

SUCCESSFUL KIDS



MEET ALEX

Alex was 8-years-old when he first became a member of the Henry T. Schatz Boys & Girls Club. Alex's teacher had recommended the Club to his mother to help him with homework and improving his math skills.

Alex was struggling to keep up with his classmates in learning long addition and subtraction. However, he was able to participate in math games that allowed him to practice his skills without realizing he was learning. The Club quickly became a place that Alex could have fun with new friends, eat a free snack and hot dinner, and also participate in academic programs every day after school.

If you ask Alex now about his favorite part of going to the Boys & Girls Club, he'll excitedly reply, "Mango Math!" Since joining the Club, Alex is now performing at grade level in math and has also enhanced his reading and writing skills.

Alex's success story is one of many. Through the Project Learn program, like Alex, youth are given the opportunity to enhance their educational experience and are inspired to reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens.

Project Learn is just one of the many programs receiving funding from United Way of Pierce County. By focusing on programs that help young children and their families, we can remove the barriers preventing them from breaking the cycle of poverty.

Supporting students in the early grades so they have the skills to be successful in school and in life.

Why It Matters

One out of four students in Pierce County is not meeting the third grade reading standard.

Missing just one to two days each month, even as early as kindergarten, can significantly lower academic achievement.

Kids who don't have access to books over the summer can lose **up to two months of learning**.