back to connected relationships.

“RMFY played an integral role in shaping who I am and want to be. This organization provided me with the mentors, resources, and support that I needed to achieve my academic and personal goals. In addition to receiving the Angela Dickerson Award, I gained professional and social skills that I still use today in graduate school. Most importantly, I gained lifelong relationships that are very dear to me. I am proud to be a RMFY alumna and I anticipate reaching my career goals with my mentors by my side!”

MAYA

East Meck High School RMFY member
Biomedical Science MS Candidate 2021, *Wake Forest
School of Medicine*

flashback



The Stars Have Aligned

It seems like only yesterday. Sitting on the edge of our seats in front of our TVs, several of us tuned in to TNT for the NBA All Star draft on Thursday, February 7, 2019. We didn't know what we were about to witness. All we knew was that our Executive Director had emailed a cryptic message that said: "Please tune in to TNT tonight at 7 pm for a big announcement." Nerves rattled. Drinks were in hand. Nothing could have prepared us for what we were about to watch.

At 7:08 pm, my phone started buzzing off the hook! Board members, former RMFY students, colleagues and supporters...everybody brimming with excitement as I held my remote control in utter shock. LeBron James had just announced that he had chosen Right Moves For Youth as the Charlotte charity his team would be playing for on February 17, 2019 at 8 pm at Spectrum Arena? OMG...

Ladies and gentlemen, the Stars aligned to support our mission: to provide the resources and guidance to help students graduate high school with a plan for their future success. In the words of King James himself, "obviously, we know how important education is, and how important these kids are..." Yes, we know; and we strive every day to support the development of over 1000 young people every year with the help of our community. We are building better lives through extraordinary relationships.

No one knew that since then, the world would be turned upside down due to a global pandemic and civil unrest. Like so many other nonprofit organizations, RMFY had to shift and evolve to continue serving our most vulnerable communities in new and innovative ways. We had to reimagine our fund development strategies, and use increased discretion in our spending. With the \$350,000 contribution from Team LeBron's win, we were able to add to our reserved funds to assist with sustainability, and to better posture us for expansion. Undoubtedly, that win was an alignment of the stars and Stars so that RMFY could continue to thrive during unprecedented and unique times.

With that, we continue to extend a warm thank you to the NBA, NBA Cares, NBPA, LeBron James and all of #TeamLeBron. Thank you for being Team RMFY!



Allstate and Right Moves For Youth partnership grows stronger each year as we both are committed to empowering young people with skills and confidence to succeed in school, the workplace and in life.

We are grateful that Allstate has been such a strong supporter, especially during such unprecedented times. Allstate served as the 2020 presenting sponsor for our largest fundraising event, Twilight 5K, held on May 8, 2020. Although initially planned as an in-person race, Allstate remained supportive as we transitioned to a virtual race due to COVID-19.

Continuously extending helping hands year-round, Allstate also provided a skills-based volunteer to assist RMFY with our marketing strategy through the Allstate Fellows Program. This three-month experience allowed RMFY to leverage the marketing expertise of our Allstate volunteer while providing her professional development and in-depth exposure to the inner workings of a nonprofit.

Most importantly Allstate's unrestricted support allows us to directly serve over 1,000 young people in our community and ensure they graduate high school with a plan for their future success. We salute Allstate's tremendous commitment to our organization and the greater community. We also accept Allstate's invitation to participate in equity training and leadership development in the year ahead.

We are so fortunate to have Allstate as an engaged corporate citizen sharing our passion for making a difference in the lives of Charlotte youth. Together we are positively impacting the present and the future through our investment in Right Moves For Youth Students every day. Thank you Allstate.



THANK YOU

2019-2020
DONORS



2019-2020 DONORS

Listing is of gifts received and processed from 7/1/2019 – 6/30/2020.

Adam Ford	David Hanna
Adonis Alexander	David Scheppepegrell
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Amanda Bonaviri	Delisa Tolbert
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2019-2020 DONORS

Joshua Carson	Ramesh Parthasarathy	Wells Fargo Foundation
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	Wells Fargo Foundation	

For the past 5 years, Right Moves For Youth has allowed me to make connections and have a creative outlet! In 8th grade, I was blessed to have the opportunity to be an ambassador and talk about sensitive issues, while also having fun and making friendships that last a lifetime!

- Lauren



THANK YOU RMFY Volunteers!

Our volunteers are invaluable.

Volunteers are the most important resource community organizations like RMFY have! What we do would not be possible without the help from committed and caring people like you!

The great thing about RMFY is that our organization provides our students with the opportunity to interact with other positive peers and caring adults like you! Our groups whether in-person or virtual, unlock the potential for our youth to expand their social networks, collaborate and share ideas for a greater impact on their community. Here at RMFY, we are all about cultivating extraordinary relationships that help to build better lives, not just for our students, but for everyone involved.

“Building better lives through extraordinary relationships.”

you can
make
a difference



YOUR SUPPORT
MATTERS

GIVE

Donating to RMFY is an investment worth making. For only \$875, the cost of a full year of programming for one RMFY participant, we can change the trajectory of a student's life. To help create sustained support to RMFY consider investing by giving a recurring monthly gift. For more information on how to give please visit: <https://www.rightmovesforyouth.org/invest/>.

VOLUNTEER

Make an impact and volunteer as a mentor, guest speaker, community connector, special events, or skills-based volunteer.

Your Time + Your Heart = The Difference

Any questions regarding mentoring/volunteering can be directed to RMFY Program Director, Allison Willis – awillis@rightmovesforyouth.org.

ADVOCATE

Use your network of personal and professional relationships to champion the mission of Right Moves For Youth by sharing our story. Please follow and like us on our social media platforms:



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