Longtime Oklahoma Contemporary student, Natalie Burke, and her self-portrait.
Who I am makes a difference.

I am a Positive Tomorrows star.

I am successful.
I finish what I start.

I am tenacious.
I don’t quit until I succeed.

I am able.
I am able to help others succeed.

I am ready. I am ready to learn.
I am ready to do the right thing.

I am ready to succeed.

........

⭐️
25 Years and Counting

Positive Tomorrows began in 1989 as a collaborative effort of community organizations that recognized the educational needs of homeless children were not being met.
Building Success

As Oklahoma’s only elementary school specifically for homeless children, we give our students stability and a quality education while their parents get the support they need to create a better life. For over 25 years, we have filled our scrapbooks with countless success stories, but the need continues.

Let’s build a tomorrow with better facilities and space that will allow us to serve even more children. Together we can break the cycle of homelessness and poverty.
Positive Tomorrows uses an approach to school that we refer to as High Structure-High Love; we provide students and families with the predictable safety of a routine they can count on while also wrapping them in kind and compassionate support.
Who We Are

Imagine not knowing where you will sleep tonight. Imagine not knowing if there will be food to eat or if you will have adequate clothing from season to season. When home changes while you are at school, will your toys be there at the end of the day? Every day our students must ask these questions.

As Oklahoma’s only elementary school specifically serving homeless children, our unique and robust approach to learning means our students can feel safe and focus on learning. They can just be kids at our school. It is only when a child is not worried about having basic needs met that they can grow.

We help homeless students succeed in the following ways:

1. By breaking down barriers to learning like hunger, lack of basic necessities and medical care and transportation.
2. By supporting families so they can increase their income, employment and housing.
3. By providing a differentiated, trauma-informed education to every student complete with enriching, extracurricular opportunities.

Homeless children struggle in traditional school settings. They’re not invited to sleepovers, they don’t participate in sports, they’re rarely at one school long enough to make friends. But at Positive Tomorrows, we throw birthday parties in our cafeteria and we play sports during the school day. Our students are all in the same situation, so they quickly forge meaningful friendships.

We believe every child deserves a quality education, regardless of their situation at home. We believe that teaching integrity, creativity and hope are just as important as reading, math and history. We believe that education is the single most powerful tool to combat poverty.
By the Numbers

It’s estimated that nearly a third of the workforce is one bad accident, one large medical bill, one missed paycheck away from financial ruin, including losing their homes.

More than a third of the homeless population is employed, but these jobs tend to be low-wage and do not meet the needs of the family.

Children raised in homelessness have reduced literacy and vocabularies. These children are also less likely to have well-developed motor skills, and nearly half are unable to pass state-mandated testing at their grade level.

Every year we have to turn students away.

This year alone, for the 123 students we have there were 97 more we had to turn away. Knowing there are children out there that we can’t serve is one of the hardest issues we face at Positive Tomorrows.

We have to help more kids.

What is couch homeless?

Couch homeless students often call a different place home every night. Moving frequently, they may double up with families in a dwelling and often sleep on someone’s couch.

Where they stay is not always as comfy as a couch. It may be a garage, a storage unit, a car, even an abandoned building.

1 in 10 students in the OKC Public School System is homeless.

There are over 9,500 homeless children in Oklahoma City alone.
Improvement in Math

INITIAL SCORE INTERMEDIATE SCORE FINAL SCORE
20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

KINDERGARTEN 1ST GRADE

Improvement in Reading

INITIAL SCORE INTERMEDIATE SCORE FINAL SCORE
20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

KINDERGARTEN 1ST GRADE

For students in kindergarten and 1st grade, overall scores are averaged and reported as percentages out of 100.

Improvement in Math

INITIAL SCORE INTERMEDIATE SCORE FINAL SCORE
2ND GRADE 3RD GRADE 4TH GRADE 5TH GRADE

Improvement in Reading

INITIAL SCORE INTERMEDIATE SCORE FINAL SCORE
2ND GRADE 3RD GRADE 4TH GRADE 5TH GRADE

For some of our students, simply maintaining their academic levels during trauma they experience is a success. Decreasing average scores can often be attributed to students experiencing trauma. We tend to see negative improvement when parents are incarcerated, when families are living in cars and storage buildings, or when students are experiencing violence in the home.

Evaluating our program

In order to drive instruction and evaluate both teacher and program effectiveness, all Positive Tomorrows students participate in a formal assessment process.

Assessments are given three times during the year for continuing students, and upon entry and withdrawal for students only here a short time. Because enrollment fluctuates at Positive Tomorrows, not all students can be assessed more than once depending on their length of stay.

Barriers that keep students from being successful are often due to mobility, which research shows has a strong impact, along with two others that emphasize psychological needs: food and safety.

- Student Demographics
  - 31% Caucasian
  - 48% African American
  - 3% American Indian
  - 6% Hispanic
  - 12% Other

- Student Housing
  - 31% Couch
  - 36% Shelter
  - 11% Permanent
  - 16% Transitional
  - 6% Supportive

- Other

- American Indian
  - 3%

- African American
  - 31%

- Caucasian
  - 48%

- Hispanic
  - 3%

- Other
  - 6%

- Supportive Tran
di
go
ci
dal

- Transitional
  - 16%

- Permanent
  - 11%

- Shelter
  - 36%

- Couch
  - 31%

- Other
  - 6%

- Student Demographics
  - 31% Caucasian
  - 48% African American
  - 3% American Indian
  - 6% Hispanic
  - 12% Other

- Student Housing
  - 31% Couch
  - 36% Shelter
  - 11% Permanent
  - 16% Transitional
  - 6% Supportive

- Other

- American Indian
  - 3%

- African American
  - 31%

- Caucasian
  - 48%

- Hispanic
  - 3%

- Other
  - 6%

- Supportive

- Transitional
  - 16%

- Permanent
  - 11%

- Shelter
  - 36%

- Couch
  - 31%

- Other
  - 6%

- Student Demographics
  - 31% Caucasian
  - 48% African American
  - 3% American Indian
  - 6% Hispanic
  - 12% Other

- Student Housing
  - 31% Couch
  - 36% Shelter
  - 11% Permanent
  - 16% Transitional
  - 6% Supportive

- Other

- American Indian
  - 3%

- African American
  - 31%

- Caucasian
  - 48%

- Hispanic
  - 3%

- Other
  - 6%

- Supportive

- Transitional
  - 16%

- Permanent
  - 11%

- Shelter
  - 36%

- Couch
  - 31%

- Other
  - 6%

- Student Demographics
  - 31% Caucasian
  - 48% African American
  - 3% American Indian
  - 6% Hispanic
  - 12% Other

- Student Housing
  - 31% Couch
  - 36% Shelter
  - 11% Permanent
  - 16% Transitional
  - 6% Supportive

- Other

- American Indian
  - 3%

- African American
  - 31%

- Caucasian
  - 48%

- Hispanic
  - 3%

- Other
  - 6%

- Supportive

- Transitional
  - 16%

- Permanent
  - 11%

- Shelter
  - 36%

- Couch
  - 31%

- Other
  - 6%

- Student Demographics
  - 31% Caucasian
  - 48% African American
  - 3% American Indian
  - 6% Hispanic
  - 12% Other

- Student Housing
  - 31% Couch
  - 36% Shelter
  - 11% Permanent
  - 16% Transitional
  - 6% Supportive

- Other

- American Indian
  - 3%

- African American
  - 31%

- Caucasian
  - 48%

- Hispanic
  - 3%

- Other
  - 6%

- Supportive

- Transitional
  - 16%

- Permanent
  - 11%

- Shelter
  - 36%

- Couch
  - 31%

- Other
  - 6%

- Student Demographics
  - 31% Caucasian
  - 48% African American
  - 3% American Indian
  - 6% Hispanic
  - 12% Other

- Student Housing
  - 31% Couch
  - 36% Shelter
  - 11% Permanent
  - 16% Transitional
  - 6% Supportive

- Other

- American Indian
  - 3%

- African American
  - 31%

- Caucasian
  - 48%

- Hispanic
  - 3%

- Other
  - 6%

- Supportive

- Transitional
  - 16%

- Permanent
  - 11%

- Shelter
  - 36%

- Couch
  - 31%

- Other
  - 6%
Impact Study

Our mission is straightforward: educate homeless children and their families for life. This includes determining a student’s needs, helping create a stable environment, and developing custom education plans.

At the end of the year, we’re able to measure real success in our programs. Positive Tomorrows commissioned a research study on the long-term impact of our work with students and their families. The study was conducted by a third party, QREM in June 2016.

The Barriers to Success

The cycle of poverty and homelessness can be broken by reducing the barriers to learning. Below are the top barriers our students report.

- **87% MOBILITY**
- **43% TRANSPORTATION**
- **82% FOOD**
- **42% STUDY**
- **72% SAFETY**
- **29% HEALTH**
- **51% EMOTIONAL STABILITY**
- **29% CLOTHING**

2.5 months

Average time it takes for a family enrolled at Positive Tomorrows to attain stable housing.

Our Impact on Kids

One year after leaving Positive Tomorrows, students are 68.8% more likely to show increase in school attitudes and 55.3% more likely to show improvement in classroom behavior.

Our Impact on Parents

One year after leaving Positive Tomorrows, adults are 60% more likely to have increased parenting skills. After 10 years, 47% of adults still report this improvement.

Understanding the Plight of Homelessness

Once an individual volunteers at Positive Tomorrows, their understanding of what it is like to be homeless stays with them for a long time. This empathy does not diminish for at least a decade.
The Time is Right

We turn away nearly 100 students a year. We have to serve more kids. A new facility will help us realize this goal by providing the space we truly need.
Where We're Going

It’s been an exciting year at Positive Tomorrows. We celebrated our 25th birthday, our President & Principal, Susan Agel, was recognized as one of our community’s most admired CEO’s by the Journal Record, and we launched a new web site thanks to our generous friends at Big Wing Interactive. We forged new partnerships, connected with successful alumni, and served more students to date in a single school year than ever before.

We are honored to work with the tenacious children we call our students and their families, but we know we have to do more. We currently turn away nearly 100 students per year, and we know we could serve many more if we had the space to do it. In a city with over 9,500 homeless children, we feel a responsibility to reach as many of these little ones as we possibly can.

The time is right for the next chapter of Positive Tomorrows. We have completed a feasibility study and are moving forward with the plans for a new facility that will allow us to meet that responsibility. The following pages contain highlights of this plan and the opportunity to be a part of it.
Site Plan

The 36,000 square-foot elementary school will have classrooms for children birth through 5th grade, art and music, special education, and outdoor learning opportunities. It will hold 140 students, nearly doubling our current capacity. The facility also has a secure entry vestibule, offices, family support services, meeting rooms, and additional rooms for clothing and donations. Other features include a large, centrally located commons area, storm shelter, a makerspace, kitchen lab and a gymnasium.
Front Entrance

Upon arriving at the school, students are greeted with the school’s “core values” on built-in benches and multi-colored covered walkways that brighten the building and create excitement for the students. Learning also begins at the front door as students can practice telling time on the 30’ wide sundial or learning the colors of the rainbow.
Front Entrance

Bright colors are sprinkled throughout the design of the new building, from the front entry to the classroom “learning communities.” A “living wall” was created to help teach students about nature but to also help create private spaces for reflection.
Teacher Courtyard

Nestled between the classroom learning communities and administrative area, is the “Staff and Mentor Courtyard”. Tables and benches offer various seating options during breaks, lunches and student/mentor visits. At the back of the courtyard, floor to ceiling windows connect to interior classrooms providing natural light for students.
Outdoor Learning

The “Outdoor Learning” areas provide paved space surrounded by grass and a canopy for shade. Spaces like these allow teachers more flexibility to teach students. The number of games and activities that can be played in this space are only limited by the user’s imagination.
# Cost Estimate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Construction</th>
<th>SF</th>
<th>Cost/SF</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary School</td>
<td>29,112</td>
<td>180.00</td>
<td>5,240,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gym/Shelter</td>
<td>6,600</td>
<td>250.00</td>
<td>1,650,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site development, utilities and paving</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land - additional site</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>27,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>35,712</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>7,817,699</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Services</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Architectural Services</td>
<td>428,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineering</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner’s Rep</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geo-technical Report</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>554,459</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Soft Costs</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal Fees</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Costs</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Period Interest</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1 Environmental</td>
<td>4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appraisal</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan Fees</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>24,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Furniture, Fixtures, Equip &amp; Playground</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,171,658</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency</td>
<td>917,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign Expense</td>
<td>108,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,197,624</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Future Grades 6-8</th>
<th>SF</th>
<th>Cost/SF</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,260</td>
<td>180.00</td>
<td>948,420</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 10,197,624
## Naming Opportunities

Major Gifts to the Capital Campaign can be honored through the naming of prominent spaces on our campus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Space</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Building</td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>$1,700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gym</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration Corridor</td>
<td>$1,000,000 - SOLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commons Area</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-K Classroom</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Grade Classroom</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Grade Classroom</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Grade Classroom</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade Classroom</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade Classroom</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art/Music Classroom</td>
<td>$500,000 - SOLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten Classroom</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donation Sorting Room</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makerspace</td>
<td>$350,000 - SOLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treehouse Collaboration Space</td>
<td>$350,000 - SOLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>$300,000 - SOLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Courtyard - East</td>
<td>$250,000 - SOLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration Space (SW Corner)</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration Space (NW Corner)</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Head Start Playground</td>
<td>$250,000 - SOLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Support Area</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Plaza</td>
<td>$150,000 - SOLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen Lab</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing Closet</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reception Area</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special Education Classroom  $100,000 - SOLD

Staff Break Room  $100,000

Small Bus  $75,000

Admin Conference Room  $50,000 - SOLD

Courtyard Between Admin and Classrooms  $50,000

Outdoor Learning Space - South Side  $50,000

Teacher Workroom  $50,000

Executive Office  $40,000

Family Support Reception Area  $25,000 - SOLD

Family Support Meeting Room #1  $25,000 - SOLD

Family Support Meeting Room #2  $25,000 - SOLD

Family Support Meeting Room #3  $25,000 - SOLD

Director of Family Support Office  $25,000 - SOLD

Principal's Office  $25,000 - SOLD

Soccer Field  $25,000 - SOLD

Office (8)  $20,000

Small Family Support Meeting Room  $15,000

Classroom Touchdown Room (4)  $15,000

Core Principles Bench - Confidence  $15,000 - SOLD

Core Principles Bench - Creativity  $15,000 - SOLD

Core Principles Bench - Empathy  $15,000 - SOLD

Core Principles Bench - Hope  $15,000 - SOLD

Core Principles Bench - Integrity  $15,000 - SOLD

Core Principles Bench - Respect  $15,000 - SOLD

Core Principles Bench - Self-Control  $15,000 - SOLD

Living Wall  $15,000

Lunch Tables  $15,000 - SOLD

IT Storage  $10,000 - SOLD

Family Hygiene Room  $10,000

Flagpole (3)  $10,000 - SOLD

Tree (15)  $5,000

Cubbies (140)  $500

Bricks  $250
Project Schedule

FUNDRAISING
Fundraising Begins
Spring 2017
Fundraising Ends
February 2018

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT (DD)
Design Development
Aug. 29, 2017 - Nov. 14, 2017

CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS (CD)
Construction Documents
Nov. 15, 2017 - Feb. 7, 2018

BIDDING
Bidding (30 Days)
Feb. 9, 2018 - March 26, 2018

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE
Construction Begins
March 2018
Construction Ends
March 2019
Our Staff

Campaign Co-chairs:

Judy Love
Todd Lechtenberger

Campaign Contacts

Susan Agel, President
Margaret Creighton, Development Director
Rachel Durham, Development Officer
Jayna Sunmugavail, Executive Assistant

Board of Directors

Todd Lechtenberger, Chairman
Nikki Jones Edwards, Vice Chairman
Andre’ Caldwell, Secretary
H.K. Hatcher, Treasurer
Scott Calhoon
Kati Christ
Steve Foskin
Michael Hartfield
Gregg Henson
Jamie Herrera
Karen Kurtz
Travis Mason
Kirby Price
Kathy Turner
Vince White
Tyson Williams

Positive Tomorrows