



Carlsbad Educational Foundation

Annual Report 2020-2021





GREAT SCHOOLS ARE THE
FOUNDATION
OF GREAT COMMUNITIES



Lila Mitchell makes a chia head using nylon stockings, dirt, and seeds at the Agua Hedionda after-school enrichment program 'Let's Get Growing' with Ms. Sandy.

Cover: Nikolette Riegler (right) at Kids Care Summer Adventure, stock photography (left, center).



FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) robotics team 9261 - Level Up at the FTC robotics regional competition. From left to right: Jack Kinney, Leela Walker, Camilla Hinrichsen, and Emma Barger.

WHO WE ARE

The mission of Carlsbad Educational Foundation is to invest in our children’s future success through education for all students in the Carlsbad Unified School District by developing and funding impactful programs.

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Students Sophia Larson and Mackenzie Lukin show off their entry for the 'Bridge Design Challenge' at Calavera Hills Middle School. Funds for science lab supplies are provided by our generous sponsors and community partners.

FROM THE CEO & BOARD CHAIRMAN

Our community of students, teachers, and parents faced unprecedented challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic, leading many in Carlsbad to ask, "How can I help?"

The result was overwhelming support from donors, like you, who stepped up in extraordinary ways to help us adapt to new needs.

One of the first hurdles was starting the school year with distance learning.

We saw astonishing generosity in donations that funded groceries for families facing financial hardship, individual school supplies for items that could no longer be shared, and childcare scholarships to help parents get back to work.

We're grateful for our hard-working staff, engaged board, and passionate district administration that worked tirelessly to bring students safely back to school. Our district began opening schools to students in October 2020.

Another achievement was revamping our Kids Care Summer Adventure curriculum and activity schedule. This was done to address concerns that students experienced academic and social-emotional learning loss caused by the pandemic. The result was record enrollment in the program.

Without a doubt, a real highlight was hearing from students about their experiences. They shared stories of discovery, connection, and excitement from participating in programs that you helped to fund, like Project Lead the Way, robotics, high school musicals, and more.

Please take a few minutes to learn more about the impact you've had on Carlsbad students, teachers, and families by reading our 2020-21 annual report.

You helped us find solutions to unique challenges.

We are eternally grateful.



Laura Pitts
Laura Pitts
CEO



JR Phillips
JR Phillips
Board Chairman

The Year in Numbers

OUR IMPACT IN SCHOOLS



1,250

Number of Art Packs provided to every middle and high school art student to participate in class at home during distance learning.

Learn more on page 11.

160

Average number of students who attended Summer Adventure every week at its two Carlsbad elementary school sites. The program reached capacity eight out of 10 weeks.



Photos, left to right: Supplies in middle school Art Pack; Chloe Curry and Dante Paredes at Kids Care Summer Adventure; Nolan Mejia showing his commitment to Stanford University; Bryan Park learning about reptiles at a science visit.

OUR IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

23

Graduating seniors who were awarded a Foundation-funded college scholarship to help them pursue their passion for learning at leading universities.

Learn more on page 18.



\$16,171

Amount in Kids Care scholarships awarded to families in financial need. This tuition assistance gave students a safe space to learn while their parents worked and schools were closed.

Learn more on page 15.

511

Parents or community advocates who registered for one of our virtual community forums. Experts and attendees discussed challenges related to the pandemic and explored opportunities to support our students.

Learn more on page 14.

290

Individuals who chose to support Carlsbad students through first-time donations to our Foundation.



STORIES OF IMPACT

Every dollar generously donated through Carlsbad Educational Foundation supports the life of every student and family in Carlsbad Unified School District.

Read personal stories from six students and parents helped this year.



Catherine Laube

Grade 11, Sage Creek High School

Art gave her connection to the world from behind the computer in her bedroom. Working with clay restored her self-esteem and love for life.

“Distance learning was something we did not expect. I spent a lot of time by myself, and I missed one of the most important years for developing relationships. This is a part of my life I will never get back,” Catherine recalls.

“Art was my favorite online class because it gave me the chance to relax about all the other stressful aspects of the year. All of us in the class appreciated the time we spent together creating art.

I created a hedgehog pot animal made of clay that truly resonated with me. The clay was very nice to have because it was a medium used a lot in class, and I love working with it. Art gave a much-needed break from real life.

My classmates and I were all in the same situation and we bonded. It is important to move on as a stronger group of students. Art can bring everyone together. It helped me though the pandemic when I was isolated in my room for a year.”

1,250 students that received art packs with the supplies needed to participate in art while learning from home.

Community partner **Erickson-Hall Construction Co.** helped fully fund art packs for our students.



Nolan Mejia

Grade 12, Sage Creek High School

This Stanford-bound senior found unique ways to apply lessons learned in school to solve real-world dilemmas.

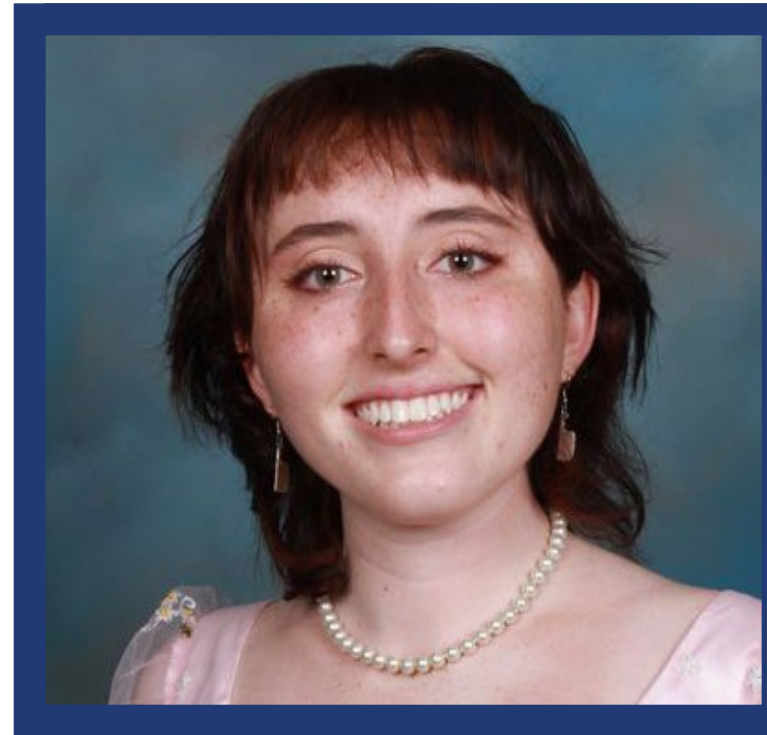
“Project Lead the Way fostered my passion for biomedical science,” Nolan shared.

“Our class utilized equipment and processes that are identical to ones used by professionals in hospitals and research labs. I learned laboratory skills that prepared me for an internship at Scripps Research Translational Institute and for my life as a changemaker in the healthcare field.

I will attend Stanford University in the fall and major in Management Science and Engineering.

My career goals are clear – empower the community with medical tools to transform healthcare – and Project Lead the Way has motivated me to pursue a biomedical career and create devices to positively impact society.

I aspire to lead a biotechnology company that creates groundbreaking medical devices that improve people’s quality of life.”



Grayce Britton

Grade 11, Carlsbad High School

A writer and actor of Carlsbad’s first-ever original musical learned the meaning of ‘the show must go on.’

“I’ve never done an original musical before, and I never thought I would,” reflected Grace. “But it was a bucket-list experience to write, record, and perform Carlsbad’s first-ever original musical while I’m 17 years old and still in high school.

I wrote some of the dialogue for Winifred, the character I played in the spring musical *Falling Star*. I took my own experiences from the pandemic and put it into the script.

Because the show is about a girl who loses her mom and struggles to cope with grief, I could relate with my own struggle grieving the loss of my way of life before the pandemic.

The rehearsal process was surreal. We wrote the script and recorded our vocals at home. We finally got back onstage after being gone almost a year and were thrown right into it. But it’s so fun. I missed it so much, and I’m so glad we got to have this experience.

This musical became a beacon of hope. It taught me that theater can still go on, even though Broadway is shut down! All you need is creativity and perseverance.”





Scott Schimmel

Parent and Carlsbad Unified School District Partner

Acknowledging mental health challenges faced by students opened the door for families to find solutions.

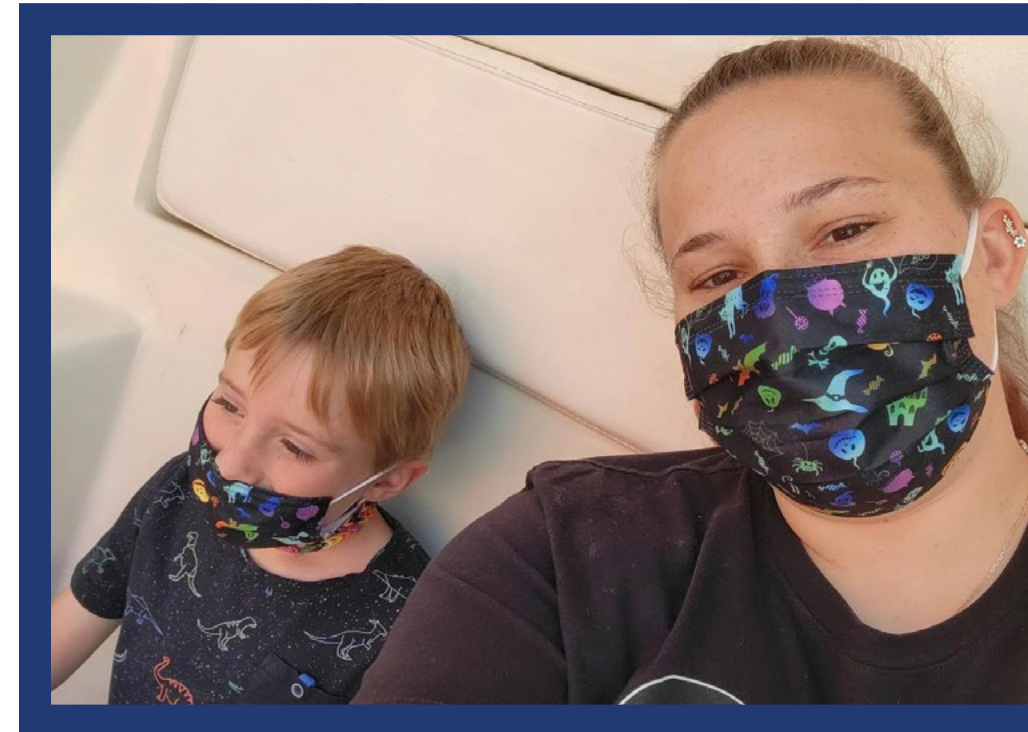
“Nobody anticipated the start of the school year would be all virtual. ‘No way,’ experts said when the summer started. But by August 2020, everyone was scrambling,” said Scott.

“As a parent, I juggled working remotely with virtual schooling. To support Carlsbad Unified School District, I helped teachers adapt to Google Classroom and created videos for parents to support their families through the transitions.

For me, the biggest concern was the effect the pandemic would have on students.

Before the pandemic, social and emotional health concerns came up in special situations. But with Covid-19, everyone was in crisis. No one could imagine the challenges and implications of school shutdowns.

I helped Carlsbad Educational Foundation produce two virtual community forums that brought together a wide variety of mental health professionals who work with kids and families. Parents had the ability to discuss sensitive and relevant issues they were facing, which resulted in building a community of mutual support.”



Samantha Goodwin

Kids Care Scholarship Recipient

A single mom shows up for her career, college coursework, and – most importantly – her son thanks to financial help that provided affordable childcare that fit her needs.

“Kids Care is a life-saver. It’s helped my son, Gabriel, have a safe space to go while I work,” Samantha acknowledged.

“I’m a single mom and a caregiver for a veteran who is paraplegic and on bed rest. I am also a full-time college student. Without Kids Care, I’d be stuck taking classes online or bringing Gabriel to work while I watch him.

The scholarship that we receive helps tremendously and takes a weight off me. Childcare is expensive and I can’t afford to pay one person for a few hours a day.

Also, the Kids Care staff is amazing. My son’s not the easiest to deal with and the staff make him feel welcome and teach him how to participate with his kindergarten class. Gabriel likes socializing, playing outside, and making crafts.

I’m grateful for the program and the staff they hire because of their acceptance, patience, and willingness to help Gabriel.”



Tracey Barker

Parent and Grocery Gifts Coordinator

When worry set in over how Carlsbad families, impacted by school and business closures, would feed their children, this mom took action. Her solution impacted thousands.

“When the pandemic began, I started a program called ‘Families Feeding Families.’ This invited families to drop off groceries to help others in need,” Tracey explained.

“Demand was so great that the program was expanded throughout the community and renamed ‘Grocery Gifts’. We partnered with the wonderful people at Plus Box and Hollandia Dairy to locally source fresh fruit, vegetables, and dairy products.

The impact was staggering. Every Friday, for 17 months, 150 families from our district picked up healthy groceries in a drive through at Carlsbad High School staffed by volunteers.

I learned the food brought more than nutrition and nourishment. I was deeply touched by a single mom who sent a beautiful letter:

My son-in-law lost his job during the pandemic. It has been a struggle for him to find work. The weekly food donation really helped him and his family survive.

We looked forward to picking up the produce, milk, and eggs - and then you added ice cream. That was a total game changer for the kids!

There is no way I could repay you for all you have done. Please know that you have been a blessing to our house and to many others.

This was truly a community effort.”



Volunteers placed the week's selection of groceries into paper bags and distributed to families in a drive-through set up at Carlsbad High School.

Thank you to Grocery Gifts partners!

Plus Box provided almost all the groceries.

Hollandia Dairy provided all dairy products at cost, an employee to help with distribution, and a refrigerated truck.

Carlsbad Charitable Foundation granted \$20,000 to help fund supplies and groceries.

400 individual donors supported the program.

On average, every week:

150 families picked up a Grocery Gift

275 Carlsbad students were fed

550 Carlsbad total families were fed



SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Alexandria Lydecker
 Carlsbad High School
 UC Berkeley for Science

Angelina Parra
 Sage Creek High School
 California State University San Marcos
 for Biochemistry and Art

Audrey Liang
 Sage Creek High School
 UC San Diego for Engineering

Ava Sabella*
 Carlsbad High School
 Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for
 Wildlife Biology

Bennett Hochner
 Sage Creek High School
 University of Southern California for
 Business Administration

Camilla Potz
 Carlsbad High School
 Colorado School of Mines for
 Mechanical Engineering

Isabella Woulfe
 Carlsbad High School
 UC Los Angeles for Astrophysics

Jack Gogal
 Sage Creek High School
 UC Berkeley for Architecture

Jennisa Bangal*
 Sage Creek High School
 UC San Diego for Art,
 Humanities and Science

Karen Antonio
 Carlsbad High School
 California State University San
 Marcos for Child Development and
 Psychology

Kaylyne Pham
 Carlsbad High School
 Mira Costa College for biology
 and design

Madeleine Miyamoto
 Sage Creek High School
 UC Santa Barbara for Chemistry

Miriam Melkonian
 Sage Creek High School
 Westmont College for Chemistry

Nolan Mejia
 Sage Creek High School
 Stanford University for
 Bioengineering

Ravi Pathak
 Carlsbad High School
 Washington University for
 Economics and Business

*Received ViaSat-sponsored scholarship for
 Science Olympiad participation

RISING STARS

Aiko Lozar
 Carlsbad High School
 Chapman University for
 Film Production

Ismael Vera
 Carlsbad High School
 California State University San Marcos
 for Marketing

Karen Antonio
 Carlsbad High School
 California State University San
 Marcos for Child Development and
 Psychology

Bennett Hochner
 Sage Creek High School
 University of Southern California for
 Business Administration

Bella Niems
 Sage Creek High School
 University of Southern California for
 Business Administration

Carter Blom
 Sage Creek High School
 Baylor University for Sports
 Business

Nolan Mejia
 Sage Creek High School
 Stanford University for
 Bioengineering

Kami Zablan
 Sage Creek High School
 UC San Diego for Human Biology

An education in Carlsbad public schools prepares students to excel at the nation's leading universities.

Generous donors helped fund scholarships for 23 graduating seniors who achieved exemplary academic or personal milestones in their K-12 education.

This year, 15 students who were inspired to pursue a career in STEAM by a Foundation-funded program received \$1,000 college scholarships. Two of the scholarships, sponsored by

ViaSat, were awarded to Science Olympiad participants and five of the scholarships went to students of families in financial hardship.

Additionally, eight seniors received \$1,500 scholarships for demonstrating a love of learning, civic duty, or the ability to overcome challenging life circumstances. These students were honored as Rising Stars of the Month, a program the Foundation sponsors through the **Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce**.

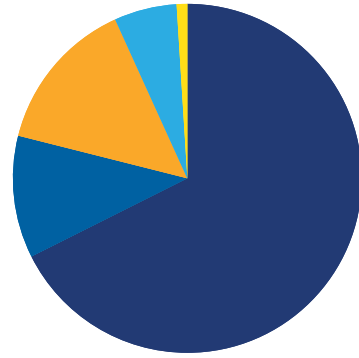
*Photos from left to right:
 Bennett Houchner, Kaylyne
 Pham, Angelina Parra, Nolan
 Mejia, Audrey Liang, Alexandria
 Lydecker, Miriam Melkonian,
 Madeleine Miyamoto, Jennisa
 Bangal, Jack Gogal, Karen
 Antonio, Isabella Woulfe.*

FINANCIALS

REVENUE & SUPPORT

\$3,157,510

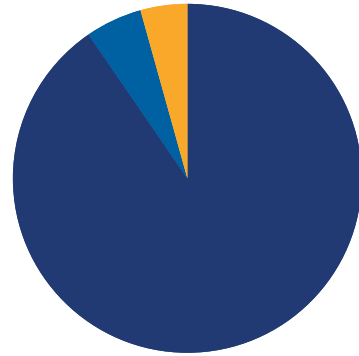
Tuition & Fees	\$2,134,498	★	68%
PPP Funds Income	\$357,827	★	11%
Grants	\$450,972	★	14%
Contributions	\$183,110	★	6%
Miscellaneous Income	\$31,103	★	1%



EXPENSES

\$3,029,629

Program Services	\$2,739,306	★	91%
Management & General	\$159,125	★	5%
Fundraising	\$131,198	★	4%



Change in Net Assets from Operations	\$127,881
Unrealized Gain on Investments	\$42,316
Change in Net Assets	\$170,197
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$1,645,662
Net Assets at End of Year	\$1,815,859

FINANCIALS

DISTRICT-WIDE MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

\$78,094.96

Discovery Labs, Music (Grades K - 5)	\$22,798.73
Music Coaches & Specialists (Grades 6 - 12)	\$19,000.00
Visual And Performing Arts (Grades 6 - 12)	\$14,172.66
Music Equipment & Repairs (Grades 6 - 12)	\$9,263.43
Musical Instruments (Grades 9 - 12)	\$6,860.14
Spring Musicals (Grades 9 - 12)	\$6,000

SCIENCE EDUCATION

\$170,886.00

Science Lab Supercharge (Grades K - 12)	\$40,147.76
Science Olympiad (Grades 6 - 12)	\$31,037.10
Discovery Labs, Science (Grades K - 5)	\$22,798.73
FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics (Grades 9 - 12)	\$22,396.62
FIRST LEGO League Robotics (Grades 4 - 8)	\$17,779.29
Science Lab Teaching Assistants (Grades 9 - 12)	\$16,155.09
Science Day Awards (Grades K - 8)	\$15,102.60
Academy for Environmental Stewardship (Grades 3)	\$2,157.00
Project Lead the Way, Calavera Middle (Grade 8)	\$2,564.87
Project Lead the Way, Sage Creek High (Grade 12)	\$746.94

EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION

\$206,275.05

Discovery Labs, Art & PE (Grades K - 5)	\$45,597.46
FAME Supplies, Aviara Oaks Elementary (Grades K - 5)	\$34,819.10
International Baccalaureate, Jefferson Elementary (Grades K-5)	\$30,004.00
Library Renovations, Carlsbad High School (Grades 9 - 12)	\$29,744.98
Innovation Coach (Grades K - 12)	\$25,931.70
Art Packs (Grades 6 -12)	\$19,383.56
Student Leadership Council (Grades 9-12)	\$9,701.31
Genius Project, Sage Creek High School (Grade 12)	\$6,000.00
FAME Supplies, Aviara Oaks Middle School (Grades 6 - 8)	\$3,828.14
Innovation Lab, Magnolia Elementary (Grades K - 5)	\$1,264.80

PROGRAM SUPPORT & RESTRICTED GRANTS

\$306,191.97

Grocery Gifts (Grades TK - 12)	\$146,911.56
Facility Fees to Carlsbad Unified School District	\$110,103.76
Tuition Assistance for Kids Care (Grades TK - 5)	\$16,171.00
Senior College Scholarships (Grade 12)	\$15,000.00
Coyote Cavern Productions, Calavera Hills	\$8,279.99
Rising Star Scholarships (Grade 12)	\$5,000.00
Coastal Community Foundation VAPA Mini Grants	\$4,725.66

TOTAL IMPACT = \$761,447.98

THANK YOU CONTRIBUTIONS

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Photo on opposite page: Students Alanya Barber, Daisy Byrnes, Audrey Carrol, and Lola Hark complete a 7th grade science lab experiment. Photo on this page: Carlsbad High School students rehearse for the spring musical, 'Falling Star.' Science lab teach assistants and a portion of high school spring musicals are funded by generous donations to the Foundation.

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