

2021 IMPACT REPORT

Everyday Heroes



Dear New Horizons Friends,

In visiting our after-school clubs, attending our fundraising events and meeting with many of you, I saw heroes all around: our students are heroes for their dedication to their education and to learning. Volunteers are heroes for mentoring our students through times of celebration and times of struggle. Donors are heroes for supporting the programs that help hundreds of under-resourced youth gain self esteem, earn better grades and grow in their character and faith. Our wonderful community partners round out our programs and give students experiences they wouldn't otherwise have. These are the everyday heroes, ordinary people doing extraordinary things. I hope you enjoy and see the hero within yourself.

Through your investments of time, talents and treasures; a dedicated staff; and a supportive board of directors, we are making a difference in the lives of hundreds of under-resourced students in Southwest Florida. It is truly a blessing to serve you in this amazing work. Please enjoy this brief recap of our year.



Linda M. Cuning, Ph.D.
Executive Director



“
I think a hero is any person
really intent on making this a
better place for all people.
- Maya Angelou
”



You made a difference!

LEARNING IS OUR STUDENTS' SUPERPOWER. HERE'S A SNAPSHOT OF HOW YOU HELPED THEM REACH THEIR GOALS THIS YEAR.

602

Number of students served in the 2020-2021 school year

79%

of students without a documented disability maintained a "C" or higher in reading

2200

Hours of Service given by New Horizons volunteers since 2020

91%

of high school and middle school students had a GPA of 2.0 or higher

85%

of K-5 teachers report that their students' attendance at New Horizons' programs has had a positive impact on their attitude toward school

2

Community Resource Fairs hosted for students and their families with help from amazing community partners

233

K-5 students attended Super Kids Reading Camp (SKRC)

"At SKRC, I learned to read and be better at school."

101

6-12th graders attended Super Teens Leadership Camp (STLC)

"STLC has helped me become a leader and become more responsible."



Our Heroes Wear Caps



Stories from the school year

(1) Graduating 5th graders celebrate their hard work as they prepare to enter middle school. (2) Parents are grateful for the safety and support of our clubs. One parent shared, "Yesterday I was praying to the Lord for a good place for my daughter and in a few minutes I received your call." (3) Students value the relationships they build with volunteers, including those forged through new partnerships with FGCU and FSW. (4) Super Boys and Girls discuss careers and explore the Sheriff's vehicle during a Lee County Sheriff's Office visit. (5) No homework? No problem. Volunteers engage students with flashcards as they practice habits for success. (6) Graduating Class of 2021 is all smiles as we recognize their accomplishments at a special ceremony.

NIRVANA'S STORY



“
The mentors... reminded me that my future is important to someone other than myself.
”

My family's never been wealthy. Neither of my parents got the chance to study their desired path or go to college, but they did what they could to remove me and my siblings from an area of absolute poverty in which all you can think about is what you're going to eat the next day.

At first I didn't think [New Horizons] had the possibility to help me. I didn't know anyone or have any friends there, so I thought I was an outcast. However, I was invited with open arms. The mentors always asked me how I was doing, how they could help me and constantly made sure it kept me on the right track.

Because of New Horizons, my parents and I won't be frantically panicking about how I'm going to pay off college or technical school. [My] scholarships will now contribute to me being the first person in my family to follow their dream career.

I remember the first time I went to a fire station as a child. A firefighter gave me a tour and I got to see the inside of the trucks and take pictures with them. As I grew older, I got involved in a cadet program. Eventually, I became the Lieutenant of the Estero Fire Rescue Cadets. To me, firefighters will always be the community members who I view as true heroes. I look forward to becoming the only woman firefighter in my family and a life-saving frontline worker of my generation.

“
I think volunteering gives life a sense of meaning, not just living for yourself, but giving of yourself to help someone else.
— Mary LaBelle



SERVING WITH PURPOSE

Volunteers Step Up and Carve New Path

Almost 10 years ago, at the confluence of their working and retirement lives, Steve and Mary LaBelle moved to Southwest Florida. For Steve and Mary, retirement looked like giving back and volunteering. They carved out a path of their own at New Horizons of SWFL while making a difference in the lives of under-resourced students. Early on in the pandemic, the LaBelles supported students' academic needs virtually. As many volunteers stepped back, Mary stepped up by doing Zoom tutoring.

Both find joy in being here to help students grow intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. Steve said, "Every once in a while you really engage with the students, and build that trust. I spend time helping with math homework... Some of the time though, they really learn the concept and have that 'aha!' moment. They learned something and I didn't just give them the answer."

The couple has worked hard to help students go one step further, believing it will help them envision what their future could be. "These kids deserve the best," Steve said.

Additionally, Steve serves as a board member and Treasurer while Mary serves as co-chair of New Horizons' Community Council, which works to raise awareness of New Horizons within residential communities.



The LaBelles' support doesn't stop there. In addition to providing their time and talent, they also financially support the work of New Horizons through annual support and a legacy gift. "We both came from families that believed in giving back and to share what you have,"

Mary said. "I think volunteering gives life a sense of meaning, not just living for yourself, but giving of yourself to help someone else. We can help."

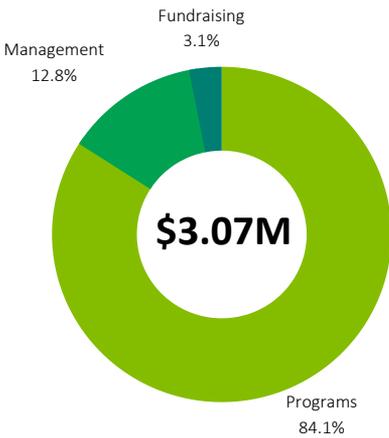
Want to read more about the LaBelles and other everyday heroes?

Visit our blog: newhorizonsofswfl.org/blog

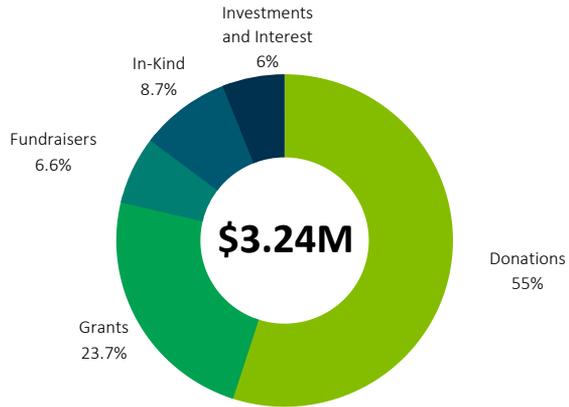
Financial Summary

New Horizons of SWFL committed to meeting the greatly increased needs of our students during the pandemic. With help from our supporters, we gave time, talents and treasures to our students in need, supplemented with virtual programming when necessary and helped keep families on their feet.

Expenses



Revenue



Since 2020, New Horizons' volunteers have provided more than 2200 hours valued at \$62,128.



Our programs are supported by wonderful like-minded organizations. If you're interested in donating or providing in-kind support, please visit newhorizonsofswfl.org/donate.

For a more in-depth look at our financials, please visit newhorizonsofswfl.org/financials



LET'S CHANGE LIVES

New Horizons of SWFL successfully changes the lives of under-resourced students by providing tutoring, mentoring and character-building programs at its trusted neighborhood clubs.



NEW HORIZONS OF SWFL

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