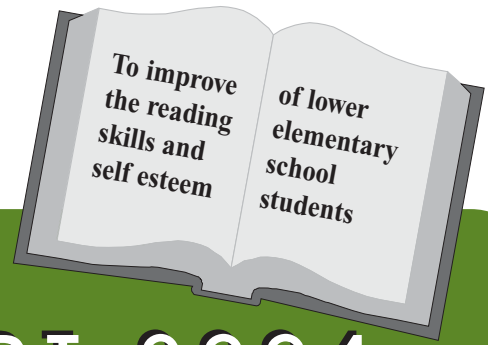




# STAIR

Start The Adventure In Reading

## ANNUAL REPORT 2004



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## Message from the President and Executive Director:

For nearly twenty years STAIR's children's literacy program has provided educational support to the New Orleans area public school system, enriching the lives of more than 4,000 second-grade children who were in danger of academic failure. During the 2003-2004 school year, STAIR maintained 26 sites around Orleans and Jefferson Parishes, serving children from 33 public elementary schools. The hundreds of citizens who donated more than 20,000 volunteer hours last year tutoring children through STAIR provided an invaluable service to this community.

### Accomplishments

In 2003, the STAIR program underwent a rigorous application process and was chosen by the state Department of Education as a **Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Provider** and a **21st Century Learning Grant** Recipient as part of the No Child Left Behind Act. After a site visit of the SES program in action at the Lakeview Presbyterian Church tutoring site, Department of Education officials reported that "STAIR offers an ideal program through one-on-one instruction with caring and con-

cerned personnel."

For the 2004-2005 school year, six STAIR tutoring sites are offering services to 120 children as part of these two government-sponsored programs.

### STAIR Model Programs

The STAIR program served as a model for a growing number of affiliate sites around the country last year. More than 175 second-graders were tutored by volunteers using the STAIR curriculum in Birmingham, Alabama; Lexington, Kentucky; Lewisburg, West Virginia; Port Charlotte, Florida, and in Ruston and Lacombe, Louisiana. Word-of-mouth advertising about the STAIR program prompted a number of inquiries from individuals, organizations and churches interested in starting affiliate sites, including those located in San Francisco, Reno, and Boston.

### Collaborations

The STAIR program is grateful for the bedrock support it received from the varied churches and schools that provided facilities and equipment for the STAIR sites each school year. Many of the members of these church congregations also served as

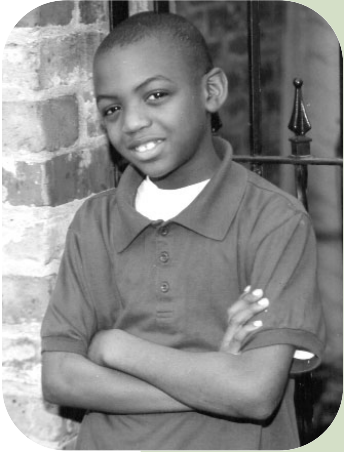
STAIR tutors. In addition to its community volunteer tutors, for the past several years STAIR has engaged in a successful collaboration with several of the local universities. College students at the University of New Orleans, Dillard University, and Tulane University are STAIR tutors as part of work-study and/or service-learning programs.

As we near the end of 2004, we are excited to announce the launch of STAIR's official website in November, and to commemorate our 20th Anniversary in 2005. We will celebrate this benchmark year with exciting literacy activities throughout the year for children, parents, tutors and volunteers.

R. Kent Mitchell  
President  
2003-2004

Ellen P. Gilbert  
President  
2004-

Sara W. Woodard  
Executive Director



JIM HOWELL, PHOTOGRAPHER

*“My child is more confident with reading. His word recognition has increased and he is not afraid to be challenged.”*

~ STAIR Parent



JIM HOWELL, PHOTOGRAPHER

*“My student always lifted me up with her sunny smile, glowing green eyes full of expression, and love and admiration. We learned, but we laughed and giggled as well. The enthusiasm and confidence with which she reads is exhilarating to both of us.”*

~ STAIR Tutor

## STAIR Facts 2003-2004

### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Every year, STAIR pre- and post-tests students using the Brigance Diagnostic Inventory of Basic Skills. The results of the testing for the 2003-2004 school year are evidence of the success of the program. Percentages indicate number of students post-tested scoring on the second grade level or higher:

- Word Recognition at 66%;
- Oral Reading at 69% (requires students to read short stories aloud with 97% accuracy);
- Listening Comprehension - Vocabulary at 89%; and
- Listening Comprehension - Story at 90%.

Most impressive are the results from the Reading Comprehension segment of the test. This segment has traditionally been one of the most difficult for students. Of the students pre- and post-tested, 68% were reading and comprehending at or above the second grade level.

## Volunteer and In-Kind Donations

More than 500 volunteers from the community participated in the STAIR program last year, including middle school and high school students as well as college students. While most tutored second-graders, others helped assemble materials during summer workdays, assisted with publication mailings and other tasks in the main STAIR office.

More than 20,000 volunteer hours were donated, with a value of \$520,000. In-kind services, which included donated tutoring space, transportation, equipment and professional services, exceeded \$330,000 in value.

## STAIR thanks the following churches, religious organizations and educational institutions for their support:

- Algiers United Methodist Church
- Bauduit Elementary School
- Berean Presbyterian Church
- Carrollton Church of Christ
- Chapel of the Holy Spirit
- Community Church Unitarian Universalist
- Cornerstone United Methodist Church
- Dillard University
- Edgewater Methodist Church
- Faith Cumberland Presbyterian Church
- Hickory Knoll Church of Christ
- Independent Presbyterian Church
- Jefferson Presbyterian Church
- Lafayette Elementary School
- Lakeview Presbyterian Church
- McDonogh #15 Elementary School
- Metairie Ridge Presbyterian Church
- Now Faith Ministries
- Parkway Presbyterian Church
- Peace Presbyterian Church
- Pilgrim United Church of Christ
- Presbyterian Women of St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church
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- Rayne United Methodist Church
- Southern University
- St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
- St. Augustine Catholic Church
- St. Cecilia's Guild
- St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church
- St. Martin's Episcopal Church
- St. Nicholas Children's Academy
- St. Paul's United Methodist Church
- The Alpine Class of Canal Street Presbyterian Church
- Trinity Episcopal Church
- Tulane University
- University of New Orleans
- Wicker Elementary School
- Women of Trinity Episcopal
- Woodland Presbyterian Church

# Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2004

ASSETS		FINANCIALS	
<b>Current Assets:</b>		<b>Revenue and Support — June 30, 2004</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 23,804	Corporations/Foundations	\$ 83,667
Unrestricted cash	21,441	Churches/Presbytery	36,025
Unconditional promises to give:		Individuals/Friends	71,125
Combined Federal Campaign funding	5,632	Federal/State	34,149
United Way Services funding	1,735	United Way/Combined Federal Campaign	9,409
Foundations	60,833	Book Fairs	2,467
Federal funding	14,651	Misc. Revenue	2,090
Inventory - supplies	250	Interest	262
Prepaid expenses	2,602		
Deposits	915		
	<u>131,863</u>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 239,194</b>
		In-Kind Contributions	<u>\$334,855</u>
<b>Property and Equipment:</b>			
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	41,696	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 574,094</b>
less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(26,267)</u>		
Property and Equipment, net	<u>15,429</u>		
		<b>Expenses — June 30, 2004</b>	
<b>Other Assets:</b>		Salaries/Taxes	\$ 203,076
Library - books and videos	<u>10,715</u>	Transportation	11,000
Total Assets	<u>\$ 158,007</u>	Curriculum/Supplies	16,892
		PR/Postage/Printing	6,961
		Audit/Technical Support	7,703
		Insurance	2,930
		Staff Development/Travel	560
		Depreciation	4,745
		Other	4,058
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 257,925</b>
		In-Kind Expenses	
		(occupancy, transportation, misc.)	<u>\$ 334,855</u>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 592,780</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>			
Payroll taxes payable	\$ <u>123</u>		
<b>Net Assets:</b>			
Unrestricted	76,443		
Temporarily restricted	<u>81,441</u>		
Total Net Assets	<u>157,884</u>		
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 158,007</u>		

*The following lists reflect donations made between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004. Gifts received after July 1, 2004 will be acknowledged in a future issue. Every effort has been made to accurately report the names in these lists. Please contact STAIR with any questions or corrections. Thank you for giving the gift of reading. Thank you for your support!*

#### Legend:

STAIR Champions: \$1,000+  
STAIR Benefactors: \$500 - \$999  
STAIR Patrons: \$250 - \$499  
STAIR Supporters: \$101 - \$249  
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Amber Houser
- Saturday Sites Coordinator**  
Arnette Seethoff
- Curriculum Specialist**  
Katherine Cole
- Administrative Assistant**  
Cynthia Delaney

**STAIR PROGRAM SITES**

**ORLEANS PARISH**

- Algiers United Methodist Church
- Bauduit Elementary School
- Carrollton Church of Christ
- Community Church Unitarian Universalist
- Cornerstone United Methodist Church
- Dillard University
- Lafayette Elementary School
- Lakeview Presbyterian Church
- McDonogh #15 Elementary School
- Now Faith Ministries
- Peace Presbyterian Church
- St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
- St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church
- St. Nicholas Children's Academy/Craig Elementary School

- Southern University New Orleans
- Tulane University/Reily Center
- Tulane University/Chapel of the Holy Spirit
- University of New Orleans
- Woodland Presbyterian Church

**JEFFERSON PARISH**

- Faith Cumberland Presbyterian Church
- Hickory Knoll Church of Christ
- Jefferson Presbyterian Church
- Parkway Presbyterian Church
- St. Paul's United Methodist Church

**AFFILIATE SITES**

- Alabama**
- Independent Presbyterian Church Birmingham
- First Presbyterian Church Birmingham
- Florida**
- Edgewater United Methodist Church

Port Charlotte

Pilgrim United Church of Christ  
Port Charlotte

**Kentucky**  
Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church  
Lexington

**Louisiana**  
New Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Mandeville

Presbyterian Church of Ruston

Trinity United Methodist Church  
Ruston

**West Virginia**  
Old Stone Presbyterian Church  
Lewisburg