



# 2018-2019 Impact Report

## 1818 Community Engagement Grants

### Saint Louis University

The 1818 Community Engagement Grant program received 54 applications in its inaugural year. 18 were selected and provided with up to \$1,800 each to implement a project that would positively impact the community.



SLU engineering student teaches youth about robotics as part of the Robotic Operations Billikens Outreach (R.O.B.O.) project.



**306**

SLU students and faculty involved with a grant.



**48**

Non-profits in the St. Louis community that were partners.



**+1,100**

People in the community directly impacted by a grant.

#### Project Focus Areas

Health and Wellness  
Projects - 4

Youth Education  
Projects - 8



Capacity Building and  
Social Justice Projects - 6



## Project Title

## Description

Move to Change: Dance as an Instrument for Community Wellness & Cultural Competency

Provided youth struggling with physical and mental disabilities a chance to express themselves through dance.

SLU Feminine Hygiene Closet

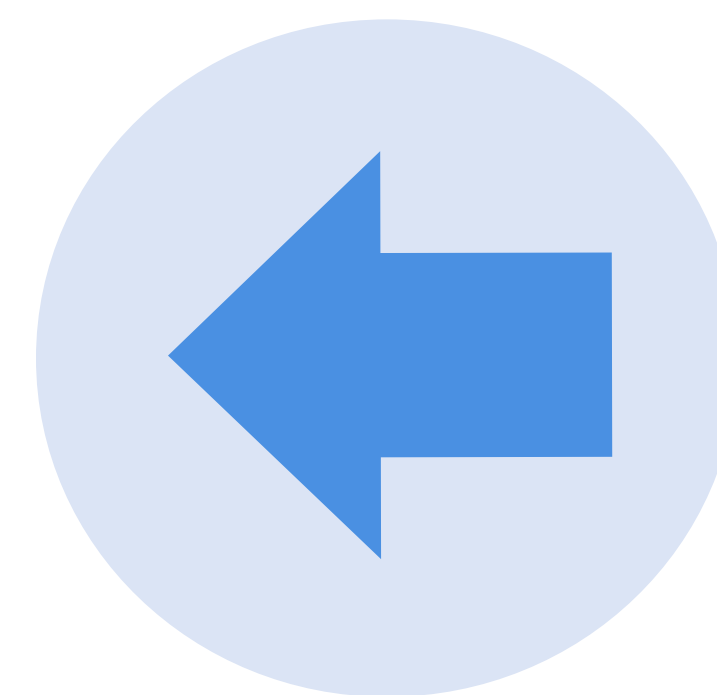
Expansion of the St. Louis Diaper Bank to include feminine hygiene products and access to long-term resource assistance.

SLUper Fitness Day

Health and wellness day for under-served youth that included activities, demonstrations, and education.

Trauma Centered Play and its Effect on Child Development

Transformed the playroom at Our Lady's Inn to better stimulate and nurture children experiencing trauma.



Pre/Post-data from Our Lady's Inn showed the new trauma-centered playroom resulted in:

- Less emotional meltdowns among the youth
- Decrease in recovery time from youth meltdowns
- More frequent visits and usage
- Space being seen by parents as warm and inviting

## Community Partner Quote

- Executive Director,  
Kids Enjoy Exercise  
Now (K.E.E.N.)

*"I wanted to reach out and say thank you for all the amazing work you and your team have done with KEEN this year. You really are making a difference. Move to Change has made our program so much better - the athletes and the parents are loving it!"*



## Project Title

## Description

More Than Math

Initiated the Math Fact Scholars Club, an enrichment program designed to advance math skills of K-6 students at St. Louis Catholic Academy.

OverMatch Mentoring

Education initiative that prepared under-resourced high school students for the college admissions process.

Robotic Operations Billiken Outreach (R.O.B.O.)

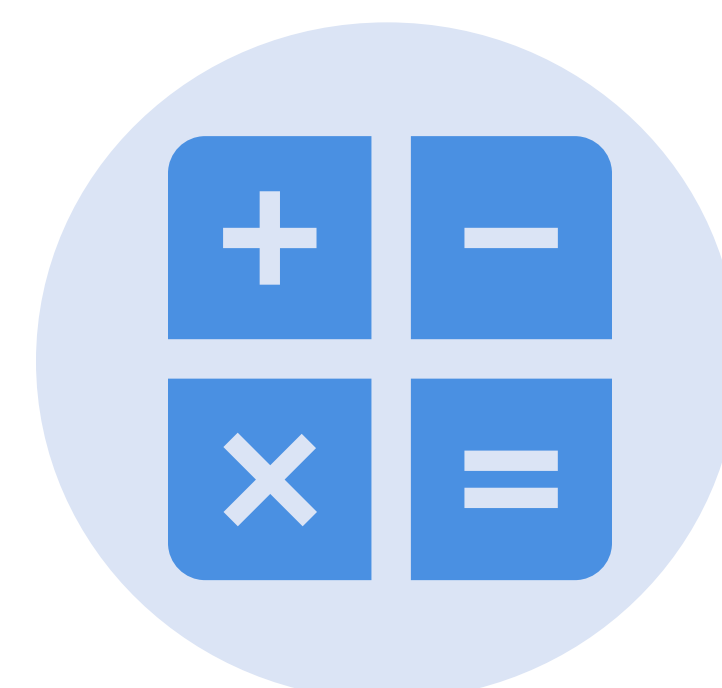
Connected youth living in the Ville neighborhood with SLU engineering students for robotics education.

The Sibling Support Network

Creation of kits for local schools to implement a support group for siblings of kids with developmental disabilities.

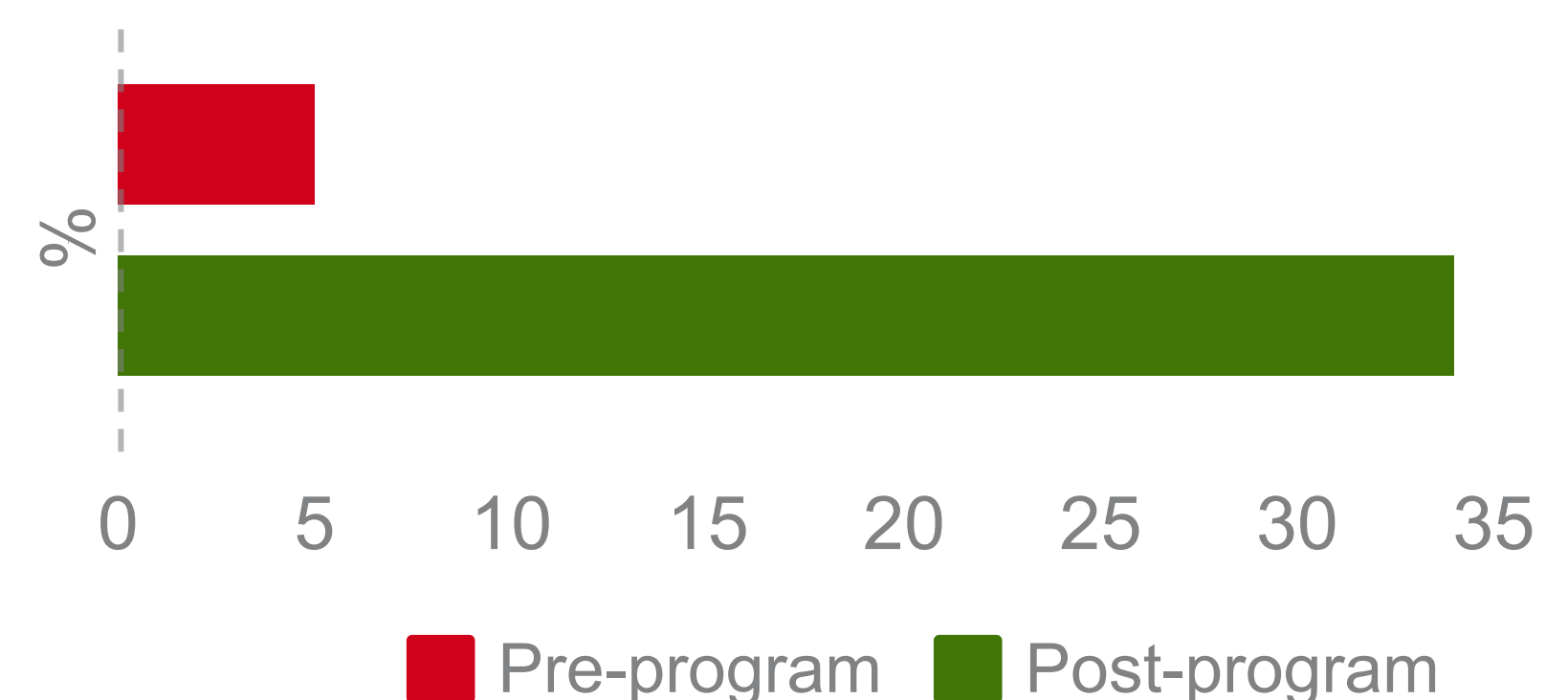


Kids perform an anti-bullying play as part of Sibling Support Network



The More Than Math program significantly improved basic math skills of the students:

### Grade-level Mastery of Math Skills



High school juniors participating in OverMatch Mentoring reported the program helped to a great extent with:

- Applying for college scholarships
- Interview prepping for admissions process
- Resume creation for college application

## Community Partner Quote

- Teacher, St. Louis Catholic Academy

*"MathFact Scholars has been a true blessing to our school. The students are so excited about math which is truly amazing! I am so thankful for the SLU volunteers and I am excited to see the long-term impact that it will have on our students..."*



## Project Title

## Description

Act on Potential: Increasing Neuroscience Education in St. Louis City Youth

Education program for youth focused on the neuroscience behind decision-making, as well as the field in general.

Building Bridges for the Future

Provided children ages 3-12 with an introduction to how the study of science bridges to health care professions.

Cultivating Full Minds and Fostering Mindfulness

Redesign of Gateway 180 homeless shelter's tutoring space for children.

P3 (Plant-i-ful Pollinators Program)

Partnership which built and distributed pollinator gardens to 20 elementary schools in St. Clair County.



--> **Act on Potential** brought neuroscience education into school programs to help youth better understand the decision-making process.

--> 93% of youth who participated could recall a specific strategy to make more informed decisions.

--> 90 youth from Flance Early Learning Center, the Juvenile Detention Center, and Marian Middle School participated.

 20

...schools received a pollinator garden to educate youth on the importance of bees to our Earth through the P3 project.



Children perform an activity educating them on physical therapy.

## Community Member Quote

Anijah, 5th grade student living at Gateway 180 shelter

*"I like the new room because it actually makes me excited to do my homework and read books with all the tutors!"*



**Project Title**

**Description**

Astronomy in Prison Program

Provided incarcerated men a monthly workshop on astronomy, including hands-on use of a telescope.

Community Leaders in Action

Assessed and strengthened family development programs offered, particularly to our Hispanic population.

Confidence in Clothing: Economically Empowering Youth

Created a professional development program for under-served youth involved with mock trial competitions.

Queer Closet

Permanent project that equipped queer SLU students with resources needed to find clothes for all body types & genders.

Trauma-Informed Training Initiative and Mural Project

Trauma training for 75+ SLU students tutoring youth, as well as beautification of local schools through mural-painting.

Undocuweek

Week of speakers, workshops, simulations, and direct action on and off-campus related to the topic of immigration justice.



Y.M.C.A Confidence in Clothing Project

"Because of this grant money, we were able to provide brand new professional clothing to the teens of our program, none of which have the means to purchase their own. This program produces future lawyers and politicians - partners like SLU allow us to extend our reach and impact even more of our leaders of tomorrow."

- Y.M.C.A.



Mural painted at local school

Impact Quotes - Queer Closet

- SLU Student Shopper at Queer Closet

"Queer Closet meant that I was able to find clothes to express myself and affirm my identity while feeling safe and supported, and all at the price of \$4. I cant' thank them enough for helping me to feel comfortable during the early stages of my transition."

- Director, Pride STL

"Queer Closet has been able to serve a function that Pride STL cannot...There are a lot of societal barriers in place...that prevent young queer individuals from exploring their identity and expressing themselves, and Queer Closet is working to bridge that gap."

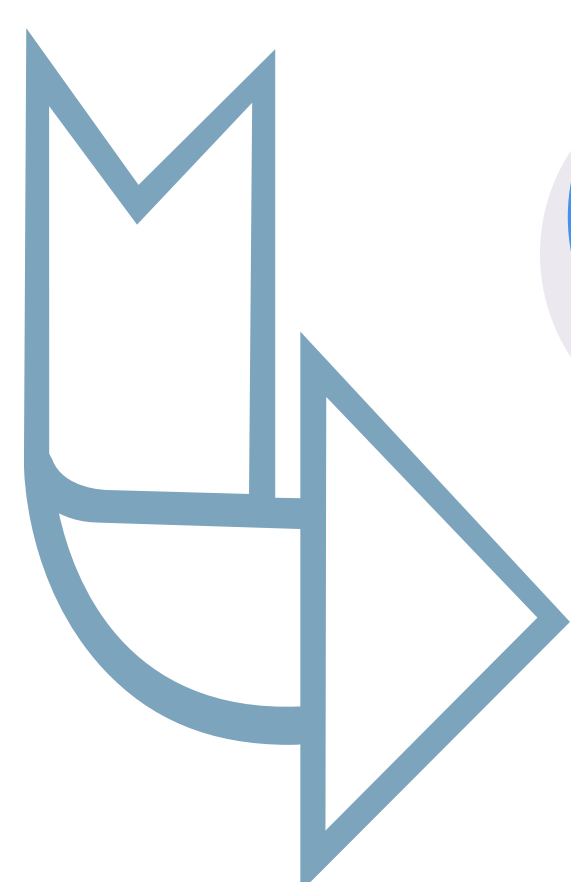


### Student leaders highlighted multiple areas of growth and development gained through the grant process:

- Improved communication skills
- Ability to work with diverse sets of people
- Improved organization skills
- Ability to delegate more effectively
- Higher level of resiliency
- Importance of teamwork
- Budget management skills

"I developed as a leader, gaining confidence in working with a diverse group of stakeholders - students, non-profits, community members. I learned that many social justice issues in St. Louis are inter-related."

"As a leader, I learned the importance of working with what you have instead of dwelling on what you do not."



#### Good Stewardship

- 15 of the 18 projects came in under budget
- Only 25K of the total grant award funds of 32.5K was spent

## Importance of Relationships

*"I learned that there are amazing and beautiful communities that are kind enough to open their doors to outsiders. I had a relationship with Our Lady's Inn before this project but only after it do I truly feel apart of their community!"*

## What's Next?



**16** of the 18 grants have a plan in place to continue the project next year.

*"SLU Neuroscience Club has already created and elected a service chair position to oversee this program in the future, and we've made several more connections in the St. Louis community to continue the work next year."*