What an amazing year we had at Launch!

It was a year of growth and a year of learning. As our mission states, we believe that it’s our duty to ensure equitable access to the highest quality learning and care for the children of our community. How we show up for kids and families matters today and tomorrow. We believe that investing in support for those in our community who need it most will yield incredible benefits both now and in the future.

A highlight of this past year was just that type of investment. We partnered with the Seattle Preschool Program and Seattle Parks and Recreation to open a brand new preschool facility at the Miller Community Center Annex, and began preparing for the opening of another preschool program at Delridge Community Center, which will open in early 2019. Together, these two programs will serve 100 children, doubling our preschool capacity and expanding our ability to deliver high quality preschool that is affordable and accessible.

We’re only able to accomplish our work because of the support of our incredible children, families, volunteers, staff, and supporters like you. Thank you!

Brianna Jackson
Executive Director
Mission

Lead the charge to brilliant outcomes for the children of our community by ensuring equitable access to the highest quality learning and care.

What We Do

Launch supports children and families by providing effective, affordable preschool, before & after school, and summer programs for children ages 3-12.

While we serve families from all backgrounds, incomes, and walks of life, a core part of our mission is to expand access to learning programs for children from historically underserved groups, including lower-income children, children of color, and immigrant and refugee families.

All children are on their own unique pathway to success, and our goal is to meet each child where they’re at and help them develop social-emotional and academic skills. Our whole-child approach is tailored to individual needs and strengths, and includes the services and support children need to blossom.

We strive to create an environment that fosters children’s growth, sparks their creativity, and is a safe place to discover new interests, talents, and future possibilities.

Locations

Beacon Hill
2025 14th Ave S
Seattle, WA 98144
(206) 328-7475

Hawthorne
4100 39th Ave S
Seattle, WA 98118
(206) 725-2252

Highland Park
1012 SW Trenton St
Seattle, WA 98106
(206) 767-4906

Kimball
3200 23rd Ave S
Seattle, WA 98144
(206) 725-9738

Leschi
135 32nd Ave
Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 323-9465

Madrona
1121 33rd Ave
Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 709-8887

Maple
4925 Corson Ave S
Seattle, WA 98108
(206) 768-2480

Miller Annex
301 20th Ave E
Seattle, WA 98112
(206) 227-6736

Montlake
2409 22nd Ave E
Seattle, WA 98112
(206) 323-8299

Rainier Community Center
4600 38th Ave S
Seattle, WA 98118
(206) 453-5966

Sanislo
1812 SW Myrtle
Seattle, WA 98106
(206) 763-5910

Administrative Office
5950 6th Ave S, Ste. 109
Seattle, WA 98108
(206) 726-7972

MEET PRESCHOOL TEACHER

Heather Harris

“There’s so much learning and curiosity and so many questions in the classroom. There’s lots of joy, lots of wiggling. Lots of friendship and empathy. It’s awesome! Their desire for justice, kindness, learning and discovery is a big part of who they are. I feel honored to have been a part of so many children’s lives, and hopefully I’ve affected them as much as they’ve affected me.

Who Launch serves is the same population I want to serve. And that’s what keeps me at Launch after 23 years. I teach dance when I’m not here, and Launch supports me in that. I try to bring my authentic self to teaching and celebrate children’s authentic selves. Launch knows that who I am is a balance of many things, and for me to be a good teacher I also need to be fulfilled as a dancer and artist.”
During 2017-18, we provided more than $300,000 in uncompensated care & tuition assistance to lower-income families.
In 2017-18, programs went on over 100 fieldtrips.

During summer 2017 we served:

- 125 children in our Leap Ahead summer kindergarten-readiness program

During 2017-18, we served more than 145,000 meals.

During the school year we served:

- 167 children in our preschool programs
- 716 children in our school-age before & after school programs

We provided more than 5,500 hours of training and professional development to staff.

We provided over 450,000 hours of programming to children.

During summer 2017 we served:

- 478 school-age children in our summer camps
OUR KIDS ARE READY!

PRE-SCHOOL

78% of our preschoolers were ready for kindergarten at the end of the year! The WA State average is 47% and the South Seattle Public Schools average is 50%.

LEAP AHEAD

91% of our Leap Ahead campers were ready to enter kindergarten by the end of the summer. That's a 22% increase from the beginning of summer to the end!

SCHOOL AGE

92% of school-age children achieved a “typical” or “strength” rating on a social-emotional skills assessment.

AHEAD OF THEIR PEERS ACROSS THE CITY & STATE
A Day in the Launch Life

2:25PM - Check In & Mindful Minute
After school, 2nd grader Ella checks in with her Launch teacher. Once her group gets settled, they do breathing exercises or meditation and talk about how their day was.

3:00PM - Outdoor Play
Ella heads outside for free outdoor play.

3:30PM - Supper
Ella’s group sits down for a family-style meal. Today they’re having tacos, her favorite!

4:00PM - Focus Time
Homework time! If Ella has questions as she does her schoolwork, she knows she can ask her Launch teacher for help. Some of her friends don’t have homework so they read a book or write in their journals.

4:45PM - Enrichment Time
This week’s theme is space, so Ella’s group works on making a 3D model of the solar system out of paper mache. Messy but fun!

5:15PM - Large Group Time
All of the Launch groups play a fun game together, like Noodle Tag or Park Ranger. Then Ella and her friends enjoy late snack before heading home!

GROWING & LEARNING

A Launch Story

Although Alia is a bright and loving child, she’d never been to preschool before Launch and wasn’t meeting academic and social-emotional milestones. Alia’s family had experienced homelessness, and after finding housing, money was tight and her home life stressful. The trauma of her family’s housing instability and stress caused some extremely challenging behaviors. But thanks to the love and support of her Launch teachers, Alia made huge strides. She learned kindergarten-ready skills like recognizing letters and numbers and writing her name. And she also learned how to express her emotions and calm herself when she gets upset. Now a 1st grader in Launch’s after school program, Alia is doing well and is on track for success!

MEET A STUDENT:
Daniel

Daniel is a 5th grader who’s been coming to Launch for 3 years. He says, “Launch is really good because my friends come here. I can finish my homework here so I can play video games at home. The teachers are nice because they actually respect us and listen to us. Lots of people have been supporting me.

Launch lets me be creative and gives me lots of ideas. This week I made a mothership out of 4 airplanes. It actually looks good, which was a miracle! I always get picked up at 5pm, which is totally a bummer because I can’t finish my projects. One of my favorite things that we did was once we made ice cream. Summer camp is really fun. The best field trip was roller skating. It was the funnest!”

“My child has grown so much emotionally and socially. He has developed a love of learning, and will often ask me to count with him, read, do a special project, or recreate a food he had at Launch.” - Launch Parent
We’re Growing!

In April 2018, we opened a new early learning center at the Miller Community Center Annex in Capitol Hill in partnership with the Seattle Preschool Program and Seattle Parks & Recreation. Miller Annex has four classrooms that can serve a total of 80 preschoolers. Two classrooms opened in April 2018, with the remaining two opening in September 2018. This airy, light-filled building was formerly a gym that the City of Seattle renovated and leased to Launch.

In spring 2018, we were also selected by the city to operate a new preschool classroom at Delridge Community Center in West Seattle, which will open in early 2019. Once fully open, Miller Annex and Delridge will increase the total number of preschoolers that we can serve to 200, doubling our previous capacity.

Both Miller Annex and Delridge are located in an underserved area of the city with a big need for affordable, quality preschool, and we’re excited to be a part of these communities and help more children get ready for kindergarten!
MORE THAN 50% of LAUNCH children were children of color or multi-racial

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL
PHYSICAL
LANGUAGE
COGNITIVE
LITERACY
MATHEMATICS

LAUNCH PRESCHOOLERS OF COLOR

met or exceeded age-level expectations on all 6 domains:

LAUNCH PRESCHOOLERS OF COLOR

at HIGHER RATES than children of the same racial background in Washington State, Seattle Public Schools, and South Seattle Public Schools.

MORE THAN 50% OF LAUNCH CHILDREN were children of color or multi-racial

A CHILD WHO ATTENDS LAUNCH FULL-TIME DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR & SUMMER WILL SPEND

1,250 HOURS PER YEAR AT LAUNCH which is more time than they spend in their school classroom.

29 LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY LAUNCH FAMILIES

23% OF OUR CHILDREN SPOKE a non-English language at home

A CHILD WHO ATTENDS LAUNCH FULL-TIME DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR & SUMMER WILL SPEND

1,250 HOURS PER YEAR AT LAUNCH which is more time than they spend in their school classroom.
Revenue

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Total Revenue $5,572,006

Expenses

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Total Expenses $5,505,241

*Contributions include fundraising event revenue net of expenses
THANK YOU TO OUR

Our Donors

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