

ARCHS' Funded Partner Agencies

FY 2026 Client Impact

Q4 Testimonial Highlights



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Partner Agency Client Impact Testimonials: April – June 2026

Saint Louis Public Schools - After School Program:

"I love going to afterschool, the teachers are so nice and they help me."

Gary's daughter enjoys attending the program, which has been a tremendous support for their family. The program allows Gary to work until 4:30 p.m. knowing that she is in a safe, supervised environment where she receives a meal, homework assistance, and opportunities to participate in enriching activities.

The program has also had a positive impact on her academic and social development. With the extra homework support, her confidence and classroom participation have improved, and her teacher has noted that she is more willing to take risks and engage in learning. She has also made new friends and become more social, helping her overcome her shyness. Gary has seen improvements in both her grades and attendance, and he believes her desire to become a teacher one day is a reflection of the care, encouragement, and positive role models she has found in the after school program.

Big Brothers Big Sisters - ABCToday Fatherhood Prevention Program:

"I enjoyed the opportunity to meet successful people through this program. My mentor is easy to talk to and nice. I really enjoy it."

Jay, a sixth-grade student, was referred to the program for support with academic and attendance challenges that affected his confidence and school consistency.

The program provides weekly school-based mentoring in a safe, supportive setting, offering guidance and activities that build social, emotional, and behavioral skills. Family-inclusive summer activities extend engagement beyond the school year. For Jay, the program has expanded access to positive role models, community experiences, and opportunities to explore his interests.

Through group mentoring, Jay has grown into a quiet but meaningful leader. He listens to peers, uplifts their ideas, and helps create an inclusive environment. He has demonstrated conflict-resolution skills by de-escalating tension, accepting responsibility, apologizing, and refocusing on positive relationships. His growth shows stronger emotional regulation, self-awareness, goal setting, and maturity.

Jay maintains excellent school and program attendance, has no behavioral reports, and continues to excel academically, reflecting strong academic growth, character development, and personal accountability.

Jay is developing a clear plan for his future. He hopes to attend college, continue playing baseball, pursue music, and excel academically. He is also considering engineering as a career path if professional baseball does not materialize, showing maturity and an understanding of how to connect his interests with long-term opportunities."

Urban League - Judicial Circuit Court Program:

"I am thankful to the support and help of my career advisor."

Richard is an experienced drywall tapper and painter. Upon enrollment, the Urban League program provided him with a career assessment and several job leads in the drywall and taping industry.

Participating in the program has helped Richard get back on track with his child support order. He feels he is making a meaningful difference in his children's lives and can once again be present for important moments without the constant worry of how to support them.

The program initially helped Richard secure a professional painting job earning \$28 per hour. After he was laid off, the program supported him with another job search, and he found a new professional painting position earning \$27 per hour.

St. Louis Arc - Capable Kids and Families Program:

The St. Louis Arc Capable Kids and Families Program began working with five-year-old King and his father in February 2025. King had already spent six months on a waitlist for autism testing, so the program made finding support a priority.

The program shared resources, and King's father acted quickly by making calls, scheduling appointments, and working with King's school on an educational evaluation. His advocacy helped King receive an educational diagnosis, an IEP, and access to school-based services.

King later received a medical autism diagnosis through Autism Support Now in February 2026. Since then, his father has continued working to connect him with ABA therapy and other needed supports.

Because of his father's persistence and the program's guidance, King now has therapy goals, supportive equipment, and access to services that can help him reach developmental milestones.

YWCA - Program Support Network:

"I've learned a lot of new things from the trainings and visits that I didn't know or was nervous to do. Now I feel more confident in the art provide my class."

Chanitra showed strong instincts from the start. After her first program support visit, she quickly applied new strategies, such as allowing children to set the table and offering more choices during art activities.

When she received new materials, Chanitra was eager to use them. By the second program support visit, her job chart was posted, and children were proudly taking on classroom responsibilities. She also showed greater confidence in the art center, sharing how she arranged the space, engaged children, and incorporated the materials into daily activities.

Chanitra applies strategies from trainings and modeling visits to strengthen her classroom art center and give students more responsibility. Chanitra is committed to building her skills and finding new ways to support the children in her care. By the final program support visit, she shared that the experience inspired her to create a sensory training for her program.

Boys & Girls Clubs – ARCHS' Neighborhood Healing Network:

"This (Network) has provided me with an opportunity to move forward with my life. By supporting me, you have supported my children and now I can go to work and they can go to camp and have safety and fun. Thank you."

T is a 39-year-old single mother who, along with her children, sought safety in a shelter after experiencing domestic violence and threats. Determined to rebuild stability, she connected with the Network through a community presentation and began working with a Network Community Resource Advocate.

Through the Network, T received emergency financial assistance, a bus pass for employment-related transportation, food assistance, and counseling services. To support her family's progress, The Network helped coordinate childcare assistance and worked with her prospective employer to accommodate her start date.

With support from the Network and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis, her children received summer camp enrollment and club memberships. T successfully secured employment, began counseling, and expressed hope for the future. On June 8, her children started summer camp, and she began her new job the same day, marking an important step toward stability and independence for her family.

Urban League - Serving Our Streets Program:

"I feel like I have options now and support while I try to keep my housing stable for my children."

Mrs. H, a single mother of four, enrolled in the program while facing eviction and more than \$6,400 in rental arrears. The program provided case management, housing navigation, documentation assistance, and advocacy support to help stabilize her housing situation.

Services included assistance with obtaining a replacement Social Security card through a support letter to the Social Security Administration, housing searches focused on second-chance rental opportunities, and referrals to emergency rental assistance resources such as Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul, and local faith-based organizations. The program also coordinated advocacy efforts with property management and attempted mediation regarding her housing dispute.

As a result, Mrs. H increased her knowledge of housing resources, application processes, and documentation requirements while actively participating in housing search and stabilization activities. She strengthened her ability to navigate housing challenges, access community resources, and work toward securing safe, stable housing for herself and her children. Her ongoing goals include resolving her housing crisis, completing the Social Security card replacement process, and improving long-term financial stability through future employment.

