



ANNUAL REPORT

COMMUNITY BASED AGENCY CONTRACT

Contract Period: 10/01/2022 - 09/30/2023

Executive Summary

Agency Name: Student ACES, Inc

Program Name: Youth Empowerment Center (YEC), Summer Youth Internship

Prepared By: Hope Cabrera

Methods: Student ACES tracks data at the SAC/YEC through the NFocus Trax Solutions student management platform. This allows ACE to track outcomes. The outcomes are measured by students completing pre/post assessments, focus groups, and surveys. Report Cards are collected at the end of each quarter and transcripts are collected each semester. Each student completes an entrance and exit meeting each year to collect a baseline.

Outcomes: This year, we are excited about our new partnership with UF/IFAS for our student internship program. We had 2 students working with UF/IFAS. As a result one of our graduating seniors obtained a part-time position and is flourishing. In addition, 3 students completed the internship program with the City of Belle Glade. New this year, students were required to completed career readiness Passport Program tasks to assist with improving their employability skills. Our seniors are off to a great start working, going to college, or vocational schools. All other students moved on to their next grade levels and 97% of student became or remained crime free.

Conclusion: We are excited to see growth and trends with students in our students with the Passport Program. We unfortunately did not come out on top with our student academic outcomes, but we our proud of the growth in the other areas of the program. We are continuously working with the students to offer them tools and resources to ensure they have and feel support to not fall behind.

Recommendations:

The students grades can be subjective and measuring primarily by their GPA is not sufficient. We would recommend that aa student meets the outcome if they maintain a GPA over a threshold or raises their GPA. It can also be an unfair advantage for students with learning disabilities.

Report approved and submitted by:

Title of signatory:

Date: 10/15/2023

Annual Report

Introduction:

Student ACES, is a 501(c)3 organization that provides character education programs, mentoring, academic support, community service and life skills for high school students across South Florida.

Student ACES' Mission: To inspire and develop high school students to become men and women of character, honor and integrity through our character education programs.

To support the work of ACE, Bank of America donated their building in Belle Glade for complete renovation in turning it into The Student ACES Center, or the SAC. The mission of the Student ACES Center is to prepare students in the Glades community to thrive in life through innovative program offerings that focus on academic success, career readiness, college preparation, healthy behaviors, personal development and character education.

Student ACES Center's vision is a thriving Glades community where every person lives a life of honor, character, and integrity.

In 2019, Student ACES also took over the contract with The City of Belle Glade and PBCYSD taking over the Youth Empowerment Center.

The Youth Empowerment Center (YEC) program provides activities and services to middle and high school youth, including out-of-school education and recreational programs/activities.

The YEC focuses on empowering youth, promoting education, promoting health, promoting leadership and community involvement.

The Youth Empowerment Center (YEC) summer internship program provides activities and services to youth ages 16-19, including summer job readiness and job placement. The YEC focuses on empowering youth, promoting education, promoting health, promoting leadership and community involvement.

The Student ACES Center and the Youth Empowerment Center are open Monday through Friday based on the following schedule, with the exception of days with outside activities and at times when students are being transported to outside activities or respective homes:

- School in Session: until 7:00pm;
- School Days Off: until 7:00pm;
- Summer, Spring and Winter Breaks: 9:00am - 6:00pm;
- Public Holidays: Aligned with organizational schedule for holiday closure; • Emergency Closure: Aligned with organizational policy.

Scope of Work:

The Youth Empowerment Center (YEC) program provides activities and services to middle and high school youth, including out-of-school education and recreational programs/activities. The YEC focuses on empowering youth, promoting education, promoting health, promoting leadership and community involvement. In addition, The Youth Empowerment Center (YEC) summer internship program provides activities and services to youth ages 16-19, including summer job readiness and job placement. The YEC focuses on empowering youth, promoting education, promoting health, promoting leadership and community involvement. Services are outlined below.

Services:

Targeted Recruitment of youth (including juvenile probation office, youth court, school personnel, parents/guardians, law enforcement, diversion programs)
Targeted Recruitment of youth (including juvenile probation office, youth court, school personnel, parents/guardians, law enforcement, diversion programs)
Registration and Intake for each youth
Registration and Intake for each youth
Risk Assessment for each youth by utilizing a Risk Assessment Tool
Risk Assessment for each youth by utilizing a Risk Assessment Tool
Transportation Options for YEC program activities - aligned with designated schools and organizational policy
Mentoring Support
Student ACES Center (educational and recreational programming 5 days a week minimum with 10 interest-based programs/pro-social activities per week excluding recreation)
Life Skills
Youth/Teen Advisory Council meetings (every other month minimally) to recommend programs, activities, and policy of the YEC
Financial Literacy
Tutoring and Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) skill building
Career Exploration/Readiness, Employability Skills Training, and Job Shadowing
Mentoring Support
Summer Internship Job Placement
Life Skills, Financial Literacy, Leadership Skills Training
Connectivity to Resources
Function as Evening Reporting Center for DJJ involved youth, as appropriate
College Readiness & Tours
Career Exploration/Readiness, Employability Skills Training, and Job Placement Assistance;
Community Service Projects incorporating Reflective Learning
Connectivity to Resources
Collaborative Partnerships (leadership participation in a minimum of 10 County/Youth Services Department and/or School District collaborative meetings and/or events throughout the year)

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Demographics:

Some students and families do not feel comfortable reporting information. It is difficult for students and parents to complete on the online system. The staff has to work hard to get this sensitive information reported. We will continue to work hard to make families feel comfortable reporting information.

Gender	(#)	(%)
Female	43	54%
Male	36	46%
FTM		0%
MTF		0%
Other		0%
Non-binary		0%
Not Applicable		0%

Unknown		0%
Age	(#)	(%)
0-4		0%
5-10		0%
11-13		0%
14-18	77	97%
19-22	2	3%
>22		0%
Unknown		0%
Not Applicable		0%
Race	(#)	(%)
Asian/Pacific Islander		0%
Black or African American	74	94%
Hispanic or Latino/a		0%
Native American or American Indian		0%
White		0%
Other	2	3%
Multiracial	3	4%
Not Applicable		0%
Unknown		0%
Family Type	(#)	(%)
Two Parent Household	20	25%
Single Parent Female Head of Household	42	53%
Single Parent Male Head of Household	7	9%
Grandparents	5	6%
Other	5	6%
Unknown		0%
Not Applicable		0%
Household Income	(#)	(%)
\$0.00		0%
<\$19,999	21	27%
\$20-29,999	32	41%
\$30-39,999	14	18%
\$40-49,999	1	1%
\$50-59,999	11	14%
>\$60,000		0%
Unknown		0%

Methodology:

Student ACES tracks data at the SAC through the NFocus Trax Solutions student management platform. This platform stores all student information and allows ACE to track outcomes. Outcomes are measured through pre/post assessments, surveys, interviews and focus groups. Student Report Cards are collected at the end of each quarter and transcripts are collected at the end of each semester. Students complete an entrance and exit meeting each year to run a diagnostic baseline. Deep and personal relationships with the students at the SAC are what makes ACE successful and ACE uses those relationships to gather real data about the students and also the community. Student ACES contracts an evaluator who collects and interprets all data, looking for trends that provide insight on what is working well or not. Student ACES prides itself on leading by the students and being flexible to adapt to their needs, student data is the strongest force when introducing new programs or activities at the center.

Outcomes:

Target: of program participants served will demonstrate improvement in student academics

Actual for the grant year: 67 of 79 (%) achieved outcome, as evidence by Student Progress Reports and Reports Card will be collected to access improvement in student academics

Target: of program participants served will advance to next grade level or attain high school graduation

Actual for the grant year: 64 of 64 (%) achieved outcome, as evidence by Copies of Student Progress Reports, Report Cards, standardized testing scores and high school Diploma's will be collected to access academic progress

Target: of program participants served will attain post-graduate success (college/vocational enrollment, employment, industry certification, military enlistment)

Actual for the grant year: 9 of 9 (%) achieved outcome, as evidence by Copies of documentation supporting college enrollment, industry certification, employment, military enlistment will be collected.

Target: of program participants served will remain or become crime free.

Actual for the grant year: 81 of 83 (%) achieved outcome, as evidence by JJIS face-sheet data from DJJ

Target: 5 of 6 or 83% of program participants served will demonstrate increase in employability skills

Actual for the grant year: 6 of 6 (%) achieved outcome, as evidence by Pre and Post Survey

Target: 6 of 6 or 100% of program participants served will obtain employment/internship experience.

Actual for the grant year: 6 of 6 (%) achieved outcome, as evidence by Placement log, final site evaluations and youth essays

Links:

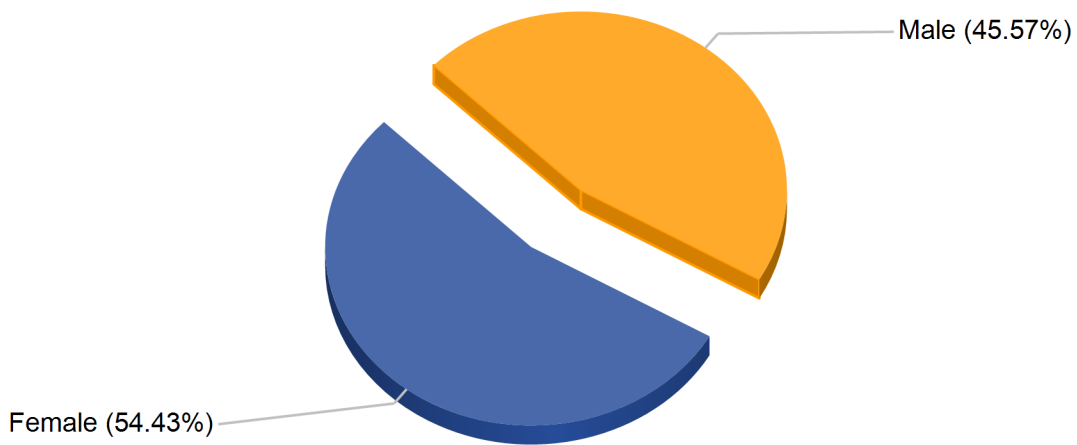
[Annual pictures 2023.docx](#)

Charts:

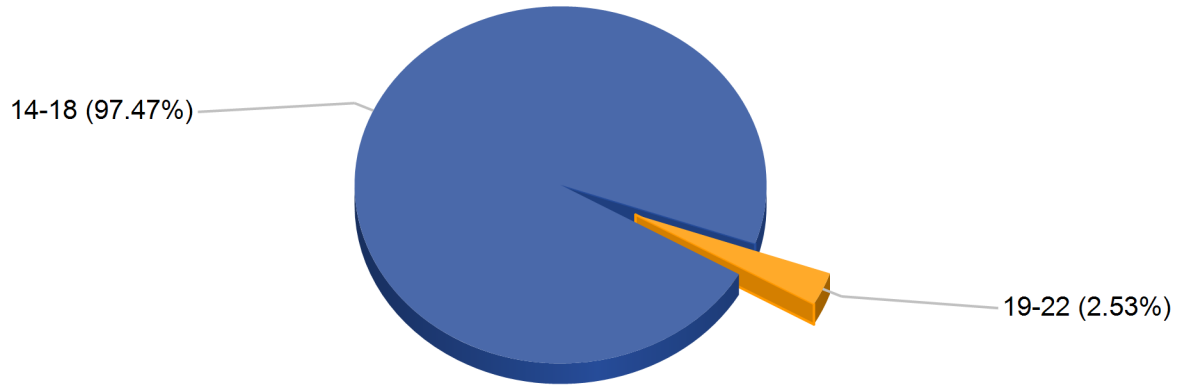
Total population served: **79**

Program Demographics

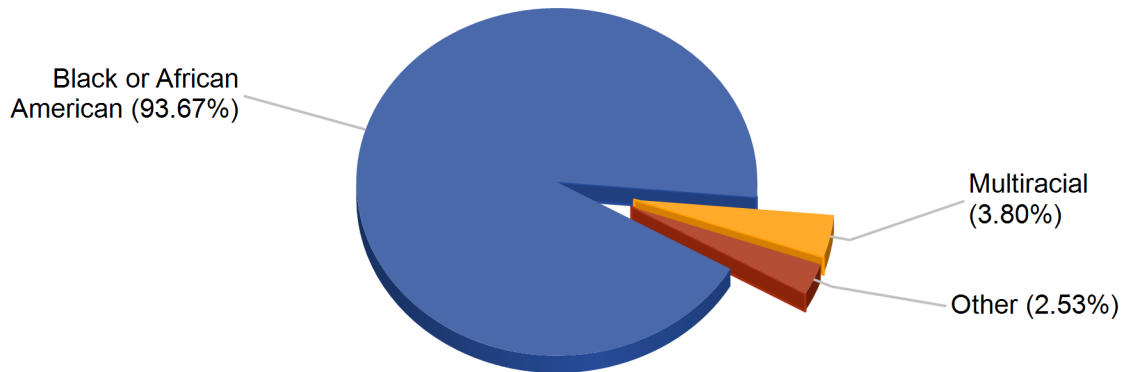
Gender



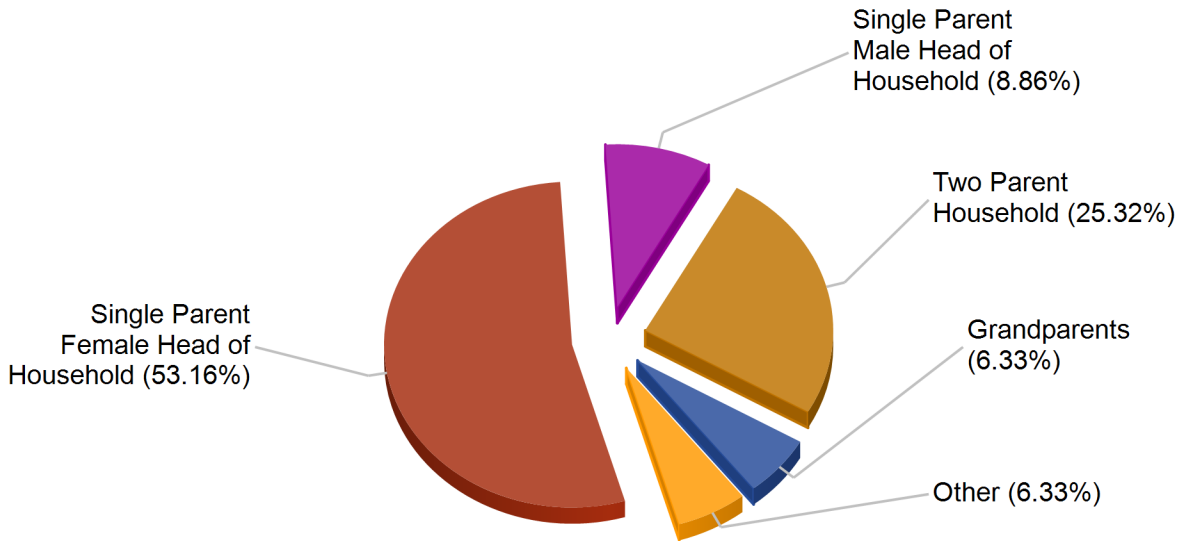
Age



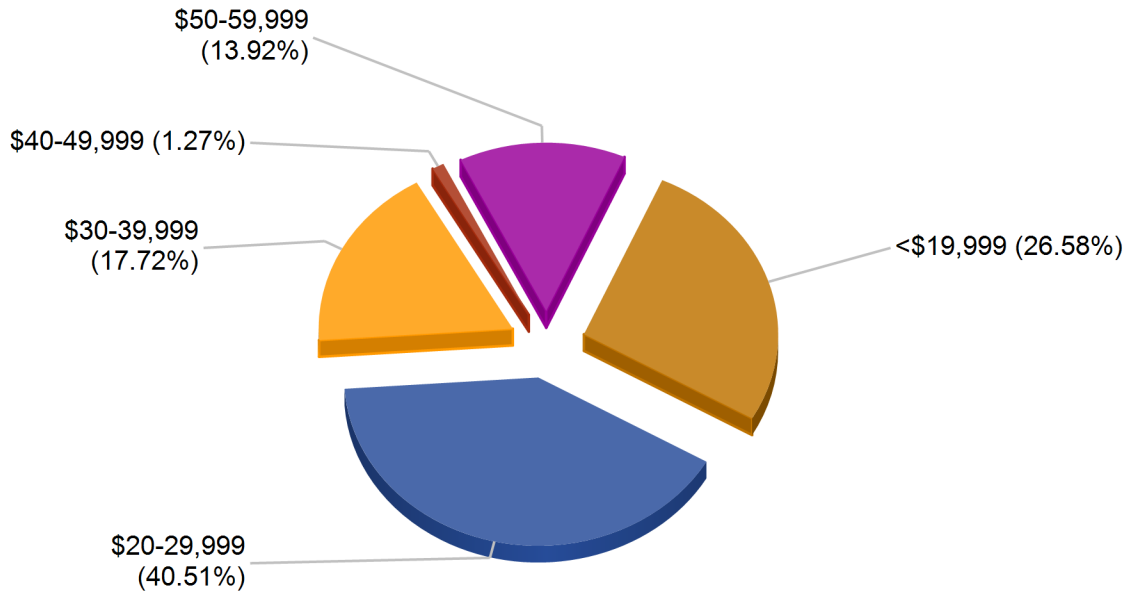
Race



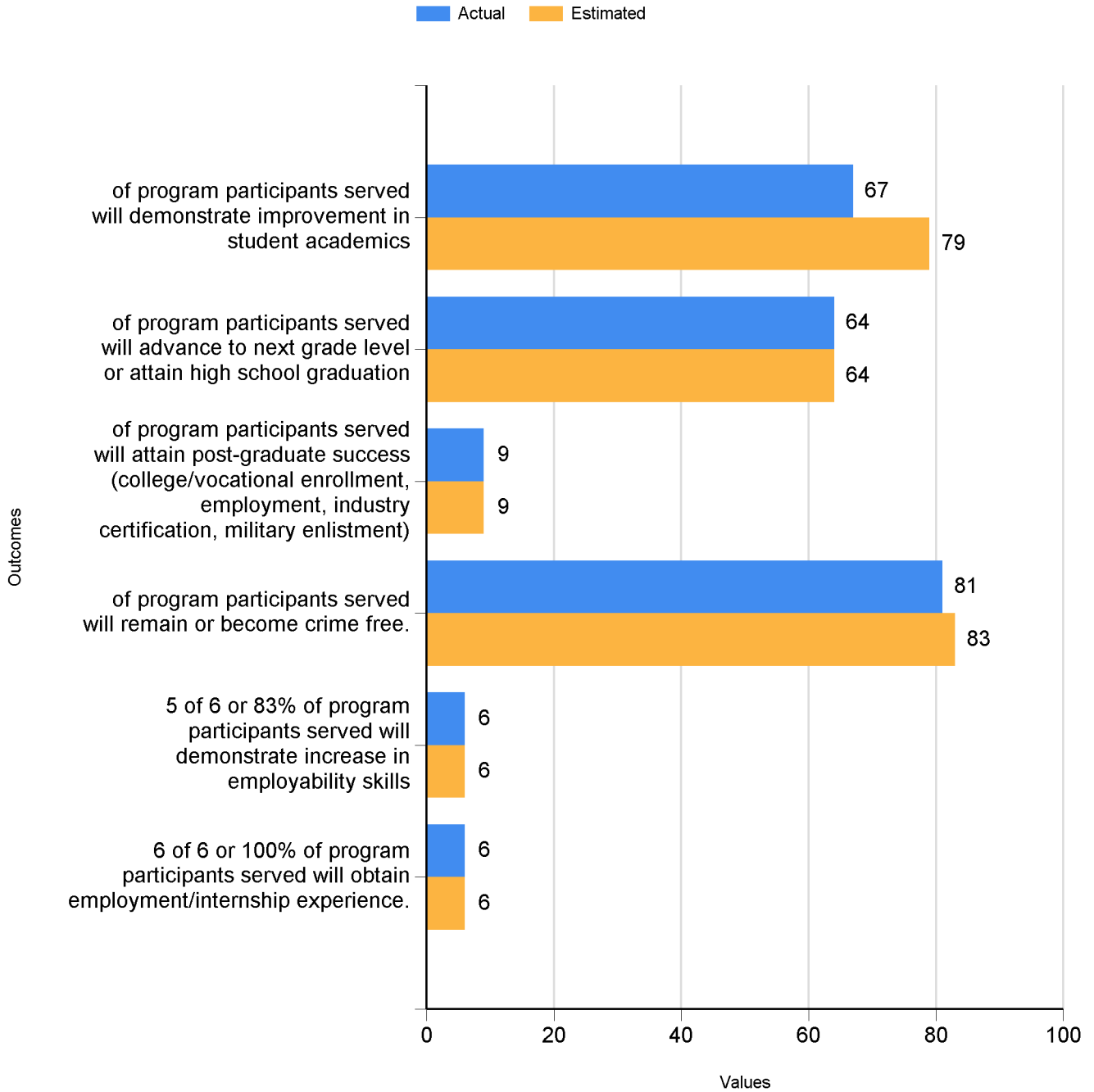
Family Type



Household Income



Program Outcomes



Conclusions:

The staff continue to see trends as a result of the pandemic. Students are continuing to need academic support and mental health supports. Students are needing innovative ways to peek their interest. We have noticed social media aditiction has been a challenge as well for many of our students. They are in need instant gratification.

Though our innovative programing HYPE and Passport Programs, students have a chance to learn new skills while having fun! We want our student to now feel like they are going to another place to feel like school. Many refer to the SAC as a a "home away from home". They are in a safe and secure atmosphere were they are working with programming:

HYPE(Hopeful Youth Prove Excellence) Mentor Monday, Serve Together Tuesday (earning community service hours), Eat! Around the World Wednesday, Tournament Thursday and Fun Friday. They have the opportunity to work on their skill building.

Our second program offering is the Passport Program. Each student takes a journey throughout 7 different destinations or guiding principles: Academic Success, Career Readiness, College Prep, Health and Wellness, Mental Health, Character Development and Personal Development. Each destination consists of tasks for the student to complete throughout the year, once completed the student receives a stamp for the designated task in their passport; the stamps then amount to rewards.

Guiding Principles of the Passport Program:

1. Academic Advising

ENGAGES students in their academic journey by creating a culture of academic success and providing a clear path with measurable benchmarks to ensure students are on track to graduate high school. 53 tasks over 4 years.

2. Career Readiness

PREPARES students for their futures in the workforce as productive members of society through career exploration, skill building and job trainings. 70 tasks over 4 years.

3. College Preparation

STREAMLINES the college admission process as students work to meet comprehensive milestones ensuring that they are adequately qualified, prepared and to attend college. 24 tasks over 4 years.

4. Character & Leadership

POSITIONS students to become strong men and women of honor, character and integrity who are prepared Student ACES, Inc - EXHIBIT A.1-1, EXHIBIT A.2-1 Page 12 of 13 and capable of leading future generations. 64 tasks over 4 years.

5. Health & Wellness

EXPOSES high school student athletes to healthy behaviors, nutrition, and exercise to create positive and long-lasting personal health habits. 56 tasks over 4 years.

6. Mental Health

LAYS the foundation of positive mental health, teaching students how to cope with the normal stresses of their lives while focusing on regulating their emotions and building emotional stamina. 72 tasks over 4 years.

7. Personal Development

ENGAGES students in purposeful self-led research projects designed to allow intentional, interest-based learning outside of their normal schooling. 42 tasks over 4 years.

We welcome the PBCYD team to come out to the building to see our exciting programing in action. Though we feel short with our academic outcomes, we are proud of the growth of our programing. We are always listening to the students and are continuously thinking of new and exiting ideas to assist the overall student. We want every student set up for success.

