

# Building the Movement for Educational Equity in Arkansas



All children in Arkansas deserve the chance to reach their full potential. However, thousands of children growing up in poverty lack access to a high-quality education. Teach For America is playing a role in eliminating this injustice by recruiting, developing, and supporting leaders committed to creating change.

## 49th

2nd highest rate of child poverty in the nation

## 8%

Of low income AR students graduate college

## 49th

AR national ranking for post-secondary degree attainment

## 43rd

AR national ranking in 8th grade math

## \$125M

Annual cost of AR high school dropouts

## OUR WORK IN ARKANSAS

### WE RECRUIT EXCEPTIONAL TALENT

Our recruitment process selects exceptional talent from all over the country. The teachers we bring to AR are selected from over 45,000 applicants – of which we accept approximately 12-15%. In previous years, this applicant pool has included more than 10% of all Ivy League seniors and some of the strongest young leaders from more than 300 colleges and universities. The individuals who join our program come from diverse backgrounds, and we place special focus on attracting talent that shares the racial and socioeconomic backgrounds of their students.

### WE SUPPORT OUR TEACHERS

To close the gap in academic achievement, our teachers must be able to provide high-quality instruction and be equipped to address the additional challenges children growing up in poverty often face. We dedicate ourselves to creating and continuously improving tools, resources and coaching practices to help our corps members become successful teachers and community members.

### WE PRODUCE RESULTS FOR KIDS

Our corps members teach in high-needs classrooms across the Arkansas Delta for at least two years and consistently lead their students to achieve strong results. Our alumni, fueled by the conviction and insight gained from their teaching experience, work across all sectors to fight for educational equity in Arkansas. Twenty of our alumni serve as school leaders and more than a dozen are enrolled in school leadership certification programs.

## OUR CORPS MEMBERS AND ALUMNI

## 115

Arkansas corps members

## 182

TFA alumni in Arkansas

40% of 2014 corps members are people of color

45% of our teachers stay beyond their commitment

80% of our alumni stayed in AR after year 3

85% of our students qualify for FRL

94% of alumni serve low income communities

## OUR IMPACT IN ARKANSAS

First Placement Year: 1991

Total Placed To Date: 845

Current Corps Members: 115

Recent Highlights:

- Alumnus Jonathan Crossley ('10) was Arkansas' 2014 teacher of the year. He is currently the principal at Baseline Elementary in Little Rock
- Alumnus Eric Dailey is currently a founding Principal at Lighthouse Academy in North Little Rock