



*The New England Center for Children®*

FY 2018 | ANNUAL REPORT



*Artist*

FERDINAND NAZARIO  
PLAYGROUND WALL MURAL

“

"A SCHOOL OF DEDICATED TEACHERS WHO  
CONSISTENTLY PUT THE STUDENTS FIRST,  
SO THEY CAN BE THE BEST PEOPLE POSSIBLE."



## Welcome

VINCENT STRULLY, JR.  
PRESIDENT AND CEO

## Dear friend,

You, our donors, gave in record numbers in fiscal year 2018 (FY18). Thanks to your support, we exceeded our goals and many positive outcomes were achieved. We served more than 500 children in day and residential programs on our campuses in Southborough and Abu Dhabi and through home-based services. We're helping hundreds more in public school classrooms throughout New England, and thousands more through our ACE® ABA Software System, which we continually improve via our research on how children with autism learn.

In FY18 we renewed our agreement with our Abu Dhabi School, expanded our global consulting services, graduated our 1,420th master's degree teacher from our on-site graduate programs, and were recognized in national publications for our vocational work. We hosted 64 interns—18 from overseas, initiated the replication of a research study identifying symptoms of autism in babies, and launched an online professional learning platform, ABAplus™.

The number of children and families helped, the professionals trained, and the dollars raised are impressive, but the social impact your dollars have made is truly astounding.

The need for qualified educational professionals remains large. We work hard to fulfill that need by continuing our on-site master's and doctoral programs, at little to no cost to our staff. The New England Center for Children® (NECC®) operates much like a teaching hospital, and when well-educated, experienced, confident teachers leave NECC they provide services in public schools and some have gone on to start effective programs in other parts of the world including Ghana, Brazil, and Iceland, furthering our vision to disseminate our knowledge far and wide.

Our vocational training program continues to excel, too. In the general population, the number of people with autism who are employed remains low. Yet in FY18 we had 148 students of employable age engaged in vocational training or working in the community at more than 20 different job sites.

You may have read *The New York Times* article about Jeanine, a former NECC student who has been working at Sun Life for more than two decades. Jeanine lives in a group home, enjoys her work, manages her budget, and contributes to society. Her story shows the direct impact vocational training and life skills development can have on a person with autism.

Throughout this annual report you will see quotes from NECC families and benefactors on how they describe NECC in their own words. We're proud of how others see us, and you should feel proud, too. Your support directly affects the meaningful work we do.

Thank you for being part of the NECC community, and for helping children and families with autism.

Vincent Strully, Jr.  
President and CEO



“

"BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO MY DAUGHTER AFTER HER DIAGNOSIS. THE STRUGGLE IS FOR LIFE, BUT NECC EDUCATED BOTH OF US AND PREPARED US FOR THE FUTURE."



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## *Our Mission:* TO TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM WORLDWIDE THROUGH EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND TECHNOLOGY

We are committed to helping children with autism acquire the skills they need to maximize their independence. NECC provides comprehensive services to help children with autism at every stage: home-based, day, and residential programs, partner classrooms in public school systems, consultation, ABA curriculum software for schools and organizations, and ongoing research on educational best practices.

*Our Vision:* TO BE A GLOBAL LEADER IN THE PROVISION OF EFFECTIVE, EVIDENCE-BASED EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR THE MILLIONS OF UNDERSERVED CHILDREN WITH AUTISM AND THEIR FAMILIES

### *We will:*

- educate teachers and parents around the world so that they may benefit from the knowledge and methods developed at NECC
- use the power of technology to help teachers and families transform the lives of children with autism
- define our future success by the number of children being served by our curriculum
- bring help to hundreds of thousands of children and their families, and give hope to millions

We strive to be at the forefront of conducting and publishing research to further the understanding and treatment of autism and related disabilities and will use only those methods that show results. Science is consistent in showing that early, intensive instruction using the methods of applied behavior analysis helps children with autism learn and reach their maximum potential.



*Connect with us*

f t i @NECCFORAUTISM  
WWW.NECC.ORG



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### *In Memoriam*

RENEE MANSFIELD  
1957-2018

Renee was an extraordinary person and friend, and a devoted colleague at NECC for many years, most recently serving as Executive Director of the ACE®. Everyone who knew her described her as a pleasure to be around. Renee joined NECC in 1980 as a clinical specialist. Over the years she served in many roles, including in the preschool and family services department before focusing on bringing the ACE to market. Renee was integral in establishing the ACE department and, ultimately, in the ACE's success. She is deeply missed.



### *In Memoriam*

MARVIN "MICKEY" GELLER, ESQ.  
1926-2018

Mickey was a founding member of the NECC Board of Directors, joining in the late 1970s when his daughter began receiving NECC services. He was an ardent supporter of the program, and often noted that NECC made his family's challenges with autism manageable. He was an attorney and a proud advocate for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Mickey passed away on April 13, 2018, at age 91, and served on the Board until his passing.

“

**"CRITICAL ORGANIZATION  
HELPING THOSE WITH AUTISM,  
PARENTS AND CHILDREN, LIVE  
FULFILLING LIVES."**

**PROGRAMS *and* SERVICES**



***For Families***

- Home-based Programs
- Day and Residential Programs
- Parent Education
- Support Groups
- Family Recreation

***For Educators***

- ABAplus™
- Online Continuing Ed
- On-site Workshops
- CALM™ Crisis Training
- Graduate Programs\*
- Professional Development\*
- \*NECC staff only*

***For Schools***

- Partner Program Classrooms
- Cooperative Classrooms
- Consultation
- Evaluation
- Staff Training
- ACE® ABA Software System





109

LICENSED  
TEACHERS



43 PARTNER PROGRAM CLASSROOMS



109 ABAPLUS™ COURSE ENROLLEES

7,500

STUDENTS AND TEACHERS  
UTILIZED THE ACE

680 STUDENTS SERVED IN SOUTHBOROUGH  
AND ABU DHABI PROGRAMS

391

STAFF ENROLLED IN  
GRADUATE PROGRAMS

55 ACTIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS



FY18 NUMBERS

148

STUDENTS LEARNED VOCATIONAL  
SKILLS IN SOUTHBOROUGH

28

IN ABU DHABI



17 RESIDENTIAL GROUP HOMES

STAFF  
CREDENTIALS  
INCLUDE

535

WITH A  
MASTER'S  
DEGREE,  
PHD OR BCBA®  
CERTIFICATION

17

PUBLISHED  
PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES  
(10 CURRENTLY IN PRESS)

1,060

STAFF FROM 15 STATES  
AND 10 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING  
THE PHILIPPINES, ICELAND,  
SUDAN, MALAYSIA, GHANA,  
IRELAND, LIBERIA, CANADA,  
US AND UAE

40

EVENTS FOR STUDENTS  
AND FAMILIES

148

PRESENTATIONS  
(128 NECC SOUTHBOROUGH, 20 ABU DHABI)



# GLOBAL OUTREACH

*Impact* Your support helps us expand our reach so we can help more children with autism and their families—by sharing research and professional education, marketing our services and programs, and informing the next generation of teachers about the opportunities for growth that await them at The New England Center for Children.

- CAMPUSES ●
- CONSULTING ●
- PARTNER CLASSROOMS ●
- ACE® ●
- INTERNS ●
- RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS ●
- ABAPLUS™ ●

“

**"AN AMAZING SCHOOL THAT HAS BEEN ABLE TO NOT ONLY HELP STUDENTS WITHIN ITS WALLS BUT NOW STUDENTS THROUGHOUT THE U.S. AND WORLD."**



- **Campuses**

Southborough, MA, and Abu Dhabi, UAE

- **Consulting**

United States, England, Iceland, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, India, and Saudi Arabia

- **Partner Classrooms**

Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Maine

- **ACE®**

**12 Countries**

United States, Argentina, Canada, England, Ghana, Iceland, India, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Bahamas

- **Interns**

From Ireland, England, United Kingdom, Spain, and Mexico

- **Research Presentations**

United Arab Emirates, France, Saudi Arabia, Ireland, United States, Finland, and Jerusalem

- **ABAPlus™ Learners**

Massachusetts, Colorado, Connecticut, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, California, Louisiana, and Ohio

*New for 2018*

NECC-ABU DHABI GETS A NEW NAME TO BETTER REFLECT THE UAE'S GROWING EXPERTISE IN AUTISM EDUCATION. THE MOHAMMED BIN RASHID CENTER FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION, OPERATED BY THE NEW ENGLAND CENTER FOR CHILDREN WAS OFFICIALLY RENAMED IN SEPTEMBER.





“

**"LEADER IN THE FIELD OF SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOLS FOR AUTISM. OTHER ORGANIZATIONS CAN USE IT AS A ROLE MODEL."**



## WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR LEADERSHIP SUPPORT FROM *Corporations and Foundations*

The Constance O. Putnam Foundation has made a lasting impression on NECC through their investment in our programs and services in Southborough. Most recently, their support brought a new traverse climbing wall to the playground that has been long-desired by students and staff. Our adapted physical education department has designed lesson plans using the climbing wall to target skills and meet objectives in our students' individualized education plans. Gains are being made in balance, muscle strength, motor planning, and concentration. During leisure time, students of all ages and abilities enjoy the colorful apparatus and the challenge it provides.

In addition to the climbing wall, funding from the Constance O. Putnam foundation outfitted our 195 Special Olympic athletes with new uniforms and equipment appropriate for the season and team. Not only have these things helped prepare our athletes for competition and fostered teamwork, our kids show improved confidence and joy when they arrive at competitions and compete. Special Olympics is such a powerful experience for children with autism and other disabilities and it's some of our families' favorite days of the year. We are so grateful for Constance O. Putnam Foundation's commitment to helping children with autism grow and thrive.

### *Corporate and Foundation Supporters (above \$5,000)*

A.C. Dispensing Equipment, Inc.	Erland Construction, Inc.	NCR Corporation
Andrade Management	Ernst & Young	NEXT for AUTISM, Inc.
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts	Eversource Energy	Robell Research, Inc.
Brown & Brown of Massachusetts, LLC	Franklin Pierce University	Supreme Industrial Products, Inc.
Carrington Charitable Foundation	Greenwood Industries	Taylor Donuts, Inc.
Citizens Bank	GTI Properties	The Lawrence Levine Foundation in honor of Gov. Michael S. Dukakis
Comprehensive Benefit Administrators	Hamilton, Brook, Smith & Reynolds, P.C.	The Palmeri Family Foundation
Constance O. Putnam Foundation	High Quality Landscape Const., Inc.	The VIYU Foundation
DCU for Kids	Investment Properties, LTD.	Tiffany & Co.
DEKK Group, LLC	iRobot Corporation	Turner Construction Co.
Delta Maintenance & Landscape, Inc.	MacKay Shields LLC	
Deyo Family Charitable Fund	Marcovich, Mansour & Associates, Inc.	
Dunkin' Brands, Inc.	Music Drives Us	

## 2017 CHILDREN OF PROMISE GALA

### FUND-A-NEED SUPPORTS PARTNER

### PROGRAM CLASSROOMS:

*Expanding your impact beyond  
the Southborough campus*

The Fund-a-Need at the 2017\* Children of Promise Gala raised \$150,000 to support NECC's Partner Program Classrooms and provided underfunded school districts with 48 iPads in 23 partner classrooms. Most of the funds were allocated to classrooms with the fewest public resources. This means that 150 students with autism are now being taught with NECC's ACE® ABA Software System, learning life skills and more to live as independently as possible.

These gifts also established a central curriculum library for all 50 partner classrooms to borrow from, giving NECC teachers even more resources at their fingertips.

**\$733,898 TOTAL DOLLARS RAISED AT THE 2017 GALA**

**38.5% INCREASE OVER 2016**

*\*The 2017 Gala took place in FY18. The 2018 Gala will be reflected in the FY19 Annual Report.*



## Impact ACROSS NEW ENGLAND



**250+** STUDENTS   **45** SCHOOLS   **26** SCHOOL DISTRICTS

### *Honorees*

INSPIRATIONAL LEADERSHIP | KATHY FOSTER & ROSEANN LOVELY  
COMMUNITY AUTISM CHAMPION | DUNKIN' DONUTS  
OUTSTANDING NECC ALUMNA | MEAGHAN MCCABE

"We recently started using mobile data collection at the high school (Cape Cod, MA). The devices have had such a positive impact on our classroom! Teachers can now take data on the ACE while they are running programs with the students. This gives us the opportunity to use the ACE resources and view student progress all day long. It has also saved us so much time! We are so grateful to have access to these devices in our classroom."



**SPECIAL EVENTS THROUGH  
THE FISCAL YEAR HAVE  
A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON  
FUNDRAISING FOR NECC.**

THANK YOU TO THE  
MANY SUPPORTERS,  
VOLUNTEERS, TEACHERS,  
STUDENTS, AND FAMILIES  
WHO TRULY MAKE THESE  
EVENTS A SUCCESS.



**"RUNNERS WORK HARD  
TO ACCOMPLISH TWO  
FEATS—DISTANCE  
RUNNING AND  
RAISING MONEY."**

*Annual Fundraising Events*

*Team NECC Falmouth Road Race*

AUGUST 2017 | RAISED | \$32,466  
 Carissa Dube Ryan Matson  
 Amanda Brooks Lauren Wallis  
 Kylee Drugan-Eppich Jackie Gryska  
 Lori McKenna Mark Byron  
 Emily McKenna Lauren Byron  
 Molly Fodera Caitlin Pierkarski  
 Joe Byron Caitlin Buchanan  
 Stephanie Carlin

*The "MIKE" Golf*  
*Supported by Mike McKenna*

AUGUST 2017 | RAISED | \$70,565

*Children of Promise Gala*

NOVEMBER 2017 | RAISED | \$733,898

*Team NECC Boston Marathon*

APRIL 2018 | RAISED | \$56,200  
 Brian Abcunas Andrea Zuchora  
 Pete McCoubrey Martha Schneider  
 Owen McQuaid Kate Groton

*5K Walk/Run for Autism*

MAY 2018 | RAISED | \$224,556

*Carlos Placido Dunkin'*  
*Golf Classic for Autism*  
*Supported by Neal Faulkner*

JUNE 2018 | RAISED | \$213,410

## Annual Giving Donors

### ANNUAL GIVING PROVIDES FLEXIBLE RESOURCES FOR THE GREATEST NEEDS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

*Many of the enhancements to our programs, services, and opportunities are made possible by private support from families and friends. We are humbled by the generosity of our donors. Listed here are donors of \$250 or more from July 2017-June 2018.*

#### **Founders \$25,000 +**

Curtis and Diane Arledge  
Betsy Dangel  
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#### **Innovators \$10,000-\$24,999**

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Paul Doherty



**"A SCHOOL OF DEDICATED TEACHERS WHO  
CONSISTENTLY PUT THE STUDENTS FIRST,  
SO THEY CAN BE THE BEST PEOPLE POSSIBLE."**

***Behind the scenes***

ANNUAL GIVING DONORS DAVID AND BETH KLEIN TAKE TIME TO CREATE  
A PROMOTIONAL VIDEO FOR THE 2018 ANNUAL CHILDREN OF PROMISE GALA



## Annual Giving Donors

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 Edgardo and Sharon Saavedra  
 Skip and Joanne Saccone  
 Jessica and Slim Sassi  
 Richard and Rita Savickey  
 Harvey Sawikin  
 Michael and Rhonda Scherer  
 Nate Schmidlein  
 Laura Schnaible  
 Robert Schneider  
 Paul and Lucia Sedzia  
 Ray Senkowski and Nancy Victory

Jennifer Shay  
Kristen Sidman  
Edmund Silva  
Robert Silva  
Harold and Ann Slawby  
Matthew Sluter  
Barry and Barbara Smith  
Gary and Jill Smith  
Peggy Smith  
Darcie and Adam Stawinski  
Michael Steinkrauss  
Dennis and Renee Stevens  
Samuel Stevens  
Julie Stine  
Sandra Story  
Michael Sullivan  
Richard and Nancy Tarulli  
Isaura Tavares  
Deb Thivierge  
Raymond and Jennifer Thompson  
Tracey Toran  
Steven Tower  
Peter Tyson  
Stefanie Upshaw  
Ali and Jesse Vennard  
Jeffrey Walker

Kimberly Walter  
Donna Ward  
Shannon Ward  
Christy Warner  
Laurie Warner  
Ed and Cathy Webb  
Julie Weiss  
Christopher Weld, Jr.  
Leslie Welhoelter  
Jack and Margaret Whelan  
Laura Wilhelm  
Shawna Williams  
Terri Williams  
Howard and Candice Wolk  
Steven Brand and Bella Wong  
Eric Yogel  
Beth and Neil Young  
Andrew Zimmerman and  
Susan Connors  
Joe Ziska and Carrie Thorne  
Jeremy Zorn  
Papa Z and Nancy A  
Pamela Zorn Adams  
Sasa Zorovic  
Anthony Zuchora



**"THE BEST SCHOOL IN THE WORLD FOR  
AUTISM EDUCATION, TREATMENT  
AND RESEARCH. I CHALLENGE YOU TO  
FIND A PLACE MORE EFFECTIVE."**

# RESEARCH

Unrestricted gifts to NECC also fund research that helps children with autism learn and acquire daily living skills. Federal data shows that \$342 million was spent on autism research in 2015. The largest portion of funding addressed the underlying biology of ASD.

*Source: <https://iacc.hhs.gov/publications/portfolio-analysis/2015/#areas>.*

**NECC's research focuses on identifying symptoms and improving treatment that children with autism need *now*.**

**IN FY18, THE RESEARCH TEAM PRESENTED NEARLY 150 TIMES ACROSS 7 COUNTRIES.**

One of the most exciting research projects underway at NECC is an infant sibling project by Dr. Becky MacDonald. This study seeks to replicate research by Graupner and Sallows (2017) of the Wisconsin Early Autism Project looking at infant siblings of children with autism. Siblings of children who have autism are more likely to be diagnosed with autism than siblings of typically-developing children. In the Graupner and Sallows study, researchers found that infant siblings of children with autism can show symptoms of ASD before their first birthday.

Recent data from the study suggests that symptoms—such as fleeting attention and lack of smiling—can emerge as early as the first two months of life. In the Wisconsin Study, 14 babies showed symptoms prior to the age of 6 months and received 15 to 40 hours of 1:1 early intensive behavioral intervention (EIBI) from a therapist. EIBI includes, but is not limited to, joint attention, eye contact, and extended playing with a trained therapist. Of the 14 who showed symptoms, 13 showed no symptoms by 24 months after their treatment.

Dr. MacDonald's research is funded by grants and gifts to the NECC Annual Fund. The goal of early identification of autism and EIBI is to prevent the full onset of ASD as a toddler develops. This study could have profound implications on policy for early assessment of autism.

#### *Other research topics in FY18 included*

- Establishing sustainable ABA systems abroad
- Evidence-based practices of communication disorders in individuals with autism spectrum disorders
- Cultural considerations in the application of ABA service delivery





**Research has Immediate Impact:** Research is integrated into the ACE® ABA Software System – ensuring that the ACE is the most current and effective software tool available for learners with autism. NECC's expertise and knowledge is also shared at conferences around the world and in peer-reviewed journals and books – reaching thousands of teachers and clinicians each year.




## Why we need YOU

*Support from individuals, corporations and foundations enables us to:*

- Provide students on our campuses and in partner classrooms with access to technology, adapted equipment, and community outings
- Maintain and improve residences
- Provide on-site wellness care for students
- Prepare students for medical and dental visits
- Disseminate our research
- Fund vocational programming and provide transportation to job sites
- Provide on-site graduate degree opportunities and continuing professional development for our staff, making them the best equipped teachers in the field
- Stay current with the latest in instructive technology
- Update and promote our cloud-based teaching curriculum, the ACE® ABA Software System

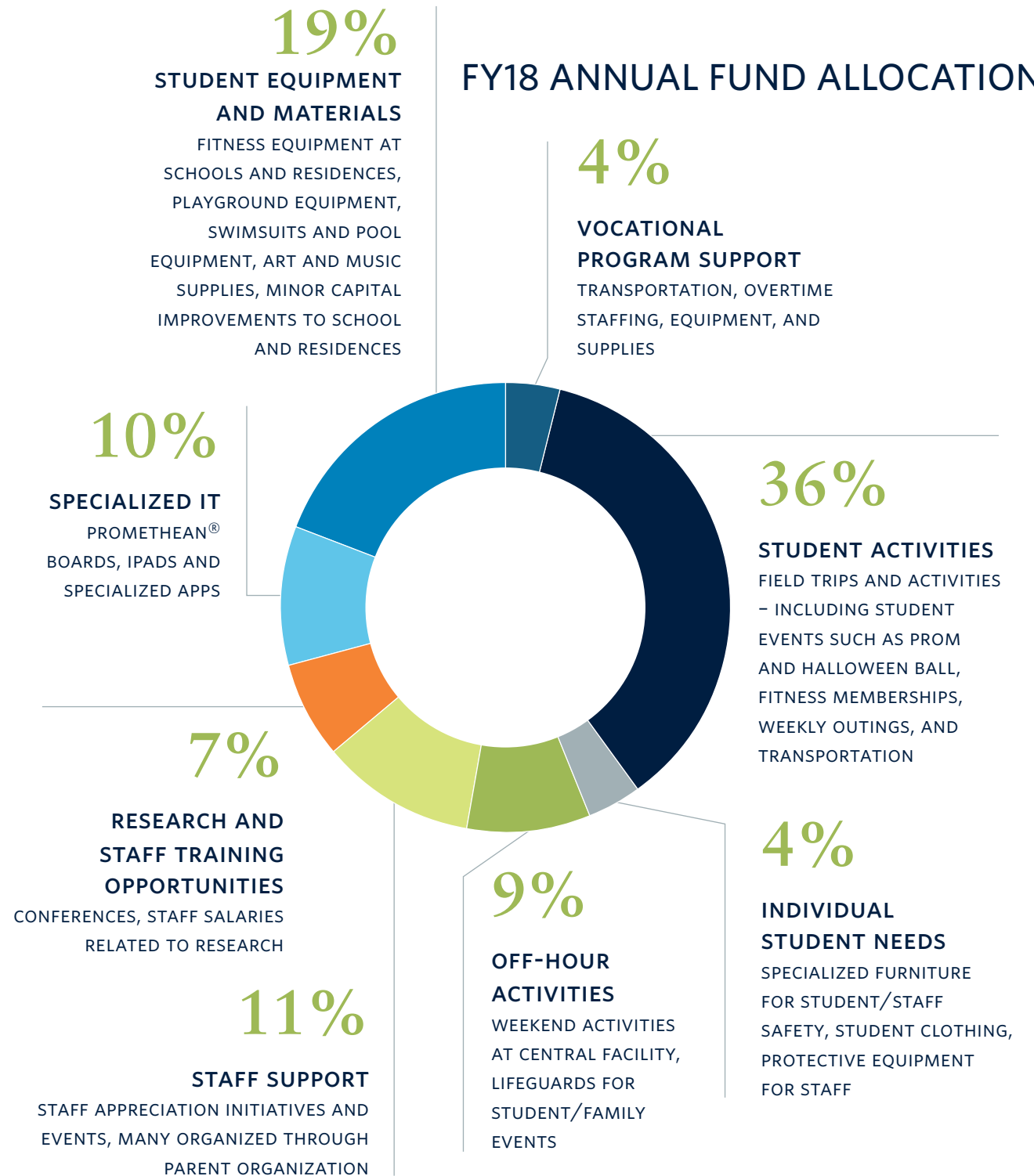


## Financials

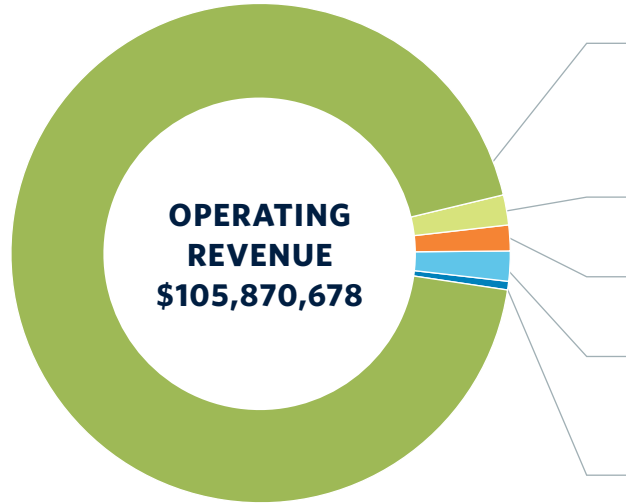
<b>3,417</b>	FY18 DONORS
<b>\$1,925,000</b>	DOLLARS RECEIVED IN FY18
<b>\$557,265</b>	PARENT MATCH CHALLENGE
	
<b>6</b>	FUNDRAISING EVENTS
<b>2,060</b>	TOTAL EVENT ATTENDEES
<b>\$1,331,095</b>	TOTAL EVENT DOLLARS



## FY18 ANNUAL FUND ALLOCATION



# FY18 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT



- TUITION \$99,523,896 (94%)**  
DAY, RESIDENTIAL, ADULT, HOME-BASED, DAYCARE, PARTNER CLASSROOMS, INTERNATIONAL
- CONSULTING \$2,435,519 (2%)**
- ACE TECHNOLOGY \$1,492,164 (1.5%)**
- FUNDRAISING \$1,972,264 (2%)**  
GRANTS, EVENTS, IN-KIND DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS
- OTHER \$446,835 (0.5%)**



- PROGRAM SERVICES \$95,481,466 (92%)**  
DAY, RESIDENTIAL, ADULT, HOME-BASED, DAYCARE, CONSULTING, PARTNER CLASSROOMS, INTERNATIONAL
- ADMINISTRATIVE \$6,960,217 (7%)**
- MARKETING, PUBLIC RELATIONS & FUNDRAISING \$1,148,934 (1%)**





## *Thank You*

TO THE MANY SUPPORTERS OF NECC WHO ALLOW US TO CONTINUE TO  
PROVIDE EDUCATION AND ENRICHMENT TO OUR INSPIRATIONAL STUDENTS.



The New England Center  
for Children®  
*Autism Education and Research*



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