



I had **fun!**
I was **good** at it!
I want to do it **again!**





Our Northside Initiative has many kids smiling in the North Minneapolis community.

Yes, we are having **FUN!**

"The coaches have a blast! Their passion, expertise and joy encourage, inspire and engage our kids."

-McKNIGHT HEAD START TEACHER

At the end of each Saturday Winter program session, the children are asked, Did you have fun? Were you good at it? Will you come again? These three questions not only help to convey a sense of achievement and confidence for the children who have completed a Kidspeed session, but they also reflect the outcomes for the entire year.

FUN is a word that we think about often around here. We put a priority on it. If our programs are not **FUN**, kids will not be attracted to them. It's that simple. When we think of teaching sports skills, we think, "How can we make this fun?" To us, being **FUN** means being innovative. All our Kidspeed stations are composed of bright, colorful components that may not look anything like tennis. In fact, many are not tennis related at all. Some are baseball oriented, or teach basic basketball or gymnastics skills. Kids love the variety.

But most of all, what makes our program work is that we have **FUN** people. We have the most committed, eager group of volunteers and staff that I have ever seen. And let me tell you, we use every volunteer we can get, because the requests for our program are at an all time high.

Take a look at the imagery in this annual report and see for yourself all the good things we have been doing. I encourage all of you to get involved this year with our program; whether it is participating as a volunteer, donating or by simply telling a friend about us. Because let me tell you, we have a lot of **FUN** to be shared!

Skip Gage - Board Chair

Yes, we are **GOOD** at it!

"It's convenient, free and an awesome experience for our son. The program is so organized and fun. We really appreciate your efforts to make it an overall exercise/skills experience and not a high-stress environment."

-WINTER PROGRAM PARENT

Our goal at InnerCity Tennis is not to develop the world's greatest tennis player or the next tennis phenom who will compete in the US Open. Simply put, we want to show children that they can be **GOOD** at anything they want to do. Don't get us wrong, we teach the fundamentals of tennis very well, but the bottom line is that building a healthy child is more important to us than building a tennis player.

We want each and every player that comes through our program to experience success. And not the typical kind of success you may be thinking about. At InnerCity Tennis, we define success as an improvement in one's own ability to do something. All our Kidspeed stations have been designed so that kids can achieve success and see improvement in themselves.

When children notice improvement in their own skills and ability, we see them become inspired. We see it in their eyes. They are confident, ready to take on the next challenge they face. That is our goal, to equip kids with the confidence to do their personal best - and yes, we are very **GOOD** at it.

85% of the parents we surveyed say that the nutrition components in our program have had a positive effect on their children.





Volunteer service with our younger kids is a requirement of all our older kids (ages 12 and up).

Yes, we want to do this **AGAIN!**

"Good staff – kind to the kids and knowledgeable, they encourage the kids to try and [they] always offer praise. The children really enjoyed it, please come back next year!"

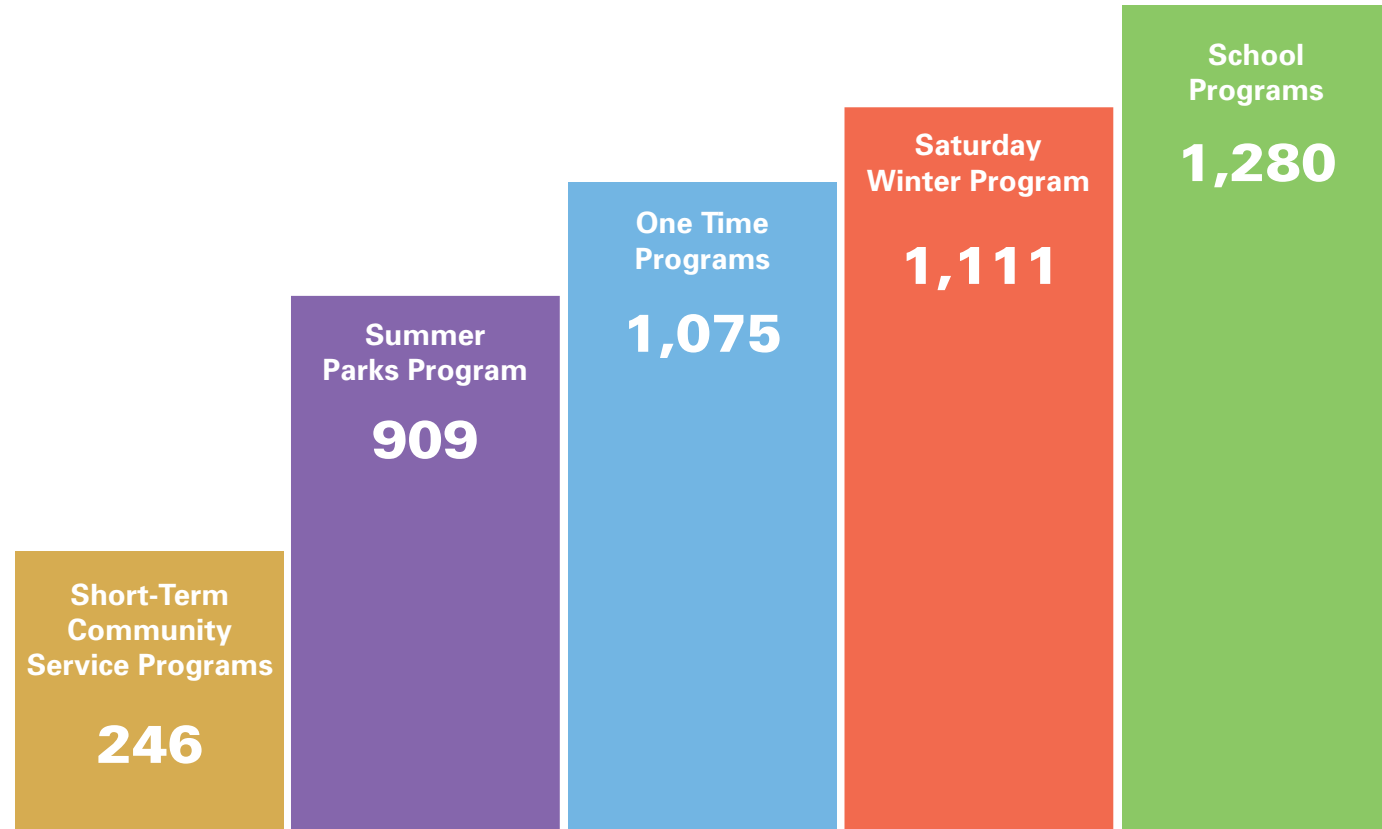
-FRASER HEAD START TEACHER

Each year we run our program, we see kids, parents, grandparents, teachers, staff and volunteers get excited. The energy created in our programs is incredible. We see huge smiles on kids' faces. We see big hugs between volunteers and children. We hear the laughter that everyone involved is sharing.

We would love to bring these experiences further out into the community to impact more kids in more neighborhoods. As we move through 2009 into 2010, you can bet that, in addition to strengthening our existing programs and partnerships, we are going to be making every effort to collaborate with new partners and bring our programs into new territories and new neighborhoods. The need is too great not to.

We want to continue to run our programs **AGAIN** and **AGAIN**, for more kids. Check out the graph and map on the next pages and see how far into the Minneapolis community we are reaching. How much further can we reach? How many more lives can we impact?

4,621 Kids' Lives Impacted...



...at **33** Locations in the Greater Minneapolis Area



FINANCIALS

Operating 1/1/08 to 12/31/08

	2008	2007
Income (Support and Revenue).....	\$ 782,554 *	\$ 546,056
Expenses.....	597,491	522,228
Income Less Expenses.....	185,063	23,828
Coach/Mentor/Tutor Volunteer Hours	9,374	9,087
Total Community Program Hours	2,336	2,158
Consolidated Balance Sheet		
Current Assets.....	361,149	358,204
Property and Equipment	679,723	701,363
Other Assets	471,423	255,401
Total Assets.....	1,512,295	1,314,970
Current Liabilities	158,877	115,499
Net Assets	1,353,418	1,199,471
Total Assets and Liabilities	1,512,295	1,314,970
Cash Statement		
Cash at beginning of Year	305,975 **	234,078
Cash at end of Year	316,853	305,975

*Includes 2008 value of a charitable remainder trust.

**Includes contributions given for our on-going capital campaign.



90% of the parents we surveyed say their kids are more eager to try new things.

THANK YOU EVERYONE!

InnerCity Tennis would like to recognize the volunteer CMTs who generously give their time and energy and make Kidspeed happen each year.

A special thanks to the individuals who made the 4th Annual Benefit for Kidspeed a success.

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Golden Eagle American Indian Center
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Minnesota Senior Tennis Players Club
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77% of the teachers we surveyed noted an improvement in their children's ability to follow directions.





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