2018 was an amazing year of impact at Stars!

The biggest news of 2018 is that we changed our organizational name from Lake Avenue Community Foundation to Stars: Illuminate, Educate, Advocate. Why? With our previous name, people often assumed we were a charitable foundation, or Lake Avenue Church. Unfortunately, both assumptions restricted donor and grant opportunities. With our new organizational name Stars, we:
1. Continue to be a faith-based organization,
2. Continue our strong partnership with Lake Avenue Church
3. Continue our commitment to the same vision and mission
4. Are better positioned for more funding opportunities

Based on our 20+ year history with the STARS After School program, and with name recognition in the community, the name Stars is launching us well into the future, as we continue in our vision and mission of walking alongside young people.

Now, the meaning of Stars has broadened to cover ALL the work of the organization — after school programming, mentoring, summer enrichment, camps, trips, college preparation and completion support, and counseling — and partnering closely with the parents of our students to help support the whole family.

I’m thrilled to share that we have increased our focus on our college students and have been expanding our mentoring program. In 2018, Stars launched a college scholarship program with multiple levels of support, and added 13 new mentoring pairs. Our Stars after-school programming has been expanded to include kindergarten students and now serves students K - 12. We celebrated 3 college graduations, and sent 5 new college freshmen off to universities.

2018 was a reminder for me personally of the amazing mutually beneficial relationships we see developing here at Stars. Students’ lives are changed, yes, but so are the mentors’ and tutors’ lives, as they learn and grow alongside their students. A mentor who has been sharing life with her student for 11 years recently told me “my mentoring experience has been one of the most rewarding and enlightening events in my life!”

In grateful partnership,

Nancy Stiles
Executive Director
283 Students Served

202 Active Volunteers

Average length of mentor match: 4.23 years

Longest mentor match: 14.8 years

13 NEW mentoring matches

87% of elementary students at or above grade level in reading

Total Income: $1,484,131
Total Expense: $1,410,555

Revenue:
- Individual Contributions: 36%
- Grants: 13%
- Gifts in Kind: 30%
- Church Support: 9%
- Special Events: 11%
- Program Income: 1%

Expenses:
- General Programs: 33%
- Afterschool: 23%
- Summer Enrichment: 2%
- School Partnerships: 6%
- Mentoring: 11%
- Admin and Fundraising: 23%
- College and Career: 2%