

# Connection Community Improved Performance

### Report to the Community

My cucumbers didn't grow well this year – and it wasn't the weather. I followed my normal routine of planting on time and watering regularly, but I missed a critical element. I didn't pay enough attention to the soil. Without good soil, plants can't develop the roots they need to grow and thrive.

Children need good "soil" too. Even in schools with strong academic frameworks, students need a healthy school culture to flourish. Children need to know they are safe, connected, and that they matter so they are open to growth and learning. They need support in building the skills that help them self-regulate, become contributing members of the community, and to feel proud of their unique strengths. Sound Discipline works with schools and families to grow both the relationships and organizational structures that build the healthy "soil" for children to be able to thrive socially and academically.

For more than 10 years we've been helping create school cultures in which each child can grow and learn. We train teachers to *see and respond* to students as capable individuals; to help students learn how to repair mistakes instead of paying for them. We are encouraged when veteran teachers say things like, "This is the best start of school in my 26 years of teaching. The students are helping each other!" Or when we listen to students clearly, courageously and respectfully share their points of view with the adults in their schools. We are encouraged when schools actively seek *and use* input from their 7, 8, and 9-year old students.

There is more work to be done. **Thank you** for your investment in students and schools. With it, we reach more than 5000 educators each year, and support more than 30 schools coaching educators and using discipline data to change both systems and school culture to better serve their students. Twelve of those schools have adopted Sound Discipline's whole school model and we expect 30 more schools to adopt the whole school model over the next 2 years.

We are grateful to continue this work and for your generosity. Like preparing a garden's soil for a successful crop of cucumbers, this work requires patience and relentless dedication. It is what's needed to build a more equitable and empowering world for our children and communities.

Jody McVittie, M.D. Executive Director

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#### Thank you

to our many community supporters and to our Foundation partners for making this work possible.

BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation





## **Community Impact**



THESE EDUCATORS ARE HELPING

FOR MORE THAN HALF A MILLION KIDS 

■ TO CHANGE THE WORLD ! ■

# 28,500+ **EDUCATORS SINCE 2012**

#### IN OUR WORKSHOPS

- Positive Discipline in the Classroom
- Building Resilience





Sound Discipline empowers educators, parents and caregivers to create respectful, equitable communities in which all children thrive.

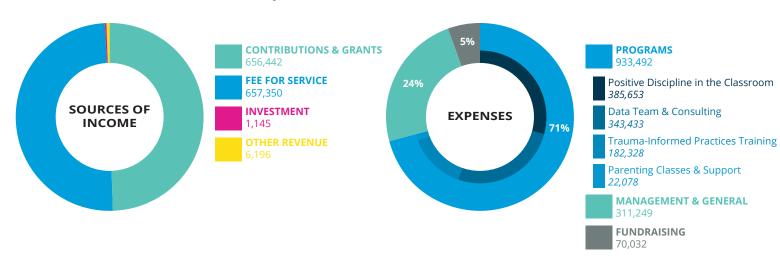
"It's amazing to me that I walked away from a workshop about trauma filled with hope, but that is exactly what happened. Thank you so much for providing this information and these tools."

-School Counselor

#### Vision

Our vision is an equitable, hopeful, diverse community in which every child feels included and valued, and people treat each other with dignity and respect.

# FY2018 Income and Expenses



Want to see our work in action?

Join us for an hour on a Demonstration School tour. Contact rebecca@sounddiscipline.org for more info.



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