

2016 - 2017

ANNUAL REPORT



Forty Carrots
Family Center



Watching children grow; the beginning steps, the first few words, and before you turn around, years have passed and they are accomplishing things that you would have never expected. So too is the evolution of Forty Carrots. The growing numbers who attend our preschool and our free parenting groups, including teen parents, families fleeing domestic violence or homelessness, and people of all other backgrounds and challenges—all of them belong within our family. None of us are perfect parents, but Forty Carrots helps thousands of families who wish for a happy, healthy, educated future for their child. I am proud to be a part of giving this gift to others, as I personally have been a beneficiary.



In the following pages, you will read about our work and many of you, as our supporters, make that work possible. Thank you. If you are not yet familiar with Forty Carrots, we welcome you to join our quest to strengthen families and our community.

Michelle Kapreillian, Executive Director

JOIN US

Take action today and join us in creating good beginnings that last a lifetime...

- Call [941-365-7716](tel:941-365-7716) for a tour of Forty Carrots and see for yourself
- Donate online, call or send your gift in the enclosed envelope
- Volunteer your time & talent

THE NEED

33,500 the number of children in Sarasota & Manatee under age 5

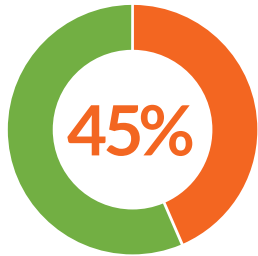


of our region's children live in poverty

18 months



the age at which low-income children's vocabularies begin to fall behind their more affluent peers



of our region's third graders are not reading on grade level



1 in 5 children

in the U.S. suffers from a mental disorder



4 in 10

children in the U.S. experienced physical assault in the last year

At the heart of everything we do, is the belief that all of us – parents, caregivers, educators, therapists, leaders, volunteers & donors – have the capacity to positively transform the quality of children's lives; providing good beginnings that last a lifetime.



OUR EXPERTISE

PARENTING EDUCATION

Strengthening families from all walks of life, including some of our community's most at risk, by providing information, skills and support

MENTAL HEALTH

Enhancing children and families' well-being through individual therapy and therapeutic support groups

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Preparing children for success in school and life through high quality programs integrating the latest research and best practices

HEALING FAMILIES



**“We are treated like normal
people in this class.”**

- SPARCC Client

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

One of the most insidious consequences of abuse is how it threatens to steal a woman's humanity, sense of self and self-esteem, lingering long after she has finally found safety. By partnering with Sarasota's Safe Place And Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC), Forty Carrots provides abused women an opportunity to share experiences with their children that aren't defined by trauma and victimhood.

One hour at a time, mothers and children play, exploring their feelings and thoughts, free from their damaging past. They grow together, as they grow further away from the abuse that was a part of their daily lives. Two of Forty Carrots' licensed Therapists introduce these vulnerable families to a larger array of services including counseling, a supportive community and other resources. This creates lifelines they never would have discovered otherwise, and a path towards a brighter future.

IN THIS PAST YEAR

65 mothers & children fleeing abuse received support from Forty Carrots' licensed Therapists



SUPPORTING SURVIVORS

**“Without Forty Carrots, I wouldn’t
know how to have a relationship
with my kids.”**

- Selah Freedom Client

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

What does “motherhood” mean to someone who’s been through the unspeakable trauma of sex trafficking and has lost custody of her children, too? Every year, Sarasota’s Selah Freedom rescues victims of sex trafficking in Southwest Florida. Last year, Forty Carrots’ licensed, experienced Therapists began offering weekly group therapy sessions for mothers in Selah Freedom’s residential program.

Our Therapists create a unique community for women who live with the anxiety that their horrific experiences have turned them into “inadequate” parents. As a group, they find validation and empowerment to be a positive, loving presence in their child’s life. They begin to look forward to creating normalcy with their child—a phone call, a homemade card, sharing their feelings, a simple celebration of Mothers Day.

IN THE PAST YEAR

survivors of sex trafficking participated in Forty Carrots led group therapy totaling **115** individual hours



STRENGTHENING BONDS

**“This class helps me remember
to be more patient.”**

- Partners In PlaySM Client

PARTNERS IN PLAYSM

This year, Forty Carrots conducted more Partners In PlaySM groups than ever before at 14 public libraries, serving more than 2,400 parents and children. Even with this increase, more than 300 families had to be turned away.

At Partners In PlaySM, families with children under the age of six sing, sculpt, doodle, and dream up puppet shows - all to promote healthy development. These groups, led by professionally trained Forty Carrots Parenting Educators, are important on many levels. They nourish the emotional-intellectual intersection of language learning, social development and the parent/child bond. The inclusion of singing builds language, scribbling leads to writing, story-play develops social comfort and self-determination. Most of all, as they interact, parents and children build an intimate connection, laying the foundation for a longstanding, healthy, happy relationship.

IN THE PAST YEAR

611 free Partners In PlaySM groups were provided in public libraries in Sarasota & Manatee Counties



BUILDING FOUNDATIONS

“The science of development is a powerful source of fresh thinking about how to increase opportunities early in life for all children.”

- Harvard Center on the Developing Child

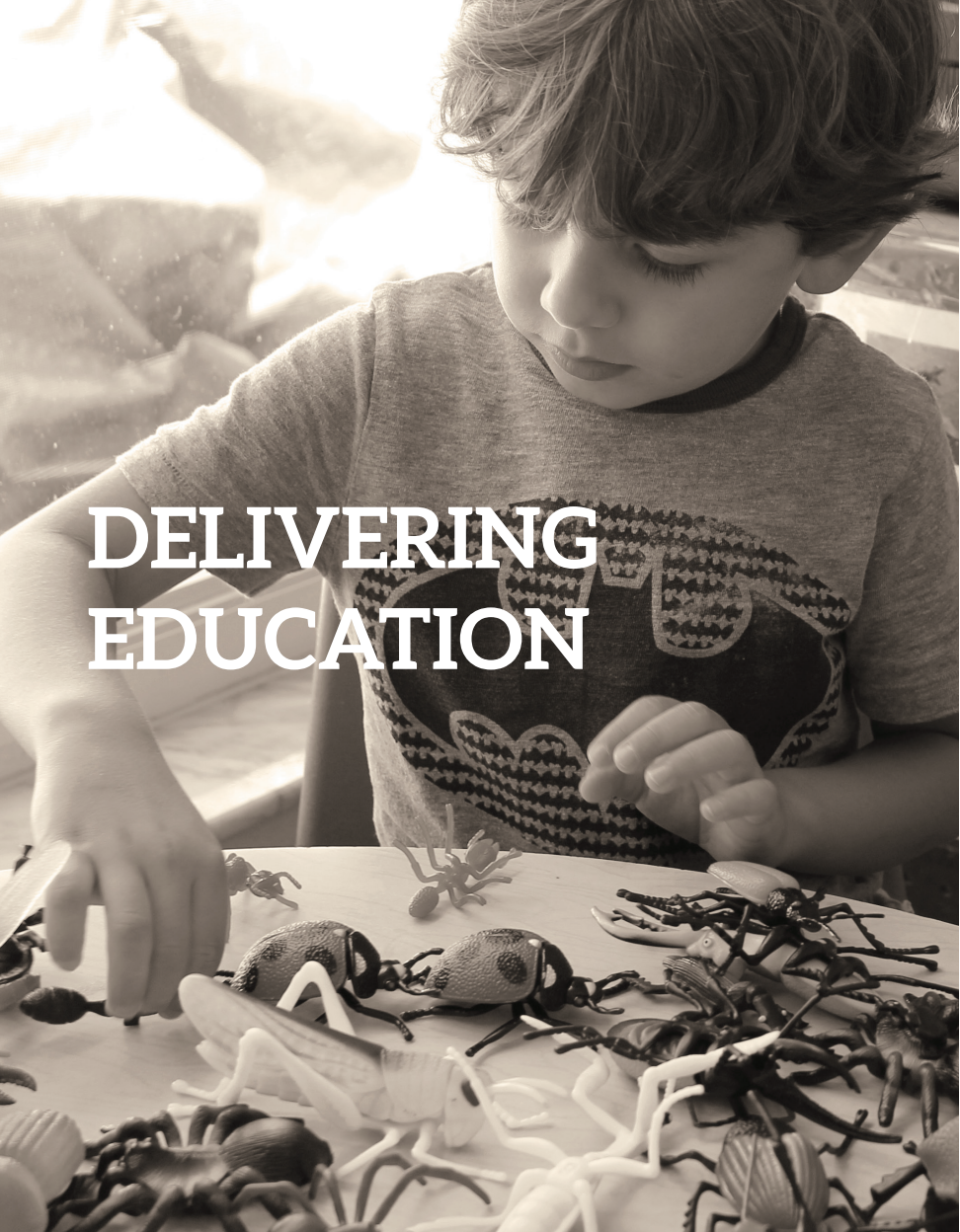
ROLE OF RESEARCH

An explosion of research over the last two decades proves that early experiences affect the development of a young child's brain, which in turn provides the foundation for all future learning, behavior, and health. Nurturing experiences build a strong foundation, while adverse ones have negative consequences lasting well into adulthood.

Forty Carrots integrates the latest research into its work with young children and their families every day - from teaching teen parents simple ways to grow connections in their babies' brains, to implementing new strategies to promote early literacy in the classroom. Our goal is to integrate preeminent learning with the experience our professionals provide, based upon the values of our organization - so that every child reaches their full potential.

IN THE PAST YEAR

our Educators and Therapists spent a total of **1,842** hours in professional development to elevate their skill set



DELIVERING EDUCATION

**“Forty Carrots has truly helped
our son to grow & flourish.”**

- Preschool Parent

THE PRESCHOOL

Experts in early childhood education recognize the value in an educational setting that mixes elements of many different philosophies and approaches to meet the individual educational and social-emotional needs of each child. Forty Carrots' degreed and highly qualified Teachers use this blended approach to spark imagination, creativity and problem solving for our young students.

Our proven methodology is to instruct and encourage, observe and check-in, recognize and demonstrate. Beyond providing open-ended materials, the Teachers guide and prompt each child to build on what they learned the day before to explore something new. “How can you use those curvy blocks to make a letter like you drew yesterday with your pencil?” In this way, the Preschool at Forty Carrots recognizes and nurtures each child's ability in a fun, challenging and diverse learning environment.

IN THE PAST YEAR

107 children developed skills critical to success in school and beyond



CULTIVATING SCIENCE

“Can you wash worms?”

- Curious Preschooler

THE SCIENCE CENTER

“Where does garbage go?” “What happens when I get a cold?”

At the Forty Carrots Science Center, students learn through hands-on experiences - whether it's acting out the movement of the sun and the earth, modeling white and red blood cells with beads and golf balls, or making mini “landfills” to see what happens after you throw something away. Everything is designed to elicit questions and curiosity from our students.

Children remain engaged and empowered outside of the Science Center - in their classrooms and at home. When they use a paper towel, they think about the consequences for our planet. They explain to their doctor how platelets work. It's a mindset that will serve them well in school and beyond: Every observation is a learning opportunity. Questions are an important part of understanding that science is a part of our everyday world.

IN THE PAST YEAR

71 science lessons engaged our preschoolers






STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (audited)

For the fiscal year ending on May 31, 2017

SUPPORT + REVENUES

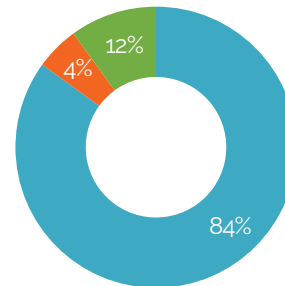
Preschool Fees	\$640,893
Parenting Program Fees	\$39,897
Contributions	\$209,805
Grants	\$276,478
Special Events Revenue, Net	\$986,553
Investment Income	\$90,426
Total Support & Revenue	\$2,244,052

FISCAL YEAR 2017 REVENUE SOURCES




Special Events Revenue	44%	
Program Service Fees	30%	
Grants	12%	
Contributions	10%	
Investments & Other	4%	

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES	
Preschool	\$877,836
Parenting Program	\$837,728
SUPPORTING SERVICES	
General + Administrative	\$79,861
Fundraising	\$240,495
Total Expenses	\$2,035,920
Change in net assets	\$208,132
Net Assets (beginning of year)	\$3,296,708
Net Assets (end of year)	\$3,504,840



FISCAL YEAR 2017 ORGANIZATIONAL EFFICIENCY

 Program Services	84%
 Fundraising	12%
 Administrative	4%

WHY WE GIVE

**“We strongly believe in
what Forty Carrots does.”**

**- Chris Tomasso, President
First Watch Restaurants**

FIRST WATCH RESTAURANTS

“We partner with Forty Carrots so we can help them do more of what they do so well, which is build healthy family units—healthy, not just from a physical standpoint but from a mental standpoint as well.

This is our largest local charitable partnership, and the one we’re most proud of. We all live in this community, all of our employees live here, many of us have kids. We’ve gotten to see firsthand that Forty Carrots’ family development work is just so, so impactful—how they’re able to help kids and their families grow and prosper.

If an organization has a heart, and we believe ours does, Forty Carrots holds a special place in our heart.”

Chris Tomasso, President, First Watch Restaurants
Forty Carrots’ Corporate Partner since 2003

Inspiring Confidence

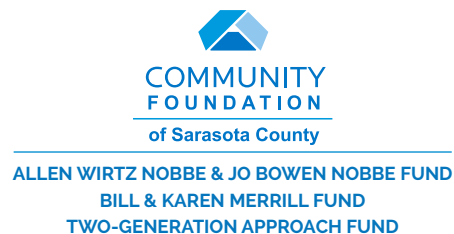
Forty Carrots’ strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency have earned it a coveted 4-star rating (highest possible) from Charity Navigator, America’s largest independent charity evaluator.



FORTY CARR



The Bellwether Group
at Morgan Stanley



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DAVIS



Ashley D. Kozel



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& CELESTE DOCKERY



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HOME

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STANDISH



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ROLLINS



MIKE & BETH
ROTH

Wilson-Wood
Foundation, Inc.



MICHAEL & DEANNA
CREATURO

ANNUAL GIVING

JUNE 1, 2016 - MAY 31, 2017

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Bill and Karen Merrill Fund
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Heron Creek Community Foundation
Jerome & Mildred Paddock Foundation
Kates Foundation, Inc.
Manatee Community Foundation
Weichel Family Fund & Wells Fargo Fund
McCune Family Foundation
Roberta Leventhal Sudakoff Foundation, Inc.
Sarasota County Government
SunTrust Foundation
The Montei Foundation
The MSC Foundation, Inc.
Wilson-Wood Foundation

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IN MEMORY OF YVONNE O'DRISCOLL

Deirdre Deputy

LEADING THE WAY



“The need is great.
We are emboldened to do more.”

– Rick Gomez, Chair

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Caroline Ellerson	Dr. Manav Malik
Renee Farmer	Anna Nekoranec
Lesley France	Justin Powell*
Kim Githler (emeritus)*	Nick Roberts*
Rick Gomez	Jeff Steinwachs (emeritus)*
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Chris Jarmul	Heather Williams
Stanley Kane (emeritus)*	Jena Wilson*

*not pictured

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