2020-21 Impact Report

Our mission is to promote student success in the Salt Lake City School District by using private donations to supplement children’s educational experiences.

- 21,460 Students
  - 10,038 Elementary, 3,187 Middle, 7,290 High, 21 CBTU, & 924 Charter School Students

- 40 Schools
  - 27 Elementary, 5 Middle, 5 High & 3 Charter Schools

- 3 CLCs
  - Glendale, Liberty & Rose Park Community Learning Centers

- 97 Languages
  - SLCSD is diverse with many different home languages.

Investing in student success!

I am lucky to see firsthand my donation dollars benefit students in our district and my neighborhood as the foundation connects them with the supports they need to succeed in school. Thank you to those who donate and to the Salt Lake Education Foundation for all you do!

- Adriana E. Pinto, Assistant Principal at Liberty Elementary School
COVID-19 Response

23,840 Kits
Health kits & hygiene kits to promote healthy lifestyles & habits.

1,870 Vaccines
Distributed to our community at our community learning centers, 1,000 Glendale CLC, 760 Rose Park CLC & 110 Liberty CLC.

594 Households
More than 2,370 individuals received supports through the COVID-19 hotline.

During the COVID-19 school dismissal, the foundation was committed to providing much needed food to families. We operated drive-thru pantries at our three community learning centers. However, some families were quarantined with COVID and could not make it to the pantries; therefore, food boxes were delivered to their homes. At one home, our team discovered a family living without heat during winter. Multiple family members had COVID, including Riccardo, the family’s father. Riccardo had been in and out of the hospital and unable to work. There was no money to fix the broken furnace, and no one wanted to expose a repair person to COVID. Our team went to work making phone calls, and before long the foundation purchased several space heaters and delivered them to the family to keep them warm.

Desks for Students

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many students had to find places to do their schoolwork—some used their beds, others a kitchen table or living room couch.

Edutek Corporation helped students have appropriate workspaces to attend their virtual classes or complete assigned homework. Twenty-four students received desks and chairs to use throughout their educational career.
Family & Student Support

During the Operation Warm coat distribution at Newman Elementary School, one little girl, Katie, appeared happy and even more excited than the rest of her class. Katie revealed that her mom had given her a new coat before they found out about the free coats from Operation Warm. She and her mom talked what they should do and decided that Katie would pick out her coat with the rest of the class. Student equity and dignity is a vital component of Operation Warm—every student regardless of their circumstances receives a free coat. Katie took her new coat home so she and her mom could decide together which coat to keep and then donate the other coat to someone else who needed it more.

During the Riley Elementary School coat distribution, a young girl, Vanessa, and two of her friends got matching coats to make sure they could find each other during recess. They were so excited for their new coats they would not take them off when they got back to class!

**CLOTHING SUPPORT**

- **260** Deseret Industries vouchers for entire families distributed.
- **1,018** New warm winter coats provided through Operation Warm.
- **650** New shoes provided through Operation Warm Soles.

**923,364 Pounds**

Food distributed through on-site and mobile school pantries through the Utah Food Bank.

**55 Bus Passes**

Monthly UTA bus passes distributed.

**600 Gift Cards**

576 Walmart & 24 Smith’s emergency gift cards distributed.

**$100,000**

Through a grant from Latter-day Saint Charities, household and hygiene items were distributed.
Celebrating Students

3,500
Bags of candy distributed by the Salt Lake City Police Department to our Title I schools to help celebrate Halloween.

438 Flu Shots
Distributed through clinics held at Rose Park and Liberty Community Learning Centers.

40 Students
Students ages 6-12 partner with a police officer to shop for holiday gifts through the Police Pay It Forward program.

122 Glasses
83 eye exams & glasses; 39 replacement glasses & 27 screenings through Friends for Sight.

2,244
Students benefited from holiday giving programs. 1,372 students received gifts through the Angel Tree program, & 872 holiday gift cards were distributed.

30
Bikes given as a reward for students with perfect attendance.

Community Learning Centers

Glendale CLC
- Community Health Centers Neighborhood Clinic
- Friends for Sight Vision Screenings
- Medicaid Enrollment Support

Liberty CLC
- Intermountain Healthcare Clinic
- University of Utah School of Dentistry Clinic
- Friends for Sight Vision Screenings
- Medicaid Enrollment Support

Rose Park CLC
- Intermountain Healthcare Clinic
- Medicaid Enrollment Support
Often it is not any single program that has a lasting impact in the lives of our students but rather many experiences, over time, that help our students achieve their goals. One of those students is Valeria Portillo. Valeria began her education at Mountain View Elementary as a Pre-K student. Throughout elementary school, she was an active participant in many of the opportunities offered in the out-of-school hours, including Girls on the Run. She was in the first cohort of students to ever participate in that program in Utah.

After high school graduation, Valeria returned to the Glendale CLC as a volunteer and mentor in our youth cooking programs. Many of the CLC staff have known Valeria since she was a student in the school and were excited to have her back as a contributor and role model for our students.

During her time as a volunteer, Valeria expressed interest in pursuing higher education opportunities. She was concerned about not being eligible for federal financial aid to help her pay for college and wasn’t sure how to move forward with her education. As a first-generation college student, she was in need of support in navigating the higher education system. Valeria worked with the CLC staff and our Education Pathways Partner through the Office of Engagement at the University of Utah to help her begin researching and applying for scholarships and programs.

In 2019, Valeria received the Wolf-Meritus Scholarship through University Neighborhood Partners. She began her education at Salt Lake Community College that fall, pursuing her goal of becoming a culinary artist. She finished her first year of school with a 3.9 GPA. In 2020, she received two more scholarships that paid for her tuition for her second year. She maintained a 4.0 GPA and received a Dean’s academic award.

We have since invited Valeria back to be a participant on some panels to share her experience with younger students, helping them build their capacity to access and navigate higher education opportunities. We are so grateful for our ongoing relationship with Valeria and look forward to seeing her fulfill her life goal of becoming a culinary artist.
The Salt Lake City School District and Salt Lake Education Foundation are partnering to better prepare students for future opportunities in STEM education and the STEM workforce through the inception of Utah STEM Ecosystem Community of Practice. In 2020, the STEM Learning Ecosystems Community of Practice (SLECoP) announced it had selected Utah STEM Ecosystem to join the global movement of leaders devoted to ensuring that STEM education is a priority for all in their communities with an emphasis on the equity envisioned to support a world-class STEM education.

Utah STEM Ecosystem was selected to become a member of the SLECoP, a Community of Practice of global STEM Ecosystems working to build meaningful connections among community partners to prepare students for the opportunities and challenges of the future. The Utah STEM Ecosystem is a partnership between Salt Lake City School District and the Salt Lake Education Foundation and was co-founded by Candace Penrod, District Science Supervisor, and James Yapias, Director of the Salt Lake Education Foundation. With the addition of Utah STEM Ecosystem, the SLECoP now includes 90 participating STEM Learning Ecosystems across the United States as well as Kenya, Israel, Mexico and Canada.

The Utah STEM Ecosystem plans to focus on equitable STEM access and opportunities for all K-12 students and has lined up a series of partners to collaborate, including the Governor’s Office of Economic Development, Wasatch Mountain Institute, Natural History Museum of Utah, Salt Lake City Youth Corp Youth and Family Division, Discovery Gateway Children’s Museum, Marathon Petroleum, Stadler Rail, Wasatch Community Gardens, Thanksgiving Point Institute, Skill Struck, the University of Utah Department of Mining Engineering, Tracy Aviary and Botanical Gardens, Utah State Board of Education STEM and the Utah STEM Action Center.

We are grateful to Marathon Petroleum for supporting the implementation of the STEM Ecosystem Design Studio, which creates recommendations for the Utah STEM Ecosystem Community of Practice that define future steps, actions and goals of the program.
Comcast Internet Essentials promo codes were distributed—allowing families access to in-home internet at no charge.

For students to keep and use throughout their educational journey.

Providing Support For All Students

I have the privilege of working with many of our refugee and immigrant students. The school system cannot always meet their unique needs. I am incredibly grateful to the Salt Lake Education Foundation that never fails to step up to support these students and their families.

- Valerie Gates, ALS Coordinator and ELD Teacher at West High School
After-School Programs

**STAFF SUPPORT**

- 75 Students
  - After-school staff participated in first aid training funded by the Salt Lake Education Foundation.

- 73 Students
  - After-school team members participated in a team building activity supported by the Salt Lake Education Foundation.

- 27 Programs
  - The community education department operated after-school programs in district elementary schools.

- 370 Students
  - Participated in after-school programs that supplemented their classroom education.

- 145 Students
  - The foundation provided snacks for fee-based students participating in the after-school program.

- 1,000 Students
  - Participated in the Lights on Chalk event with art supplies purchased by the Salt Lake Education Foundation.

**Assisting Students, Families & Educators**

Many of our students and families encounter a variety of challenges. The Salt Lake Education Foundation has resources to lessen the impact when students’ families are dealing with these situations, and can help to ensure that the impact on students is minimized, so learning and healing can take place.

- Mike Harman, McKinney-Vento Liaison, Salt Lake City School District
26 Apprentices

Cohort 1 (2019-20): 12 seniors who graduated in Spring 2020 are attending SLCC while continuing their part-time employment with Stadler.
Cohort 2 (2020-21): 14 juniors and seniors.

20 Scholarships

Salt Lake City School District high school students received scholarships valued at a total of $37,200.

Julio Nava is a junior at the University of Utah majoring in Kinesiology. As an undocumented immigrant, his future was uncertain, especially being raised by single mother. Twenty-five years ago his mother decided to invest all of her savings into what she referred to as a better life for them. Like many immigrants, his mother was aware of the low odds of survival as a young mother crossing the desert with a toddler, but chances of survival in their current situation were worse. They left everything behind in Oaxaca, Mexico; however, his mother brought enough ambition to start a new life in the United States, the land of opportunity.

Giving back to his community is a fundamental part of his education as well as the type of work he aspires to do in the future. He is currently a mentor and health advocate for the Utah Development Academy where he assists youth and their families. He is an advocate for accessible health care and education for underserved communities. With this opportunity, he has been able to build connections with those around him and empower youth through sport involvement and nutritional workshops for both the youth and their parents. He is also a physical trainer in the UDA club. He promotes physical activity, implements rehabilitation programs and advocates for injury prevention. He also engages in Youth Participatory Action Research within the MAA Legislative Internship. Here he has learned to read bills, engage in advocacy and understand how policies affect students like him, especially health care policies affecting underserved communities. He is passionate about leadership and organizational dynamics in health care policy and immigrant youth education in urban areas as well as the way in which they navigate the education system with intersectional identities.

Due to his financial circumstances, he has to work two full-time jobs in order to continue his education and support his family while being a full-time student.

Julio received three scholarships through the Salt Lake Education Foundation. He plans to provide resources to underserved communities in order to strengthen and support families and promote healthier lifestyles and choices. He envisions a community where students, educators, families and faculty are able to learn from one another, resulting in a holistic and rewarding collaborative learning environment. His scholarships have allowed him to continue his education in an environment that prepares him to understand and effectively apply resources to disenfranchised communities as a health care worker.
Recognizing Excellence - Teachers

The Salt Lake Education Foundation’s board of directors and staff are proud of the 1,400 certified teachers who, day in and day out, play a pivotal role in students’ lives, inspire a lifelong love of learning and discovery and make a difference in their well-being and long-term success. Each year, the Salt Lake Education Foundation and Salt Lake City School District honor exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable and skilled educators.

JOHN ARTHUR, 2021 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

John has been a teacher at Meadowlark for the last seven years. Meadowlark serves a very diverse student population: 100% qualify for free lunch, 60% are English language learners, with about 70% of students identifying as Hispanic, and a large population of students who are from Eastern Africa. Not only does he bring about significant growth in his students academically, he also inspires them to exemplify excellence in responsibility.

John also was named the 2021 Utah Teacher of the Year and was a National Teacher of the Year finalist.

TISHA EGGLESTON, 2021 SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Tisha teaches at Emerson Elementary. She knows her students well and cares about them. She has multiple positive incentives in place to motivate and encourage her students to “do hard things, because they can.” She has a ribbons system and a variety of rewards based on Class Dojo points. Her students have made incredible growth this year.

TATIANA CASANOVA, 2021 EARLY EDUCATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Tatiana has worked with the Salt Lake City School District’s early childhood community for nine years teaching preschool—currently at the Glendale Community Learning Center. Her classroom is always prepared to welcome families and children. She greets each one with a smile, and makes an extra effort to make everyone feel like they are a part of the learning community.
Recognizing Excellence - Administrators

School administrations oversee the daily operations of schools and are an essential link between students and the community. Principals and assistant principals advocate for students, set goals and objectives to further children’s education and find new resources to support students and teachers. We are proud to recognize administrators who go beyond the daily demands of their position to create an extraordinary educational environment.

JOHN KELLY, 2021 PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR
John sets himself apart when it comes to school leadership as principal at Washington Elementary School. He has constructed a team of educators with a common vision and a student-first mindset. He has high expectations for himself and others, while providing the necessary support for all to exceed those expectations. He embraces our district’s shared governance policy, including teachers and staff in the decision-making process. He is both transparent with his plans and ideas, and is receptive to input from all school stakeholders.

CHELSEA MALOUF, 2021 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR
Chelsea is a phenomenal assistant principal at Mountain View Elementary. She is calm, caring and consistent. She makes an incredible difference at Mountain View Elementary, leading teachers and staff in the cause of ensuring all students are learning and getting their social and emotional needs met.

A huge thank you to our school nurses!