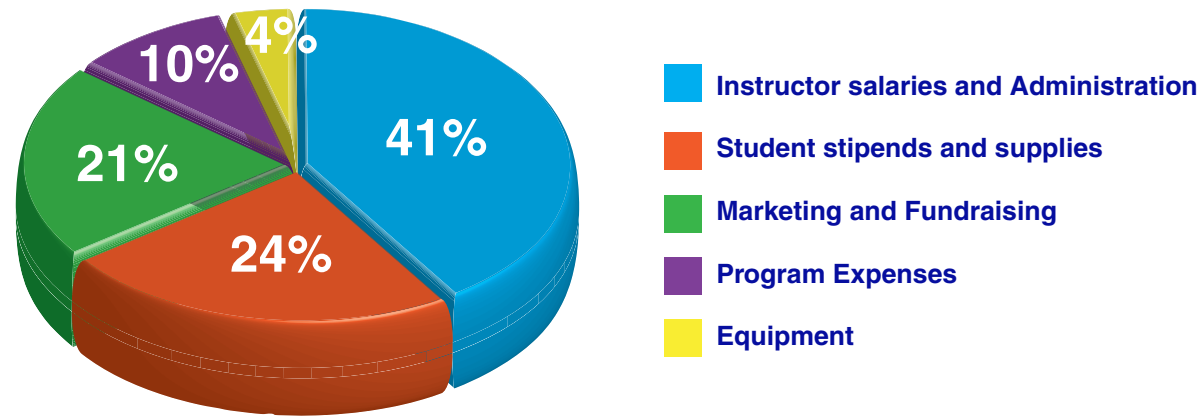


FINANCIALS

2016 EXPENDITURES



PARTNERSHIPS



26 local nonprofits that offer childcare or housing

Awards

Gillis Spirit Award • Top 5 Finalist for the National 1 in a Million Competition • NextGen Leaders Award

Board of Directors

Jason Buchanan *President*
 Chelsea Hodges *Vice President*
 Katy Dodd *Treasurer*
 Gerry Barker
 Eric Bosch
 Joyce Buchanan
 Kevin Flattery
 Dave Fogleman
 Carol Getty
 Meredith Hauck
 Susan McGee
 Marla Svoboda

Advisory

Bill "Doc" Worley
 Tom Turner
 Bruce Pendleton
 Carl DiCapo
 Becky Blades
 Phil and Becky Smith

Major Donors

The City of KC
 William H. Dunn, Sr.
 Tom and Jill Turner
 The Curry Foundation
 100 Women
 Doctors Morrill Foundation
 JE Dunn Corporation
 Harold and Marilyn Melcher Foundation
 The McDonnell Foundation
 William T. Kemper Foundation
 Sherman Family Foundation
 Arvin Gottlieb Charitable Foundation
 Bruce and Liz Pendleton
 Jason and Jamie Buchanan
 Joyce and Tom Buchanan
 John and Debbie Walker
 HR Bloch Foundation
 Oppenstein Brothers Foundation
 Welch Foundation

Staff

Natasha Kirsch
Executive Director, EMPA from Henry Bloch School of Business
 Teri Aalders
Director of Grooming Instruction, 40+ years' experience in grooming and instruction
 Lacey Adair
Lead Grooming Instructor, 15+ years' experience in grooming and instruction
 Samantha Calvert
Operations Manager, 5+ years in grooming and salon management
 Aly Gideon
Social Work Intern, KU Masters of Social Work Candidate



OVERVIEW

EPEC (Empowering the Parent to Empower the Child)

is a not-for-profit organization that focuses on providing financial stability as the first step toward lifting single-parent poor families out of poverty into more stable and intentional lives. EPEC's mission statement is "Empowering families to become self-reliant through job training, life skills and practical solutions to end their cycle of poverty." The empowered child of today is the successful parent of tomorrow.

EPEC's ultimate vision is lifting the child out of the welfare cycle. But to accomplish that, we must first address obstacles in the parent's life...beginning with barriers to employment. EPEC's first vocational instruction program, The Grooming Project, teaches the trade of dog grooming. By pairing job training with life skill courses, the organization provides a comprehensive approach to breaking the cycle of poverty.



A few of our success stories...



Tammy is a mother of three and was living in her car when she first started The Grooming Project. Her two kids were living on couches of different family members. Her criminal record made it difficult for her to obtain work. She had food stamps and an old car. Within months, she was able to move into a motel with the student stipend she was receiving from The Grooming Project. Tammy graduated in June and was immediately hired by PetCo. She works full time and is making \$15 an hour with a 401k package and health insurance. She moved into an apartment with her children and has a newer, more reliable car. PetCo is training her to become a grooming salon manager for a new PetCo opening in KCK.

STATS

6 students



Our first class graduated in June of 2016!



1450 Total Animals groomed



85% of our pet parents come from low-income households that cannot afford professional grooming.



156 Groomed Wayside Waifs pets



\$35,000 Earned in grooming sales



Jane is a mother of three living in low-income housing through Truman Medical Center with her children enrolled in Operation Breakthrough. Jane suffered severe child abuse and at age 13 and ran away from home. She dropped out of school in 8th grade and lived in foster homes, shelters and on the streets. Jane is 29 years old with three kids (ages 5, 6, and 9) and has never had a job before coming to The Grooming Project. While Jane was in our program she learned how to drive a car from one of our very courageous volunteers, her children were 100% released to her from court care, and she started studying for her GED. Jane was hired full time by PetCo with health insurance and a 401k package.



Sally has two children at Operation Breakthrough and lives in Section 8 housing through HUD. Sally was quiet and soft spoken when she started our program, often refusing to answer the phone or talk with customers. By the end of the program she didn't hesitate to speak up; often telling us, "I have something to say about that". Sally said, "I have a new family now, a very supportive one". Sally was hired part time by Empire Pets in Mission and was quickly promoted to a full time position and given a pay raise. When Sally enrolled in our program she was making \$500 a month as a part-time home healthcare worker in the evenings. She is averaging \$700 a week now, working Monday through Friday 8:00a.m.-4:00p.m. She is home every evening and weekend with her kids.

Help us support KC moms. Donations can be made via our website www.thegroomingproject.org or via check, payable to **The Grooming Project** and mailed to 5829 Troost Ave., Suite B, Kansas City, MO 64110