# 2021 December

# **Give Every Child A Chance**

DATA AND EVALUATION SHEET

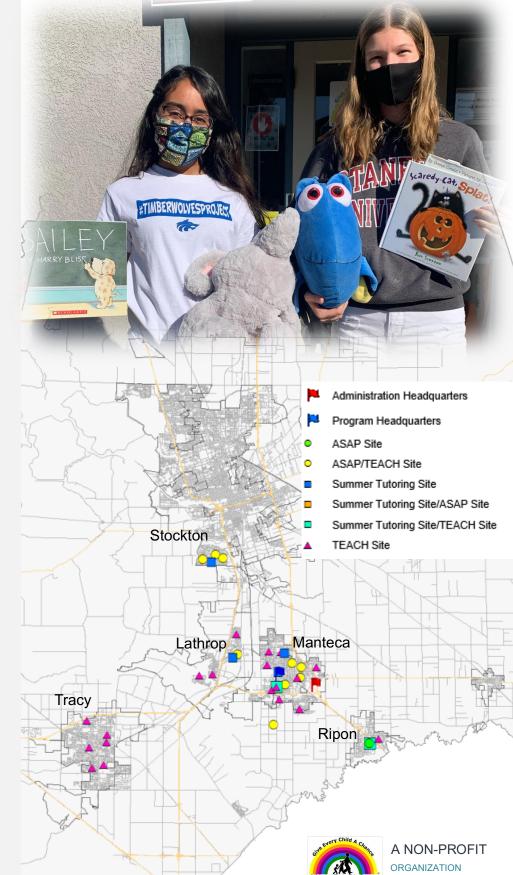
### WHO WE ARE

Give Every Child A Chance (GECAC) is a not-forprofit organization dedicated to the growth and development of youth. Our mission is to give every child a chance to be successful. We accomplish this goal by providing: FREE to minimal cost programming to struggling students through tutoring/literacy programs; the Tutoring Encourages Achievement, Coaching & Hardwork (TEACH) Program, the After School Advantage Program (ASAP), and Health Education; and by working in partnership with community volunteers and school districts. We believe all youth can learn and grow academically, socially, and emotionally in order to achieve at their highest potential!



#### \*Tutoring Programs

- Tutoring Encourages Achievement, Coaching, and Hardwork Program
- Homework Assistance Program
- Summer Drop-In Program
- Reading to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Power



# TUTORING ENCOURAGES ACHIEVEMENT, COACHING, AND HARDWORK (TEACH) PROGRAM\*

The TEACH Program centers on the matching of one or two students receiving one or more below average grades with a volunteer. They meet twice a week at one of many locations, for one hour. GECAC provides a snack and drink for the student as well as a mentor/tutor. This time allows them to meet and find out how each other's day went. This bond breeds trust and a healthy, safe, comfortable environment in which to study. The main focus of TEACH Program is to assist students to better understand what is being taught in the classroom and to strengthen their study skills.

This school year, 186 students were served in the virtual and in-person TEACH program.

### HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM\*

The Homework Assistance Program (HAP) allows students to bring in their homework and class assignments, and to work independently with help from a HAP Instructor. HAP class sizes range from three to five students with one instructor. The HAP Instructor oversees the site and offers assistance to those in need. After graduating from the TEACH program a student can transition into HAP and continue to receive additional assistance.

### AFTER SCHOOL ADVANTAGE PROGRAM\*

The After School Advantage Program (ASAP) provides a safe, structured, and fun afterschool program to students in elementary school. ASAP offers Academic Assistance/Support, Enrichment Activities, and Recreation/Physical Education. ASAP is open to any student attending the school where the program is conducted.

This year, 849 unduplicated students were served in ASAP (620 during the school year and 335 during the summer).

\*Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on school systems, grade data is unavailable for TEACH, HAP, and ASAP this school year.

### HEALTH EDUCATION: Healthy Choices, Healthy Children

Since 2007, GECAC has incorporated health education as a fundamental component within all 12 of their After School Advantage Program (ASAP) sites. Program staff deliver healthy messages, lessons and activities in nutrition, physical fitness, and social emotional learning. Our Healthy Lifestyles Coordinator visits each site throughout the year both in person and via online learning, presenting evidenced-based curriculum to staff and students that aligns with the USDA guidelines in nutrition, physical fitness, and CASEL approved SEL curriculum. GECAC believes in healthy bodies, healthy minds and works to provide the knowledge and tools to keep our students healthy and successful.

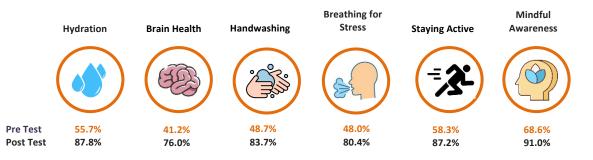
# 666

Of the 666 students who were served by the Health Education program, 290 students were included in the pre/post evaluation sample for the 2020-2021 program year; 14.5% of these students were in kindergarten, one in three (33.4%) were in grades 1-2, 29.7% in grades 3-4, 13.4% were in grades 5-6, and 9% in grades 7-8.



Just 34% of 8th graders in the U.S. were proficient in reading and 34% were proficient in math (the National Assessment of Education Progress, NAEP -2019). Moreover, in a nation of growing diversity, Black and Hispanic students are scoring well below both Asian and White students on proficiency tests (U.S. Department of Education). GECAC is on the cutting edge of effective and innovative programs at the local level and is implementing one-on-one programs that center on reading, math, science, and history, and do so for the students who are most in need.

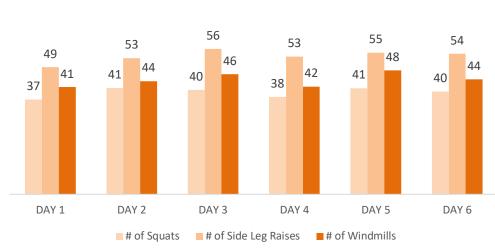
## Average post-test scores demonstrate that the students acquired knowledge by participating in the health education.



### Fitness Challenge (Spring)

In March 2021, Give Every Child a Chance's Health Education presented a month on the theme of Staying Active. The Staying Active theme included our Healthy Lifestyle Coordinator presentation to all of our ASAP sites on the topic of staying active. The month focused on why staying active is important and how to get moving. Activities included various physical fitness warm ups, activities, and games that culminated with our Spring Fitness Challenge. Fitness Challenge is two weeks of learning three ways to properly warm up and exercise that included squats, windmills, and side leg raises. The goal of Fitness Challenge is to assess abilities and through practice and building better habits in staying active, improve fitness abilities over time. The challenge is to encourage one's personal best and to reinforce that with effort and practice, we can demonstrate better fitness levels and feel better and be more fit over time. Students who participated received certificates of participation and were entered for fun health packs that included fitness coins, sports equipment, and water bottles.

The graph below shows the average number of squats, side leg raises, and windmills the 141 participating students were able to complete across a six-day period. In comparing Day 1 to Day 6, students were able to complete 3 more squats, 5 more side leg raises, and 3 more windmills on Day 6.



Average Number of Warm Up Exercises Completed n=141 Student Participants

"To be adequately nourished, individuals need to have access to sufficient and good quality food and they need an understanding of what constitutes a good diet for health, as well as the skills and motivation to make good food choices" (The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, 2018). As part of its programmatic offerings, GECAC provides sciencebased, comprehensive, and nutrition sequential education to their students.





### Family Health Event (Spring)

In April 2021, Give Every Child A Chance hosted a family health event with our Drive Thru Food Drive and DIY Breakfast Kits. Our goal was provide wellness education and healthy nutrition to the families we serve. GECAC hosted our food drive and gave away DIY Breakfast Kits to each family that participated. The Breakfast Kits included everything to make a nutritious oatmeal breakfast for a family of four including oatmeal, fruit, nuts, spices, and some fun kitchen tools. Kits had recipe instructions and an infographic to demonstrate the various ways oatmeal can be made to include various protein and fruit sources, making it more satisfying and nutritious. The kits included information and tips to eating a healthy breakfast and why this is an important way to start the day.

### Food and Activity Kit Drive-Thru

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, twice a month GECAC held a Food and Activity Kit Drive-Thru. Over 45,000 pounds of groceries and fresh produce were distributed to those in need. Activity Kits included health and STEM activities, reading books, and school supplies.

### **COVID-19 IMPACT AND RESPONSE**

### GECAC program director feedback on the COVID-19 impact and response during the 2020-2021 school year:

Over the last year GECAC was extremely busy trying to provide our students and staff with a sense of normalcy during the global pandemic. We attended weekly meetings with the California Department of Education, Region 6, and the districts we serve to get updates so we could continue to provide services to or families and staff. During the first few months of the initial school shutdown we were fortunate enough to be able to continue to provide work for those staff members who wanted to continue working. We were able to do so by providing them with online staff development, allowing them to lesson plan for the upcoming school year, and by having them provide our families with distant learning.

In July 2020, our districts approached us with the opportunity to provide in person programming for essential worker families, as well as homeless and foster youth. We were able to provide programming for 30 students at each of our locations and maintained COVID protocols during the 2020-2021 school year. During this time frame, staff continued to operate high quality in-person programming and virtual academic assistance for those in need.

### **STAFF TRAININGS**

Online collaboration training consisted of targeted trainings like classroom management, Quality Programming, Building Relationships, Child Protective Services, Sexual Harassment, STEAM, and Facilitation. Other staff trainings included:

- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Empathy Training
- Mental Health First Aid
- CPR First Aid
- Student Engagement
- Mandated Reporting



