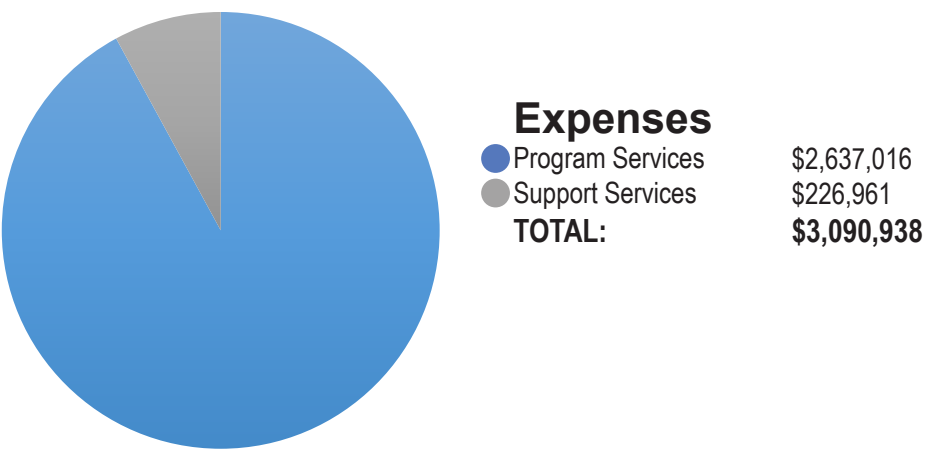
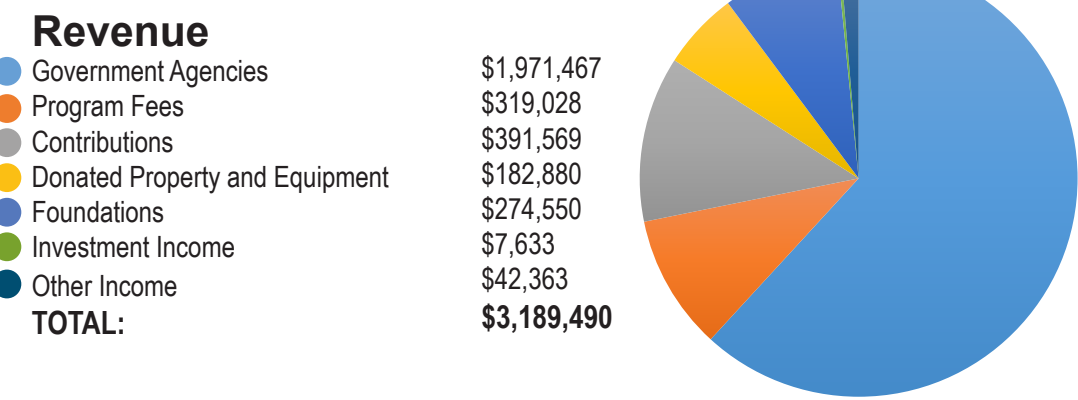


Financial Highlights 2018



Thank You to our Corporate Donors

**Over \$25,000**  
City Of Avon  
City of Oberlin  
Community Foundation  
of Lorain County  
Community West  
Foundation  
Nord Family Foundation  
The Nordson Corporation  
Foundation

**\$5,000-\$24,999**  
•Alyce and Ann Metka  
Foundation  
•CareSource  
•Chemical Bank  
•Community Foundation of  
Lorain County -  
Eric Nord •Trust Fund  
•Nordson Corporation  
•The Norton Family Foundation  
•Wells Fargo

**\$1,000-\$4,999**  
•AgriNomix LLC  
•Annalea Stone Trust  
•Avon Lake United Church of Christ  
•Barnes Wendling CPA, Inc  
•Bendix Commercial  
Vehicle Systems LLC  
•Bill Long Foundation  
•Community Foundation of  
Lorain County -  
The Hispanic Fund  
•Community Foundation of  
Lorain County -  
Women's Fund  
•Crane Fund for Widows  
and Children  
•Eaton Fabricating Co.  
•Elyria Service League  
•Greenquest Development  
•NATCA Charitable Foundation  
•Northwest Bank  
•Our Lady's Guild  
•PNC Foundation  
•PolyOne Corporation  
•R.W. Beckett Corporation  
•Second Harvest Food Bank  
of North Central Ohio  
•TCC Technology Solutions  
•Trinity Drywall & Painting  
•Walmart - Sam's #6314  
•Walmart #4255 Elyria  
•Walmart #5309 Oberlin  
•Will Ptak Foundation, Inc.

Neighborhood Alliance has been  
compassionately caring for the community  
since 1927. We are helping our community  
grow stronger by caring for our clients' most  
basic needs. We provide emergency shelter,  
homeless outreach, daily meal delivery,  
nutrition services including an emergency food  
pantry and socialization activities for seniors,  
childcare and child enrichment programs, and  
access to family support programs such as  
Help Me Grow for those in need.

We are empowering the people of our  
community with the tools to create a better life  
for themselves. With our inspired mission of  
strengthening neighborhoods, we continue to  
expand programs and services to address the  
diverse and changing needs of families and  
individuals in Northeast Ohio.

1536 E. 30th St.  
Lorain, Ohio 44055



The mission of Neighborhood Alliance is to help communities grow stronger by meeting critical needs and empowering individual and families. We strive to achieve this mission by focusing on 4 core service areas which include Child Enrichment, Senior Enrichment, Shelter/Emergency and Family Support. Many of our participants come to us during a time of crisis. Our goal is to help them get out of the crisis they are in and find ways to prevent that from happening in the future by empowering them to move forward with their lives and reach their goals.

Programming for  
infants, toddlers,  
preschoolers  
(kindergarten  
readiness),  
and for school-age  
children before and  
after school.

Facilitated in-home  
parenting  
education and  
developmental  
support for families  
with children  
prenatal up to three  
years old.

Active Senior  
programming  
and  
Home-delivered  
meals to  
Homebound  
Seniors throughout  
Lorain County.

24-hour, 7 days  
a week extended  
stay family shelter,  
with additional  
services available  
to address the  
various needs of the  
residents.

Children

Family

Seniors

Homeless

[www.MyNeighborhoodAlliance.org](http://www.MyNeighborhoodAlliance.org)

Neighborhood Alliance

HELPING COMMUNITIES GROW STRONGER

Child Enrichment Services  
Family Support Services  
Senior Enrichment Services  
Shelter and Emergency Services

Annual Report 2018

CHILDREN



SENIOR



HOMELESS



FAMILY



Alicia Foss  
President & CEO

When I came into my position as CEO of NA in February of 2018, I didn't know exactly what challenges would await me.

What I did know is how dedicated and hard working the team here is, and in my mind, that type of love for the community and commitment to its service could overcome any hurdles thrown our way. 2018 became a year of progress and growth for Neighborhood Alliance. We took a close look at the faces of those we serve to better understand both the past and the future of the organization.

The mission of NA has always been to be a leader in our community and to make a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve, the faces of our programs, by meeting crisis level needs in emergency situations. I know firsthand the impact of Neighborhood Alliance because I am also one of the faces, a former participant in one of our programs. My daughter was not expected to live. She weighed a whopping 16 ounces at birth, or 453 grams, which is the unit of measure they use for babies born this premature. We spent 116 days in the NICU surrounded by doctors, nurses, tubes, wires, IVs, and the incessant beeping of various machines. You never expect things like this to happen to you, but it can, and for me, it did; I was in crisis, and bringing my daughter home after four months in the NICU was terrifying. I remember thinking there was no way I would survive this.



She only weighed 4 pounds, she was on a heart monitor 24 hours-a-day, she was struggling to eat, couldn't be put down to sleep because of the risk of aspiration, and I spent the first 6 weeks at home holding her upright, day and night, to ensure she didn't stop breathing. It was during this time that I was first introduced to NA. A home visitor from the Early Intervention program showed up at my door one December morning with a gift bag full of baby items. With most of my family out of state, she was the first friendly face I had seen in weeks. The first person to celebrate the birth of my baby with me, instead of apologizing for my circumstances.

That Service Coordinator helped to create a team of therapists, a developmental specialist, and nurses who stayed with us through the first three years of my daughter's life. They were there to celebrate with me when we were finally able to return that awful heart monitor because my daughter was no longer at risk of stopping breathing unexpectedly. They encouraged and supported me as I struggled to complete my Master's degree, typing papers one handed, while holding my little miracle in my other hand. They were there when I learned that my daughter would be a lifelong wheelchair user. And when I found out that my daughter's growth issues had not resolved and would require a gastrostomy feeding tube indefinitely, they helped me research our options and make good decisions on something I knew nothing about. They taught me how to advocate for her needs and for myself as her parent.

When my little girl was three years old and aged out of the program, the team helped me to transition my daughter to pre-school on an Individualized Education Program or IEP. Today, my daughter attends school in a typical classroom, with necessary supports.

I had no way of knowing the impact of what this connection to Neighborhood Alliance would mean for me down the road. If you had asked me then, I couldn't have guessed that the organization that showed up at my door would become one I would grow to love and that I would one day have the pleasure to lead. I truly believe that without the Early Intervention program at Neighborhood Alliance, my daughter would not be where she is today and neither would I.

I want to personally thank you all for being a part of our mission over the years. We could not do what we do and serve the many faces of our programs without the support of community members like you. Your contribution to our organization helps people like me and so many others who need extra support when dealing with a crisis in life. Thank you for trusting that Neighborhood Alliance will succeed in meeting our mission and in helping our community grow stronger.

Helping communities grow stronger by meeting critical needs  
and empowering individuals and families.



In this 2018 Annual Report we want to highlight, inspire and celebrate those who make our story possible, our staff! These individuals who are on the front lines every day deserve to be recognized for their accomplishments. It's because of them that our mission charges forward every day.

Katelyn Gonzalez,  
Rising Titans Coordinator

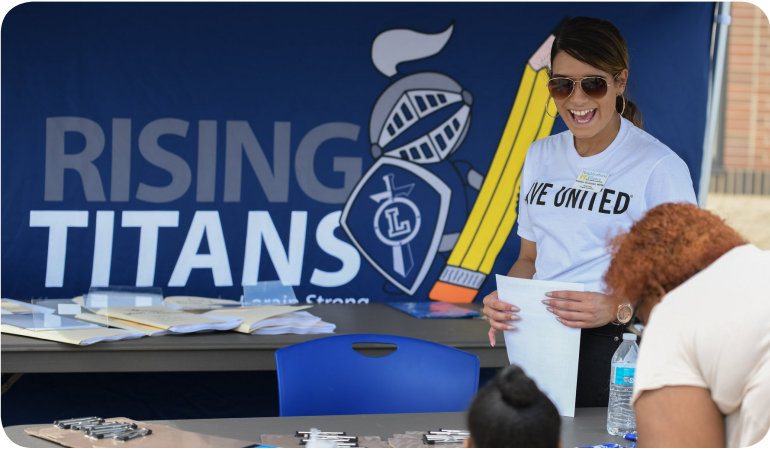
I was in the 6th grade at Larkmoor Elementary School in Lorain, when my teacher nominated me for some program where I really had no idea what it was or the value it held. My parents were excited and I knew it was something great but still wasn't aware of its significance. I sat through individual interviews, family interviews, and applications to find out weeks later that I was accepted into the Young Scholars Program under the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at The Ohio State University. This program serving 9 cities in Ohio, sends low-income, minority, first generation college students to OSU on a 100% tuition paid (for many) or 90% tuition paid, depending on how much your parent's income has fluctuated. And unfortunately where I'm from that's not often highlighted or talked about. I graduated from Lorain High School and then from The Ohio State University where I became a first-gen college graduate and continued to grad school at Cleveland State University.

Last spring, I was sitting in class learning about the U.S justice system, schools and juvenile detention homes, individual rights, ethics, school to prison pipeline, etc. when I finally wondered what the heck am I going to do with my life. We were learning about IEP's and working with children and it sort of intrigued me. So at that moment, I searched jobs on Indeed in Lorain, my hometown.

I spotted a listing title "Rising Titans Collaborative Coordinator." It was the total opposite of what I THOUGHT I was going to do.... All I know is, it caught my eye and was meant to be!

After a series of interviews I got a call from Alicia saying I got my first big girl job in my hometown, doing what I love to do; work with people and empower them! I think then is when it clicked and I wholeheartedly and maturely understood the value of my Young Scholars Scholarship.

I've been in this position as the Rising Titans Collaborative Coordinator for a little over a year now, and the strides that we have made in little time have been significant and impactful. Being a part of the shift in Lorain, has in turn shifted my views of the city and the people in it. I'm excited for my generation (yes, us millennials) to continue a productive change in the city of Lorain, the state and the country to fight for the good of everyone no matter where they are from or what they do or don't know.... Because that's what we do in Rising Titans and of course, Neighborhood Alliance. Thank you!



Neighborhood Alliance is the lead agency for the Rising Titans Collaborative. This United Way collaborative has the overarching goal of creating community wide kindergarten readiness throughout the city of Lorain.



Gloria Olivencia  
Director of Shelter and Emergency Services

I have lived in Lorain most of my life. I've always had a rough life, and so at 13 years old I decided to run away from home. I ended up in California and that is where my story began.

I started working in a field picking hot peppers with people who were undocumented and they took care of me. They knew that I was a citizen, but they also knew that I was there alone, so they taught me how to work hard. I started living with a family and taking care of their children. I cooked for the family and cleaned their house.

A year later, I came back home to Ohio. I never finished school. I'm a visual learner, so every time I had to work somewhere, I had to apply myself and really watch what the other people did, because that's how I learned.

I started working for a mental health facility. I began helping people who were less fortunate and who were mentally ill. I listened to their stories and took them on outings. In 2008, I was asked to run a program that was called the Path Program. Here in Lorain County, "PATH" path stands for "projects for assistance in transition from homelessness." I managed an Outreach team that went out into the county looking for people who were literally homeless under the bridges, in abandoned houses and buildings, cemeteries, and parks. We gave them the necessities that they were needing such as sleeping bags and food. My main job in this program was to ensure that I was connecting with people who were mentally ill, but who were not receiving mental health care. This is the same PATH Program that is now housed at Neighborhood Alliance.

In 2016, a position opened up at the Haven Center, and I knew that was my way to work a little longer with the people. I accepted the position and started working for the largest shelter in Lorain County which serves men, women, and children. When I accepted the position, I was told that there was going to be an opening soon, as the program Director was retiring, and I would have an opportunity to be the next Director for this facility, but there was one thing stopping me...I didn't have my GED or high school diploma. I needed that in order to become the director. So at this point in time I'm 49 and I needed to pass my GED. That's when I applied at LCCC, at the satellite building on Broadway.

I passed my GED on July 18th of 2017, and on June 1st, I became the director of the largest shelter in Lorain County, and I still was able to run the Path Program. I never thought that I'd be here today. I felt like giving up a long time ago, but people in my life helped me to realize that it is never too late, and my family never gave up on me.



Amy Anderson,  
Director of Senior Enrichment Services

In December, 2019, I will have been a member of the Neighborhood Alliance team for 15 years. I've served this community while wearing a variety of hats and working with many different teams in order to meet individual, family, and organizational needs.

As the director of the Senior Enrichment Services I know I'm part of a team that is making a difference in the lives of our neighbors. One of our long time drivers called me 2 weeks ago for a client he delivers to regularly in Oberlin. I'll call her Ms. Smith. She had had a lot going on in the previous few days. From doctor's visit, to a call for an in home podiatry visit, to a visit from her lawyer, it was a little overwhelming. "Ms. Smith" is 96 and her only living relative is her 95 yr. old cousin in Indiana. Our driver was concerned about someone calling Ms. Smith asking for a bill payment over the phone. I met our driver at her house for the initial introduction. I contacted the podiatry clinic to make sure the bill from 2017 was actually owed. The doctor wouldn't accept a credit card payment. Neighborhood Alliance was able to pay that bill and she was able to keep her appointment. I spent another hour at her home just talking with her. I was satisfied when I left that she isn't being exploited. Supportive Services like these are provided in and out of the Oberlin Senior Center.

We have over 400 people waiting to receive Home Delivered Meals. Even though funding for HDM's has remained flat for several years, this is a vital service we continue to provide thanks to community support.

I enjoy being part of the team that meets the needs of those we serve. Perhaps more importantly, this position has given me the opportunity to advocate at the local and state level for the seniors in our community. This allows me to speak to our elected government representatives on behalf of the growing older population in Lorain County. These individuals are veterans, retired teachers, steel workers, medical professionals, mothers, and fathers. Their voices have been heard over the years supporting and encouraging their children and grandchildren, in factories, in union halls, in health care, in commerce, and from the classroom to the boardroom.

Here is what we know. By 2035, we must be prepared to address a population shift for the first time in the nation's history. According to AARP Livable Communities, in 2035, just 16 years from now, in this country the population of adults 65 and older will outnumber children younger than 18. From my current perspective, that is a stunning statistic.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!!  
[www.MyNeighborhoodAlliance.org](http://www.MyNeighborhoodAlliance.org)