

Teach For America · South Carolina

October 10, 2011

Fueling an unstoppable movement to ensure that all children in South Carolina and across this nation have the opportunity to attain an excellent education

TEACHFORAMERICA

Educational Outcomes

Educational inequity that persists along socio-economic lines is one of our nation's greatest challenges, impeding economic growth and limiting the life prospects of millions of children

Our Country

- 9 year olds in low-income communities are already 3 grade levels behind their more affluent peers
- Half of 16 million students in poverty will not graduate from high school
- Those that graduate will perform at the 8th grade level in reading and math
- One in ten students from low-income communities will graduate from college

Our State

- Ranks 50th in rural high school graduation rates*
- By 4th grade, only 20% of low-income students are proficient in math**
- Only 13% of low-income students are proficient in 8th grade reading**
- Has more rural “dropout factories” than any state in the country^
- Along the I-95 corridor, 18% of adults lack basic prose literacy^^

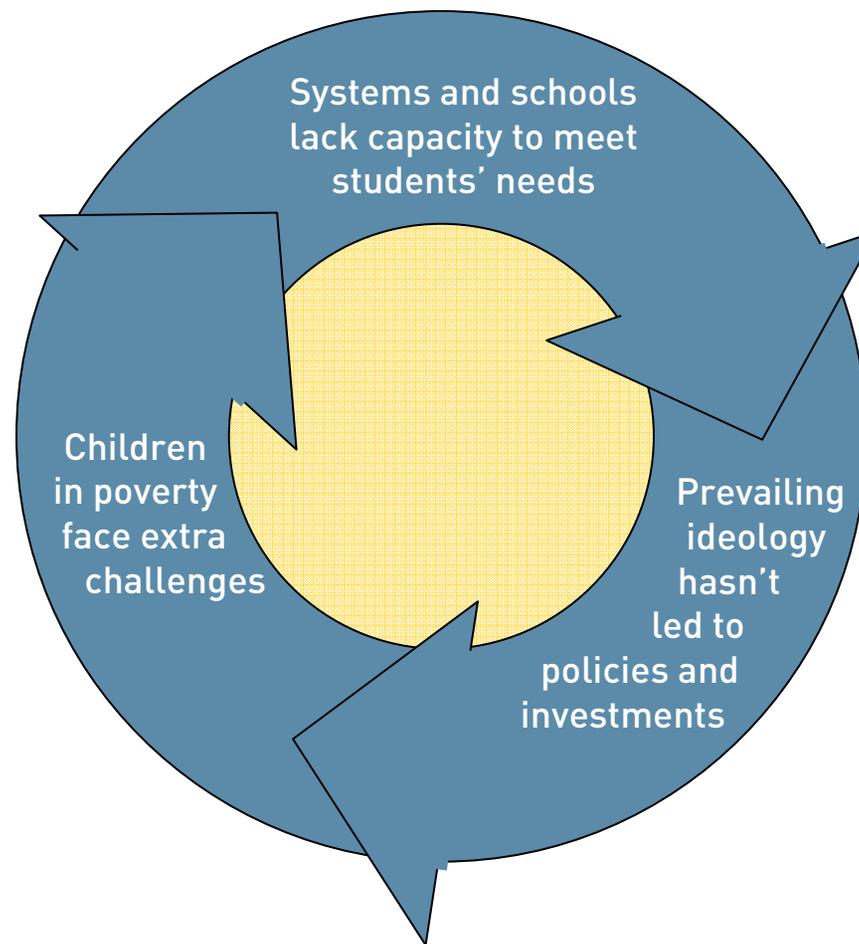
* Source: The Rural and Community Trust

** Source: National Center for Education Statistics

^ Source: Johns Hopkins Center for Social Organization of Schools

^^ Source: Research Triangle Institute I-95 Corridor Study

The Problem: A Cycle of Failure



Our Basic Model: Short- and Long-Term Impact

WHAT WE DO

Teach For America's mission is to build the movement to eliminate educational inequity by enlisting our nation's most promising future leaders in the effort

HOW WE ADDRESS THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

Short-Term = Leadership at the Classroom Level

We ask our nation's most promising future leaders to commit at least two years to teach in low-income urban and rural communities across the country. Our teachers go above and beyond traditional expectations to increase life opportunities for their students

Long-Term = Leadership to Fuel the Movement to Eliminate Educational Inequity

In the long-term, our alumni become a part of a new pipeline of talented, committed leadership working full-time within education and in careers that directly impact low-income communities (such as law and public health) by addressing the socioeconomic pressures that put additional strains on schools

Significant Impact On Students We Serve

A growing body of rigorous independent research demonstrates the effectiveness of corps members in leading students to academic success

2010 Tennessee State Report Card

- Teach For America teachers in Tennessee make a **statistically significant positive difference in every evaluated subject** (Math, Reading/Lang. Arts, Science, and Social Studies) compared with beginning teachers from 41 teacher-training programs – the only teacher-training program in Tennessee to do so

2009 Urban Institute analysis of North Carolina schools

- Teach For America teachers are **more effective than traditionally prepared teachers**, as measured by student exam performance
- The incremental impact of having a Teach For America teacher was 2-3 times that of having a more experienced teacher

Transformational Change is Possible

Teachers and Schools

KIPP Gaston College Preparatory and KIPP Pride High, Eastern North Carolina:



Systems and Policy

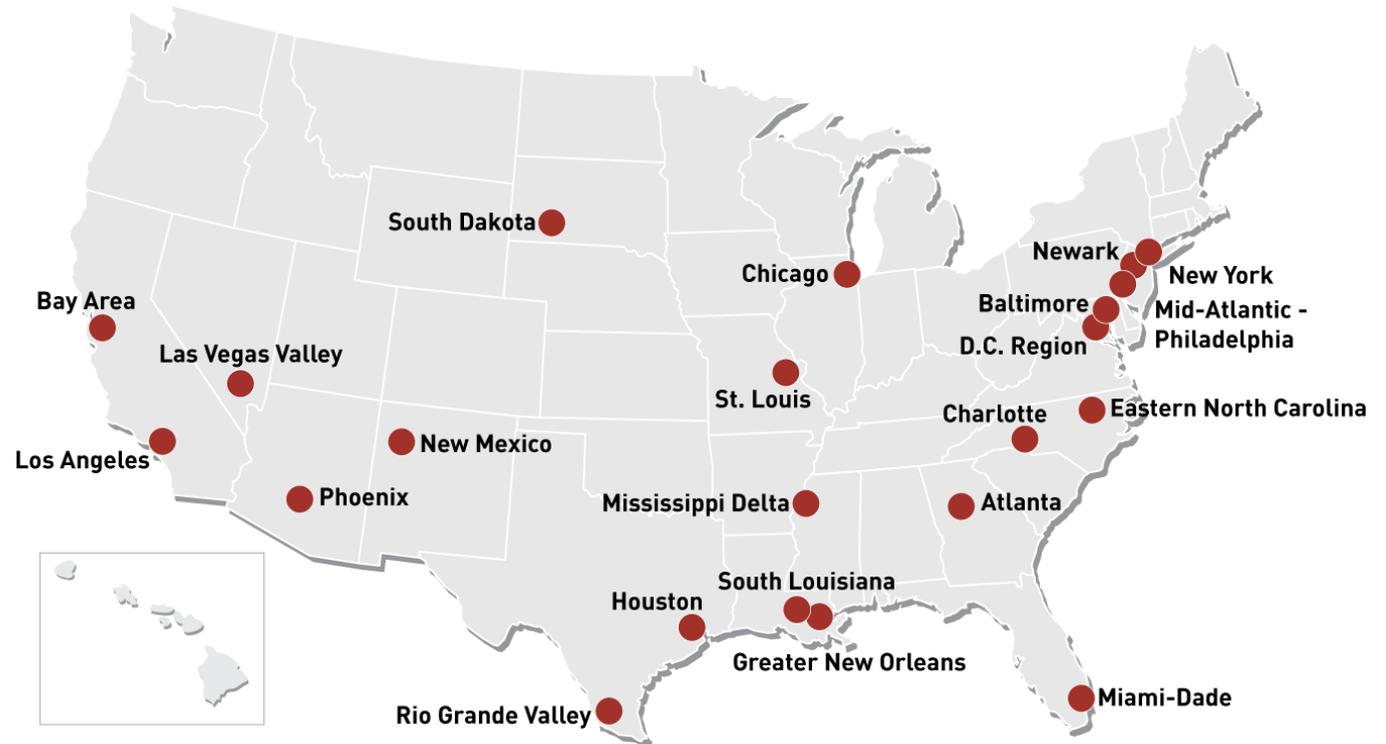
Baltimore and New Orleans, once considered the most intractable school systems in the nation, are now **two of the fastest improving**

Colorado recently passed Senate Bill 10-191, considered by many to be **a watershed moment in the effort to reform teacher evaluation and tenure**. The bill was sponsored and championed by freshman state Senator Mike Johnston, a Teach For America alum



Wherever there is transformational change, there is transformational leadership

Our Impact in 2005



2005

- 3,600 corps members in 22 sites
- Mathematica study shows that corps members make more progress in reading and math than would typically be expected
- 8,800 alumni*, including:
 - 153 school leaders and 3 elected officials
 - 5,800 in education, including 3,000 teaching and hundreds more working to improve the system from other positions

* 2005 and 2010 alumni figures are extrapolated from annual alumni social impact report data gathered in those years

Our Impact in 2011



2011

- **9,500 corps members** in 43 sites reaching well over 500,000 children each day
- Growing evidence that corps members have a positive impact on student achievement
 - **More than 20,000 alumni**, including:
 - 63% working full-time in education
 - 560 school leaders and 50+ elected officials

We Attract Our Country's Dynamic Future Leaders

RECRUITMENT

SELECTION

TRAINING &
SUPPORT

ALUMNI
LEADERSHIP

Applicant Statistics

Nearly 48,000 applicants in 2011

- 600 from South Carolina
- 154 from Clemson, 124 from USC

Of the 5,200 who were selected & began teaching in 2011:

- Average GPA: 3.6
- 89% held leadership role in college
- 35% in math or science placements
- 32% people of color
 - 11% African-American
 - 7% Latino/Hispanic
- 28% Pell grant recipients

We Select Applicants Who Have Demonstrated Characteristics Linked to Teacher Effectiveness

RECRUITMENT

SELECTION

TRAINING &
SUPPORT

ALUMNI
LEADERSHIP

The applicant pool of 48,000 generated an incoming 2011 corps of over 5,000. Approximately 80% of accepted applicants matriculate into the corps.

Selection Criteria

- Demonstrated record of achievement
- Perseverance and grit in the face of challenges
- Strong critical thinking skills
- Ability to influence and motivate others
- Organizational ability
- Understanding of and desire to work relentlessly in pursuit of our vision
- Experience building relationships in diverse settings and within low-income communities

We Provide Comprehensive Training and Support

RECRUITMENT

SELECTION

TRAINING &
SUPPORT

ALUMNI
LEADERSHIP

Our corps members prepare for the classroom through an intensive institute program, and are supported throughout the year to ensure they maximize classroom impact.

Resources and Support

- **Teacher Leadership Development:** Each corps member is assigned a manager of teacher leadership development (typically an alum who was a highly successful teacher), who supports the corps member's progress
- **Targeted professional development:** Corps members meet regularly with peers in content groups led by experienced teachers to address ongoing challenges and engage in professional development
- **National Resources:** Corps members have access to TFA.net.org, our online teaching and learning center that provides critical resources, video models, and e-learning

We Build Community and Foster the Leadership Of Alumni

RECRUITMENT

SELECTION

TRAINING &
SUPPORT

ALUMNI
LEADERSHIP

Through our alumni leadership initiatives, we aim to accelerate the pace of change in communities across the country and nationally.



By 2015, we will have more than **44,000** alumni addressing this problem from every angle, **including thousands in crucial leadership roles**

- 13,000 alumni continue to work in education
 - More than 6,800 teachers reach an estimated 450,000 students
 - Nearly 660 are serving as school or school system leaders
- More than 1,200 alumni work in nonprofits that impact education and 140 serve as elected officials or policy or advocacy leaders
- Hundreds of alumni start new social ventures, serve as board members, and work in philanthropy, law, medicine, and business.

Our Alumni Are Leading the Education Reform Movement

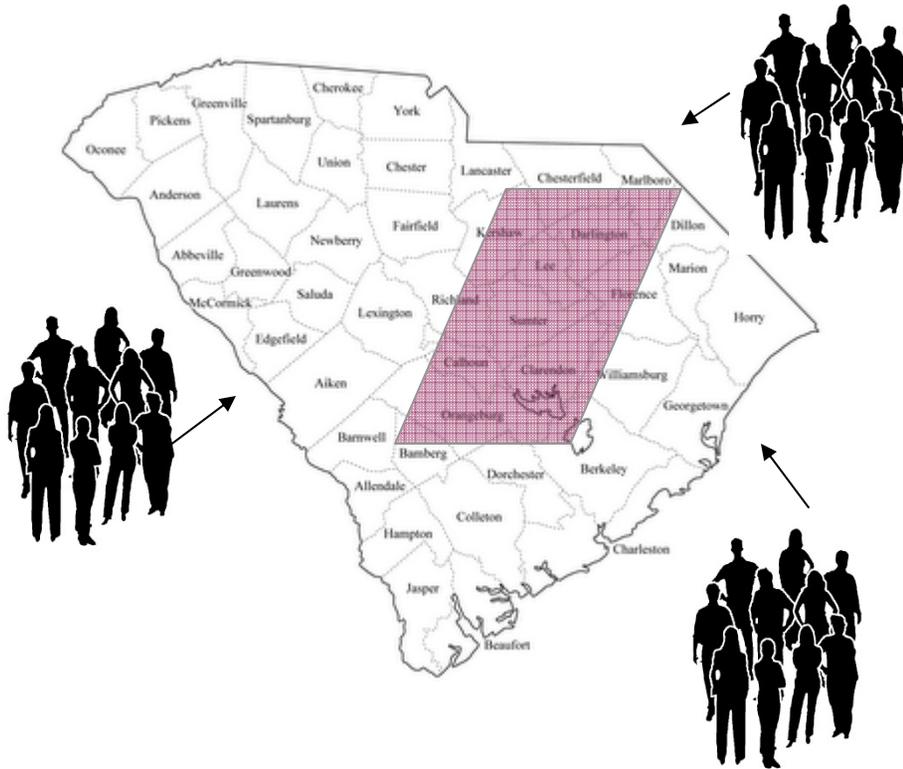
- **Tim Daly**
– *President, The New Teacher Project*
- **Mike Feinberg & Dave Levin**
– *Founders, Knowledge Is Power Program (KIPP)*
- **Kaya Henderson**
– *Chancellor, DC Public Schools*
- **Kevin Huffman**
– *Tennessee Education Commissioner*
- **Michelle Rhee**
– *Founder, StudentsFirst & former Chancellor, DC Public Schools*
- **John White**
– *Superintendent, New Orleans Recovery School District*

A 2011 Harvard study showed that more founders of education organizations participated in Teach For America than in any other organization or program

Teach For America South Carolina: Current Growth Plan

In the next three years, we will bring more than 90 corps members to the highest-need classrooms in South Carolina, reaching more than 10,000 children growing up in poverty

Impact in South Carolina



Founding Partner Districts

- Clarendon School District Two
- Darlington County School District
- Florence School District One
- Orangeburg Cons. School District Five
- Orangeburg School District Three

South Carolina Corps Members Profile

We are funneling the leadership of 30 highly talented young leaders from across the country into high-need classrooms in South Carolina.

Home state – 17 states, including:

California – 16%
Indiana – 6%
New Hampshire – 6%
New York – 9%
Ohio – 13%
Pennsylvania – 9%
South Carolina – 6%
Virginia – 6%

Corps diversity – 18% people of color

African American – 9%
Latino/Hispanic – 3%
Multi-ethnic – 3%

Undergraduate University – 28 schools, including:

Harvard University
Penn State University
Oberlin College
The Ohio State University
University of California – Los Angeles
University of Chicago
University of South Carolina
Virginia Tech

Academic background:

Received a Pell grant – 19%
Average Cumulative GPA – 3.56

Our Alumni in South Carolina

Ansel Sanders (Baltimore '04) is the founder of A.J. Whittenberg Elementary School in Greenville

Melissa Williams (Charlotte '08) is director of accountability with Orangeburg Dist. Three

Laura Steele (Philadelphia '04) is the 2010 Orangeburg District Five Teacher of the Year

Cheryl Gahagan (South Louisiana '94) is the head of the Early Childhood Learning Center at Heathwood Hall Episcopal School

Amy Johnson (Baltimore '97) is an assistant professor at the University of South Carolina's Department of Instruction and Teacher Education

Heather McEldowney (DC '09) is an English II teacher at North Charleston High School

Mary Fran Crowell (Houston '91) is a pediatrician specializing in child abuse & neglect in the Greenville Hospital System

Teach For America's Impact: The Mississippi Delta

In the Mississippi Delta, our presence has grown enormously, from 10 teachers in 1991 to 520 today. Together, our corps members and alumni are fueling a true “Delta Revolution” as they lead the efforts to revitalize the educational system and ensure opportunities for all students.

“We’re at one of those historical, monumental turning points, where all the different pieces of the puzzle are coming together.”

- RON NURNBERG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SINCE 1996

Notable Alumni Leaders...

Over 160 alumni currently live and work in the Delta region, including:

- Monique Nichols Miller (Delta '04) HS Science Teacher of the Year, Barton, AR
- Scott Shirey (South Louisiana '98) Founder, KIPP Delta Public Schools, AR
- Brianne Connelly (Delta '07) Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce, Lake Village, AR
- William Murphy (Delta '05) Principal, Carver Upper Elementary, Indianola, MS
- Maisie Wright (Delta '05) Principal and Founder, KIPP Blytheville Preparatory School, Blytheville, AR
- Doug Friedlander (Delta '04) Co-founder of The Boys and Girls Club, Helena West Helena, AR

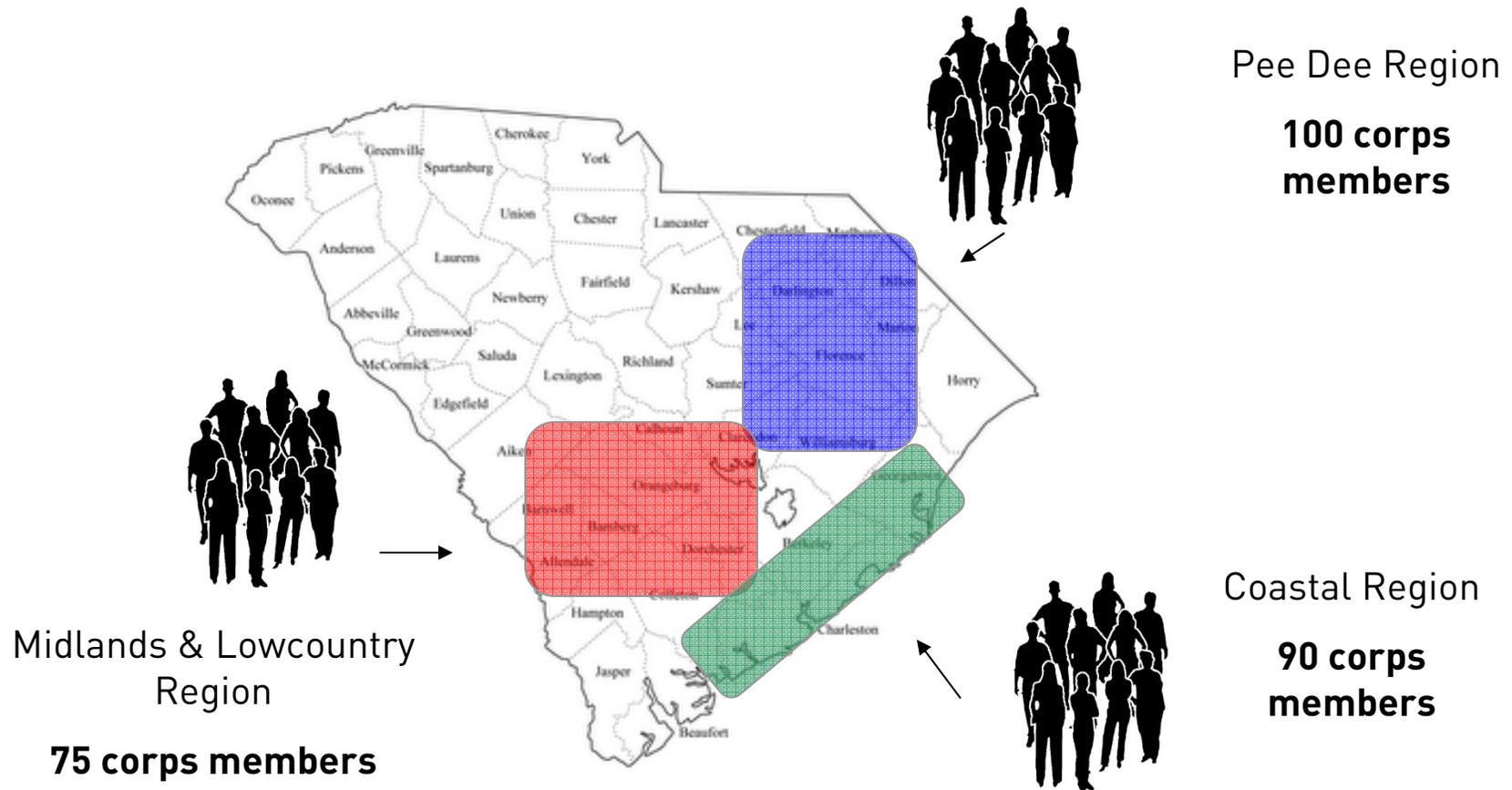
...Effecting Change

Over 70 percent of alumni in the Delta are involved in education or community reform efforts

- MS State Teacher of the Year, Birdette Hughey (Delta '10) recognized as first corps member to receive honors during 2-year commitment
- Luke VanDeWalle (Delta '02) opened KIPP Delta Collegiate in 2006 with 156 students. In 2009, 91 percent of its seniors scored proficient or above in the state's literacy exams, earning the second-highest average score statewide.
- Rachel Hicks (Delta '04) & Sanford Johnson (Delta '03) founded Mississippi First, a policy advocacy group that consulted on the state's superintendent search and Race To The Top application.

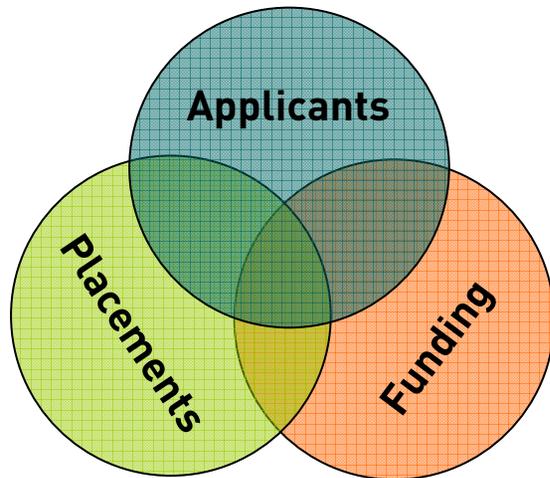
Teach For America South Carolina: Proposed Growth Plan

By 2015, we aim to partner with other regions in South Carolina to provide 275 corps members in the highest-need classrooms in South Carolina, reaching more than 17,000 children growing up in poverty



Strategic Opportunity in South Carolina

Alignment of Resources



with

Organizational Capacity

National and Regional



Now is the opportunity for Teach for America to...

- create transformational opportunities for low-income South Carolina students
- provide a ready supply of teachers for turning around our highest-need schools
- become a proven source for school & system leadership
- **Be a driving force dedicated to closing the achievement gap in South Carolina**

One day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education.

TEACHFORAMERICA