



Learning Bridge 2021-2022 School Year Program Evaluation

Our Mission

Our mission is to match volunteer tutors with kids in foster care to give them the educational support they need to stay in school, improve academic performance, and achieve greater success later in life.

Participant Demographics and Needs

- 55 total students served in the 2021-2022 school year. 12 high school students; 18 middle school students; and 25 elementary school students.
- 47 percent of our students are Latino, 34 percent are White, and 17 percent are Black.
- Most students asked for help with multiple subjects, followed by reading and writing, general homework help, and math. We were also able to provide assistance in biology, geometry and physics.



Evaluation Process

Students and families

When students enter the program, he or she, sometimes with the help of their caregivers, rates themselves on a 1-5 scale in the following categories:

- Progress at reaching grade level at school, or happy with grades at school
- Enjoys school
- Participates in class
- Motivated and engaged in learning
- Completes homework
- Asks for help when needed

Went from a 2.4
GPA to a 3.0
- Learning Bridge
Student

At the end of the school year, students are given the survey again with additional questions about the impact of their tutor.

Tutors

Tutors are given progress reports at the end of the school year and are asked questions similar to those asked of the students. They are also asked about the relationship with their student and are invited to provide feedback about the program.

Results

- More than half of students or caregivers reported academic improvement. Most children got closer to reaching grade level and were happier with their grades at school.
- More than half of students improved in their ability to ask for help when needed.
- 85 percent of students and caregivers reported that their tutor has helped them
- 88 percent reported having a good relationship with their tutor; 91 percent said they could count on their tutor to show up every week.
- More than half of tutors reported that their students made progress academically.
- 95 percent of tutors reported having a good relationship with their students.

Progress and Impact

With grant funding and staff, Learning Bridge **doubled the number of total kids served** and tripled the number of high school students served this year. We helped increase the odds that the students in our program would stay in school, learn, and keep moving forward to a brighter future.

Learning Bridge recruited and retained tutors from age 21 to age 70, with backgrounds ranging from engineering to teaching. We diversified our volunteers and onboarded tutors who are Indian, Black, Latino, and LGBTQIA. Learning Bridge built community with our tutor family by hosting monthly roundtable meetings and engaging speakers who covered topics from anti-racism to trauma.



Our tutors gave children the tools they needed to improve academically and speak up in classrooms to ask questions and ask for help. ***Learning Bridge tutors empower students.*** We are proud to be able to report data that shows that Learning Bridge is making a difference in the lives of children and youth in foster care. Tutors help academically, but the surveys also overwhelmingly show that the relationships built through the program are invaluable. We look forward to expanding our reach and serving even more students in 2022-2023.