

**Transforming Passion into Purpose.**



**The DRANREF Foundation**

**2018 Annual Report**

**[www.btgworks.com/foundation](http://www.btgworks.com/foundation)**

# Letter from the President

“Not everything that counts can be counted and not everything that can be counted, counts.” – Albert Einstein



The DRANREF Foundation is a 501c3 public charity organization. We are the philanthropic arm of Business Transformation Group (BTG), a management consulting firm headquartered in Washington, DC. Our mission is to create scalable and sustainable programming to help young people become better problem solvers and future entrepreneurs.

We have been fortunate to work with experienced community partners who have afforded us opportunities to share our programs.

In 2018, we had many firsts. The Partners in Prevention Fund awarded a grant to Neighborhood Community Services to help us pilot The Abacus Project. We exhibited at two National Conferences and received feedback on the need for what we're doing and had a fundraiser to help cover our program expenses. In this report, we share our story and our passion for what we do.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Monica", written in a dark ink or color.

Monica Freeman Lewis



# The DRANREF Foundation

*Teach. Transform. Triumph.*

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<p><b>Foundation established</b></p> <p><i>Partnered with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) as the fiscal sponsor for the Inaugural Hampton Roads Transportation Career Expo. 800 students and 26 schools were in attendance.</i></p>	<p><b>The Abacus Project is born</b></p> <p><i>First session held at Cleveland ES in DC. 40 fourth grade students served.</i></p> <p><i>Partnered with VDOT for 2<sup>nd</sup> Career Expo with 1,100 students attend.</i></p> <p><i>Designed STEM Entrepreneurship curriculum for high school students.</i></p>	<p><b>Partnership with DCAHES</b></p> <p><i>DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative helped open the doors to DC public and charter schools. Six schools registered for abacus sessions.</i></p> <p><i>Designed TECH Entrepreneurship curriculum for high school students.</i></p>	<p><b>Pilot Program Funding</b></p> <p><i>Awarded local grant from Neighborhood and Community Services to implement 12-week Abacus Training Pilot Program.</i></p> <p><i>Twenty students participated. Results were promising.</i></p>	<p><b>M.O.C.H.A. Math Summit</b></p> <p><i>Initiated new program to help build confidence and foster positive attitudes towards math for girls.</i></p> <p><i>Hired 1<sup>st</sup> full-time program assistant for foundation support.</i></p> <p><i>Fifteen schools registered for abacus sessions.</i></p>



Business Transportation Group (BTG) Director, David Janifer introducing the Japanese Abacus to students.

The DRANREF Foundation was established in 2015. We served as the fiscal sponsor for the Virginia Department of Transportation's Inaugural Hampton Roads Transportation Career Expo for high school students. We exhibited The Abacus Project at the event and have since developed and implemented pilots and professional development training programs for young people and teachers at elementary schools, community centers and community colleges.

### Abacus Project Pilot Program

The Abacus Project teaches students how to make and use a Japanese abacus, called a soroban, to solve basic math problems. One of our objectives this year was to take a leap from providing a single 45-minute activity session to developing and implementing a 10-week curriculum to measure program impact on participants' math fluency.

We received operational funding from Fairfax County's Neighborhood and Community Services who were awarded a Partners in Prevention Fund Pilot Program and Training grant specifically for our program. This funding helped us provide professional development training and implement the Pilot Program at two locations, Gum Springs and Mott Community Centers.



Community Center Managers in Professional Development Training

Pre and post assessment results, formal observations, interviews, and student testimonials indicate evidence of promise. Improved math grades, greater confidence in math ability and using the abacus as a resource tool for homework were some of the program outcomes.



Abacus Project session at Mott Community Center



Graduation Day at Mott Community Center



Abacus Session at Gum Springs Community Center

## Infinite Possibilities Conference

The Abacus Project presented at the 2018 Infinite Possibilities Conference in Washington, D.C. It is a national conference designed to promote, educate, encourage and support women of color interested in mathematics and statistics, as a step towards addressing the under-representation of African Americans, Latinas, Native Americans and Pacific Islanders in those fields. The Abacus Project was featured in a breakout session titled, “Math Activism and Empowerment.” Discussions on the need for high engagement curriculum and addressing math skills early were major focal points.



## National Title I Conference

The Abacus Project exhibited at the National Title I Conference in Philadelphia, PA. Teachers and Administrators enjoyed learning how to make and use a Japanese abacus and experienced a new way of thinking about Math. They reviewed and were excited about our curriculum and provided positive feedback on its relevant use in Title I schools. We gave away over 100 abacus making kits and provided nearly as many instructional demonstrations.



## Golf Tournament Fundraiser

In conjunction with Business Transformation Group (BTG), The DRANREF Foundation hosted its first Golf Tournament Fundraiser. We raised over \$3,000 to help cover operational costs. More than half of all BTG Associates volunteered their time or donated money to the event.

Special thanks to some of our Corporate and Community Partners:

- Business Transformation Group (BTG)
- DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative
- Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services
- Mintz Levin
- PN3 Solutions
- Ortiz Construction

