

ABOUT US

OUR VISION



No Bay Area child will be held back for lack of a literacy mentor.

COMMUNITY READING BUDDIES (ASPIRE'S FLAGSHIP PROGRAM)

Community Reading Buddies (CRB) trains high schoolers in social-emotional skills and mobilizes them to **mentor underserved K-3rd graders in literacy.**



3,892 students in first 15 years.

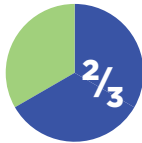
Launched digital programming with **award-winning** platform in 2020.



CRB can reach Bay Area students more efficiently than any other Bay Area literacy program.

▶ Now positioned to **scale across the Bay.**

THE CHALLENGE



2/3 of Oakland youth arrive to kindergarten already behind.

Those students are already **4 times** more likely not to graduate high school.
Over 215,000 K-3rd graders in the Bay Area were already reading below grade level before Covid.

BUDDIES (K-3RD GRADERS)



Our Buddies grow by 40% of a grade level in literacy in just 8 weeks. That's **more than double** the average growth rate.

YOUTH MENTORS (8TH-12TH GRADERS)

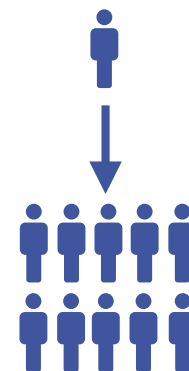
96% demonstrate growth as leaders and contributors.

FORTUNE 500

According to 400 Fortune 500 CEOs,

75% of long-term career success depends on soft skills.

COST



\$321/student in 2020

Cost at scale: \$110/student

For what it costs other Bay Area nonprofits to reach one student, we can reach 10-15 students.

Our diverse range of partners includes:



Lois Lenski Foundation



Bernard E. & Alba Witkin Charitable Foundation



West Davis and Bergard Foundation

HOW SCHOOLS CAN PARTNER WITH US - BUDDIES (TK-3RD)



Connect:

School Rep Attend Intro Meeting | Sign MOU



Recruit:

Spread the Word to Parents & Buddies



Match:

CRB Onboards parents & matches Buddies with Youth Mentors!



Read!

Program operates 2x weekly for 8 weeks



Celebrate!

CRB provides recognition & reporting

COMMITTED YOUTH MENTORS



Thorough vetting



Intentional matching



Comprehensive training and support

WHAT WE ASK FOR



Support
connecting with parents



Working
relationships with teachers



Access
to student data
(Fountas & Pinnell)