



Every child is born into a family with dreams for a future overflowing with possibilities. It is their gift and their right. When poverty and injustice put that gift at risk, we all lose a piece of our future. New Futures helps children, families, and communities create the lives of their dreams.



New Futures 2004 Annual Report

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Dedication:

New Futures founding Director, Roxanne Hood Lyons, left the organization at the end of June to spend more time with her family. On June 29, 2004 Arbor Heights, New Futures newest site, was officially opened by naming it the Roxanne Hood Lyons Family Center. Nearly 50 people attended to pay tribute to Roxanne and New Futures work.

A search committee comprised of Board members and staff led a nationwide search and conducted interviews during the spring and early summer. Ruth Dickey was the committee's unanimous choice, and began in July 2004 as New Futures second Executive Director in a dozen years.

Ruth, the entire staff, and the Board of Directors dedicate this inaugural Annual Report to Roxanne – her courage, inspiration, and dedication to children have changed the world.

Director's Message



Dear Friends,

2004 was an amazing year for New Futures. We transitioned our organization from the skillful leadership of our founder, Roxanne Hood Lyons, to the next phase of our organizational development. We welcomed new friends to the organization as Board members, volunteers, community partners, and supporters. And most importantly, we continued to partner with over 500 families to provide outstanding support for children and families living in poverty.

We have so many exciting things to share with you in this annual report – from updates on our programs and outcomes, to our financial standing, to our inspiring list of supporters who made our work possible. We know that in 2004, children in our after-school programs improved, on average, a grade and a half in reading level, and that 80% of parents said they became more involved in their children's education. It is an honor and a delight to see children's joy as they succeed, and truly humbling to witness the depth and breadth of the community that is committed to supporting their success.

2005 is shaping up to be another incredible year, and we are so grateful to all of you who continue to believe that every child and family deserves to dream, and who continue to strive to make that true.

All our best,

Susan Lammers,
Board President

Ruth Dickey,
Executive Director

New Futures Board of Directors as of June 2005:

Susan Lammers, Board President
Brian Janssen, Board Vice President
Tony Rojas, Board Treasurer
Whitney Williams, Board Secretary
Susan Capriotti
Chase Franklin
Allan Golston
Tessa Gorman
Janet Smith
Ana Tessadro



“Nothing happens unless first we dream.” – Carl Sandburg

Riding a Chicago streetcar one morning, Carl Sandburg described the defeat and helplessness he saw molded on the faces of the poor – “tired of wishes, empty of dreams.” The tragedy of poverty is that, over time, it can rob children and families of everything – most tragically, it can steal their will to dream.

We believe that every child and family deserves to dream. In 2004, from our family centers in three low-income apartment complexes (Vintage Park in Burien, Windsor Heights in SeaTac, and Arbor Heights in White Center) we offered 12 programs that gave 2500 children and adults the courage to dream.

There are three cornerstones that form the foundation for everything we do: a holistic approach to offering help; respect and trust for everyone we work with; and thinking, acting, and living as neighbors rather than “service providers.”

Holistic

Those who live with poverty every day will tell you that it is not just one massive condition, but a spiderweb of inter-related problems that keeps them living on the edge, or in the shadows. In *The Working Poor*, Pulitzer Prize-winner David K. Shipler writes, “There is no single variable that can be altered to help working people move away from the edge of poverty. Only where the full array of factors is attacked can America fulfill its promise.” In the pages that follow you will see our full array of children, family, and community programs that connect to help create new futures for children and families.

Respect and Trust

Every New Futures program is developed in collaboration with the residents who live in the apartment complexes where our sites are located. We respect that residents know best what their children, families, and neighborhoods need to succeed. It’s our job, and honor, to help them by either creating new programs or partnering with residents and other organizations to bring in outstanding programs and services. In 2004 we worked in partnership with more than 80 nonprofits and businesses to add their expertise to what families receive from New Futures.

Neighbors

In each apartment complex, we work in leased or donated space. Because our family centers are located right in the complexes, not down the block or across town, we are seen and recognized as neighbors. Residents can come in any time, simply by walking across the commons. New Futures staff are truly trusted neighbors (many live in the apartment complexes) so when a new program or service is suggested, we have a context and firsthand experience from which to develop it in partnership with residents.

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children



“Poverty is like punishment for a crime you didn’t commit.” Philosopher Eli Khamarov, who so starkly described the lives of the 364 children we worked with in 2004, never met them but he wrote as if he knew them.

Children are the heart of our work. Some are 3- and 4-year olds, who receive help at this crucial time in their lives, with pre-K skills to get ready for kindergarten. Others are 1st – 3rd and 4th – 6th graders in after-school programs that provide enrichment and educational opportunities for children who are at the greatest risk of failing in school. And our expanded teen programs build leadership and offer community involvement, field trips, and academic activities for youth who are often labeled as “trouble-makers.”

Results:

Nine out of ten of these extremely challenged elementary-aged children

improved one or more grade levels in reading, and seven out of ten read at or above grade level at the end of the year, compared to three at the beginning.

Teens organized an extensive neighborhood beautification project, attended a weeklong photography day camp, voiced their opinions about issues of importance at a Youth Town Hall sponsored by Congressman Adam Smith, mentored and tutored children in our after-school program, learned how to repair bikes and earned a bike in an 8-week course, and prepared a banquet for adults they admired.

One child’s story:

Mateo was trying his hardest in school, but his mom couldn’t help much with his homework because she didn’t speak English.

As hard as Mateo worked, he continued

to fail classes. And when school ended in June, Mateo’s middle school wanted him to repeat the seventh grade. He was overwhelmed and frustrated.

A New Futures Family Advocate visited Mateo’s home, and translated a letter his family had received from the school. It invited Mateo to join a summer program to make up for his unsatisfactory grades. If he passed, he would move on to eighth grade with his friends that fall.

But Mateo looked devastated. It was too late to join the program. Our Family Advocate called the school and found they thought Mateo wasn’t interested because his mom didn’t respond to the letter in time. As they talked, the counselor realized the school had made an error in sending the English version of the letter, when records clearly indicated that his mom spoke only Spanish. The counselor asked her to come to the school imme-

diately to sign Mateo up, and our Family Advocate went along to help with the forms.

When Mateo finished his program at the end of this summer, he called the site to tell our Family Advocate that he had passed. She visited Mateo’s apartment, just across the way from the New Futures site in his complex, to congratulate him in person. She still remembers the huge smile of joy on Mateo’s face, knowing he had succeeded.



families

No one wants to live in poverty. Children can't thrive if their families aren't strong, if they're hungry, cold, lacking medical care, living in a dangerous situation, or if their parents are unemployed. And families who need the most support are often the ones who receive the least help. Isolated by economic, cultural, and linguistic barriers, they are relegated to the margins of our community and consciousness. Without networks of neighbors and friends, access to support services, or advocacy, they often have only two resources remaining: diminishing emotional strength to keep trying alone, and the courage to ask for help. And that's where New Futures Family Advocates come in.

Results:

In 2004, nearly 2,500 individuals came to New Futures for help ranging from finding food, clothing, and medical care

to enrolling in adult elementary school classes or college; from developing a plan to avoid homelessness to planning approaches that reduce neighborhood crime.

Eight out of ten of those people felt New Futures helped them be more effective in meeting their family's basic needs. With lighter burdens and fewer barriers, 80% of the parents became more involved with their children at home and in their schools – more involved in their lives.

One family's story:

When Lorena suddenly lost her job, she jumped on the chance to take classes at the New Futures family center. With a job and three elementary-aged children, she had always wanted to get involved at New Futures, but had no time. Lorena was eager to build skills and search for a better job.

Outside of classes, Lorena worked with a New Futures Family Advocate. The Advocate visited Lorena's apartment to help her create and reach short- and long-term life goals. In one of their sessions, our Advocate discovered that Lorena's family had no health insurance. Her oldest daughter was frequently ill, and Lorena had nowhere to take her. We helped them get free medication and treatment at a local hospital, where the child was diagnosed with low levels of iron. Lorena's daughter is recovering now, and loves that she doesn't miss school anymore.

To help Lorena meet neighbors, our Family Advocate connected her to our community activities, where families collaborate to address neighborhood issues. At one event, Lorena met another resident searching for work. Now they look for

jobs together, and Lorena's friend gives her a ride when her job search goes beyond walking distance.

Through New Futures, Lorena and her family have created a support network in their community that will help them create the lives of their dreams.

communities



The ancient African proverb, “It takes a village to raise a child,” teaches an eternal truth. Strong neighborhoods help children thrive. In his landmark study of social capital, *Bowling Alone*, Robert Putnam cites hundreds of studies and 500,000 interviews over the last quarter century that correlate increased social capital with higher educational performance and reduced rates of teen pregnancy, child suicide, and prenatal mortality. Strong neighborhoods are safer, healthier, and more economically stable – offering children a better chance to have the futures they deserve.

Results:

In 2004 more than 700 children and adults came together, in their neighborhood, for family literacy programs including English, computer, G.E.D., and Spanish classes. They worked together at community meetings and special events

to build the bonds of social capital that are cornerstones in child development and vibrant, abundant lives.

More than eight of ten residents increased interactions with neighbors, felt more people in their neighborhood care about them, and increased participation in community events.

One community’s story:

Halima, from West Africa, needed more exercise to regain her health after delivering a baby. Her New Futures Community Developer suggested they take short walks during the day. One afternoon, Halima and the Community Developer had a fascinating exchange. Halima shared several insights into African culture and traditions, including parenting and gender roles. When their walk was over the Community Developer had gained a much deeper understanding of

some of the issues and dynamics within the community, and Halima came away feeling inspired to continue her efforts to get into shape.

During the same time, another resident, Lisa, was very involved with New Futures, but suffered from epilepsy and a variety of other medical ailments. She said that her involvement with the kids in the community and with New Futures curbs bouts of depression. Even though she appeared to be a gregarious person who loves to be outdoors, she was lonely and wanted to meet her neighbors.

New Futures served as a bridge to connect these two women. Now two very different community members have a new relationship as walking partners, with the high probability their example will transfer to the wider community.

Strong neighborhoods are safer, healthier and more economically stable...



reachOut

In 2004 New Futures embarked on an exciting new initiative to take our approach and proven results to the larger community. This venture is the culmination of more than a decade's work with our community's most vulnerable families. After several years of planning, we launched ReachOut™, a social enterprise, in September 2004. This initiative was established and created with critical input from our staff and partners and at the suggestion of many key partner agencies. ReachOut leverages more than a decade of experience and insight gained through our work.

ReachOut offers training and consulting to promote the delivery of culturally-relevant and respectful services by organizations that support diverse, low-income

populations. Our trainings were developed from our innovative best-practices and based on research and the wisdom of the communities we serve; trainings broaden and deepen parent and community involvement and help providers offer culturally competent services.

The most powerful element of ReachOut is New Futures work and proven results. Unique from other training organizations, we are actually doing the work we are training others to do. Our direct service staff is directly involved in training. This allows us to give real, concrete examples. ReachOut provides effective strategies for teachers, schools, and organizations to promote cultural competency and increase parent and community involvement.

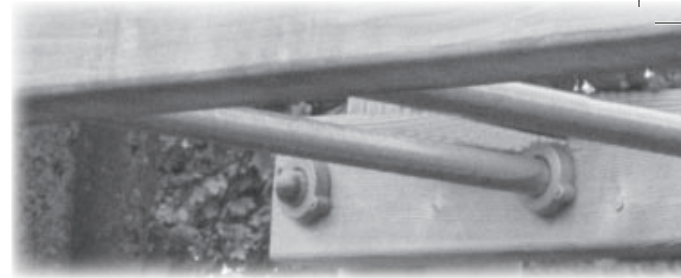
Results:

In fiscal 2004 we hired a full time Training Program Director to lead ReachOut, and committed 25% of a current staff member's time to help develop the curriculum and lead trainings. The development phase included essential internal assessment with staff and external assessment with key partners. We committed resources and organizational support, developed a marketing plan and pricing, and began actively marketing ReachOut's training services. Last year's efforts ended on a very high note – the official ReachOut launch at a public event in September.

...we are actually doing
the work we are training
others to do.

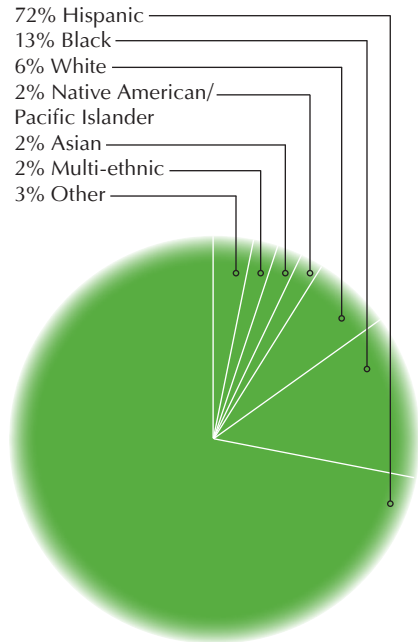


Training for Respect, Relevance, and Results



demographics, results, financials

New Futures Client Demographics



New Futures Results

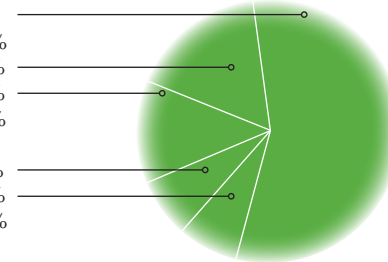
- 85% of these extremely challenged children improved one or more grade levels in reading
- 66% of the children read at or above grade level, compared to 25% in the pretest
- 80% of families were more involved with their child's schoolwork
- 79% of families felt more able to meet their basic needs
- 70% felt they know better the steps to change their lives
- 85% of residents increased interactions with neighbors
- 84% felt more that people in their neighborhood care about them
- 83% of residents increased participation in community events
- 57% increased volunteerism in their community

Fiscal Year 2004

New Futures Revenue and Expenses

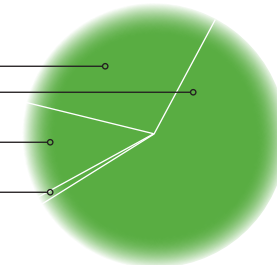
Expenses

Children	\$455,000	35.0%
Families	\$253,000	19.5%
Communities	\$284,000	21.9%
Total Programs	\$992,000	76.4%
Fundraising	\$154,000	11.9%
Administration	\$152,000	11.7%
Total Expenses	\$1,298,000	100.0%



Income

Public	\$367,000	27.6%
Foundations	\$794,000	59.8%
Individuals/Corporate	\$156,000	11.8%
Other (earned income)	\$11,000	0.8%
Total Income	\$1,328,000	100.0%





We believe that another important role we fill is to offer a variety of “generous opportunities” – ways for individuals and organizations to put their philanthropic and community service goals into action. We view every relationship with a donor or volunteer as a partnership that is mutually beneficial. We are able to serve more children and families, and serve them more deeply, thanks to the generosity of our supporters. And those supporters are able to make a greater impact on the futures of children and families than they could by acting individually.

Volunteers played vital roles for New Futures in 2004. Last year more than 170 people volunteered time and expertise to help New Futures carry out its mission. For example, they painted our family centers, tutored children, taught English, partnered with Family Advocates to serve families in crisis, provided legal and medical services, managed our information technology systems, inspired kids at camp and in the theater, and mentored staff. We applaud and deeply appreciate all our volunteers.

In 2004 we created two new ways to encourage and honor donors. **New Futures DreamMakers Club** recognizes leadership annual gifts from individuals and organizations. These leadership gifts

are a cornerstone of what makes our work possible each year. DreamMaker Club levels are:

Leader’s Circle \$15,000 and above
Visionary’s Circle \$10,000 - \$14,999
Founder’s Circle \$5,000 - \$9,999
Dreamer’s Circle \$2,000 - \$4,999

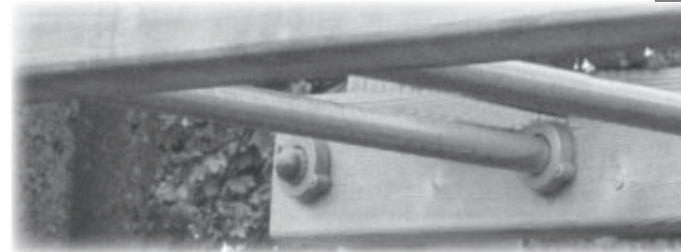
Future Shares offers donors the opportunity to support children and families at a higher level than they might be able to with a single check. A donor commits to an annual amount and fulfills that pledge monthly, with a check, automatic monthly credit card transaction, or auto-transfer from their checking account. Future Shares monthly levels are designed so all donors can find a way to participate.

how to get involved

Partner level	\$150 –and above
Family level	\$100 - \$149
Friend level	\$ 75 - \$99
Neighbor level	\$ 50 - \$74
Supporter level	\$ 25 - \$49

Our success in helping create New Futures is because of our supporters. Thank you for your commitment and generosity.

“One hand alone does not clap.” This Arab proverb underscores how much we all receive, as well as give, when we work together to create greater good. If you want to join other New Futures hands, clapping and volunteering, please check service opportunities on our website (www.newfutures.us) or call our main office.



thank you to our generous supporters

Our Supporters

New Futures is extremely grateful to our generous supporters who made our work in 2004 possible.

Public:

City of Burien
City of SeaTac
King County Community Services Division
King County Housing Authority (in kind)
WA State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

Private Foundations:

Annie E. Casey Foundation
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Ginger & Barry Ackerley Foundation
Lucky Seven Foundation
Marguerite Casey Foundation
Medina Foundation
Medtronic Foundation
New Tudor Foundation
Paul G. Allen Family Foundation
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western Washington
Seattle Post-Intelligencer
Stuart Foundation
United Way of King County
Windermere Foundation

Corporations:

Beyond the Garden Gate

Burien Honda
CIC Corporation
Exvere, Inc.
Hardware Northwest Companies
Michael Green (Vintage Park Owner)
Organizational Research Services
Virtu Investments

Individuals:

Leader's Circle: \$15,000 and above

Visionary's Circle: \$10,000 - \$14,999

Brian & Traci Janssen
Chase & Teri Franklin
Susan Lammers & Walter Euyang

Founder's Circle: \$5,000 - \$9,999

Peter Bladin & Donna Lou
Allan Golston
Tony & Leslie Rojas

Dreamer's Circle: \$2,000 - \$4,999

David & Cathy Habib
Koppelman Family Foundation
McEachern Foundation
Fred & Ellie Silverstein

\$1,000 - \$1,999

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\$100 - \$249

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thank you to our generous supporters

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Roxanne Hood Lyons & Jar Lyons
John House
Derek Houseworth
Impress Rubber Stamps, Inc.
Susan Lammers
Susan Rudolph-Loos
Jennifer Schubert

Organizations:

Bethany Presbyterian Church
Britannia Club
Burien/White Center Rotary
Exchange Club of Highline
Kirlin Foundation
Lions Club Burien - SeaTac
Rotary Club of SeaTac
YMCA of Greater Seattle

New Futures 2004 Awards

City of Burien Proclamation honoring our service to the community

Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Burien for “tremendous efforts in assisting the City in relocating Juanita Apartment residents”

Certificate of Recognition from Lt. Governor Brad Owen for the artistic contribution of New Futures children

Selected as Seattle Post-Intelligencer Readers Care Fund participant

“New Futures cares more and gives more time to our children than any other organization.” – Jean, Vintage Park Resident

Graphic design donated by Susan Rudolph-Loos





Because every child and family deserves to dream.....



New Futures

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