



PEACE COMMUNITY  
CENTER

PEACE COMMUNITY CENTER

2020-2021

IMPACT

REPORT

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^ Collaborative science, technology, engineering, art, and math activities shape our day-to-day programs.

### Our Mission

Peace Community Center creates transformational educational experiences for Hilltop youth and families of promise empowering future success in college, career, and community leadership.

### Our Vision

We envision a vibrant community where youth and families are life-long learners who use their diverse gifts to cultivate love, justice, and peace for generations to come.

### Our Values

Community, Justice, Joy, Learning, Wholeness

### Peace's Anti-Racism Statement

Peace Community Center is committed to confronting systemic racism and all forms of oppression to promote personal growth, social justice, and reconciliation.

### Faith-Rootedness Statement

Peace Lutheran Church birthed Peace Community Center out of faith and a deep commitment of love for the Hilltop neighborhood, gifted Peace Community Center to Tacoma, and continues to closely partner with Peace Community Center to serve Hilltop youth and families today.

## Peace Community Center

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2020-2021

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### Letter from the Director

**L. Denice Randle**  
Executive Director  
Peace Community Center

## Dear Community Partners,

At Peace Community Center, we remain committed to our mission to create transformational educational experiences for our Hilltop Scholars and this commitment did not waiver throughout the challenges brought by the pandemic. Throughout this year, Peace's program managers and academic success coaches put in extra efforts to ensure our Scholars and their families maintained access to quality after-school academic tutoring and mentoring. Our engagement included increasing outreach efforts, increasing family engagement and increasing pathways to provide resources to Scholars in need of additional support.

As a community partner, you have directly impacted our ability to train and invest in our scholars' academic and social-emotional growth throughout an unprecedented season in their lives. Thank you for volunteering, making financial contributions and promoting our impact across your networks. Our in-depth support and outreach would not have been possible without the care and action made by each of you. Because of you, we increased our capacity to serve our Scholars and their families during a season of great need while also exceeding our fundraising goal at our 2021 Learners to Leaders event by raising a grand total of over \$138,000! Despite the on-going challenges of the pandemic, and because of your generosity, our program managers and academic success coaches were able to maintain uplifting and meaningful academic connections and coaching sessions with our Scholars and their families.

Despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, our program managers and academic success coaches maintained uplifting and meaningful academic connections and coaching sessions with Scholars and their families.

Highlights of our success in the 2020-2021 school year include the following:

- We connected with scholars in grades 2-12 and provided upwards of 460 one-on-one academic and mentoring sessions:
  - 80% of elementary and middle school Scholars reported having a meaningful relationship with their Academic Success Coach
- We provided over 169 hours of social and emotional learning and college & career coaching.
  - 74% of Scholars reported having normal to high self-esteem or self-confidence
- We engaged scholars with 115 hours of one-on-one academic tutoring across all programs
  - Our academic goal remains for Scholars to achieve a 3.0 or higher GPA

As we move forward, I am thankful for your continued support and for us to witness together the impact of our investment in our scholars' lives. Thank you for always being so willing to prioritize Hilltop Scholars and their families!

In partnership,

**L. Denice Randle**  
Executive Director

# At Peace Community Center, we believe all students should have access to educational opportunities.



Our service pathway provides a holistic approach to student support as we partner with young people in Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood, meeting them where they are at on their academic and personal development journeys from second grade through graduation and beyond.

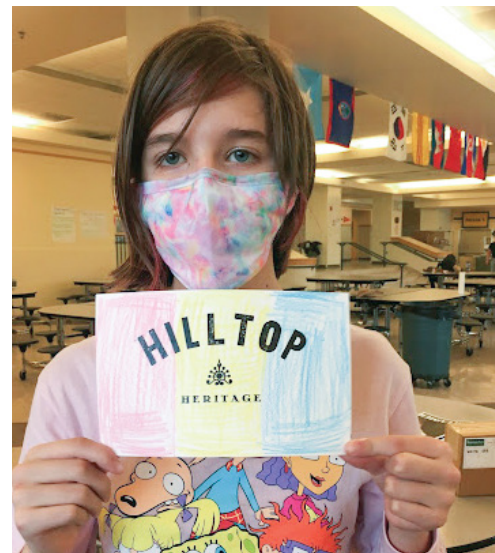
Peace Community Center opened its doors in 2001, transforming a shared neighborhood vision into reality. Borne from the efforts of many Hilltop faith communities, neighbors, students, families, and over 200 other individual supporters, the Center represented a place of gathering, stability, and support.

Support, as well as resiliency, justice, joy, learning, and wholeness, has come to define our mission at Peace Community Center over the last twenty years. Here, the wellbeing of our young people determines our success, and we have served thousands of students through at least one of our programs in that time. In response to new challenges associated with the global pandemic, we renewed our focus on supporting social and emotional resiliency for all our students in 2020-2021.

## The key to guiding Scholars in social and emotional literacy is the growth of our Academic Coaching program.

The Academic Coaching program allows us to pair every student with a dedicated mentor from second grade through senior year. By expanding this resource, each one of our Scholars will have an advocate on their team to help navigate everyday challenges and achieve long-term academic success.

We remain deeply grateful to our partners, students, schools, and families for your continued support in FY 2020-2021. Your dedication, leadership, time, growth, and financial investments helped sustain meaningful connections for our Scholars and the whole Peace Community this year and onward.



# Elementary: McCarver Scholars

McCarver Scholars serves rising 2nd through 5th Grade students at McCarver Elementary School

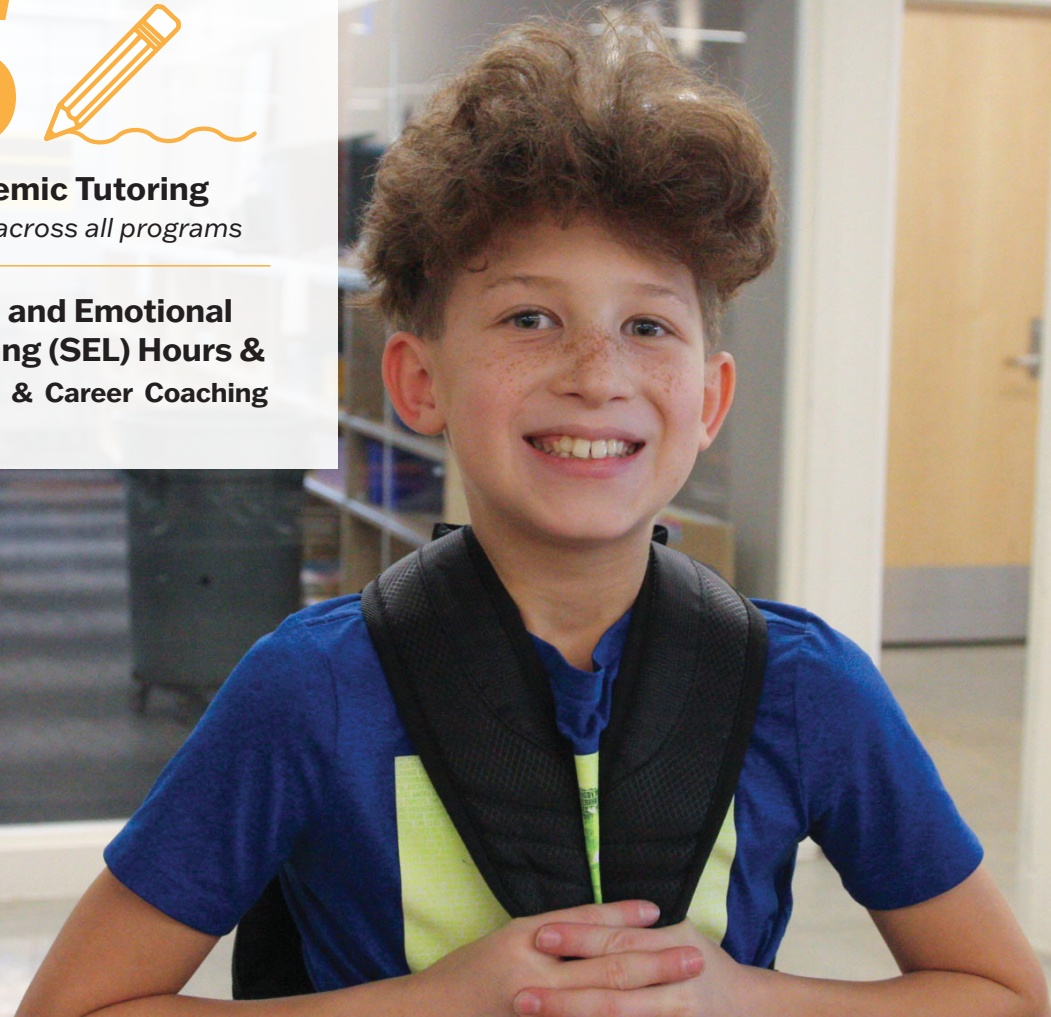
The Peace Community Center pathway begins when students at McCarver Elementary join McCarver Scholars Summer Academy during the summer before 2nd Grade. Through our expanded Academic Coaching program, our youngest Scholars can partner with mentors who enable them to meet grade-level

benchmarks in reading, math, and social and emotional learning (SEL). Through tutoring, play, and guided explorations in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM), our elementary-aged community members build the skills they will need to succeed throughout their scholarly careers.

**115** 

**Hours of 1:1 Academic Tutoring**  
provided to students across all programs

**169** **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Hours & College & Career Coaching**



*(Data shown reflects whole-organization outcomes across all Peace programs.)*

## Evanny's Story



Evanny is a bright 3rd grader attending McCarver Elementary School and a second-year student with Peace's McCarver Scholars program.

Before joining Scholars, Evanny was extremely intimidated to read in front of her class. She was uncomfortable with her literacy skills and would attempt to hide them from others. At times, she would become frustrated with reading and writing.

But what is unique about Evanny is that she is fluent in two languages, English and Spanish, and switching back and forth can be challenging. With support from her father and her Academic Coach Ms. Kamari, Evanny practices her skills through homework that continuously develops her reading and writing capabilities.

McCarver Scholars has inspired her to do her best, using different strategies to help with reading, like underlining and highlighting words in her books to practice at home. Today, reading is Evanny's favorite subject!

"School here is a reflection of the real world out there. You need to respect others' problems, even if you don't know the person. You have to see that all people need help, all kinds of people. Ms. Kamari inspires me to do better!"

— Evanny, 3rd Grade



# Middle School: Bobcat Scholars

Bobcat Scholars serves rising 6th through 8th Grade students at Hilltop Heritage Middle School.

**6**TH grade is an exciting milestone for our students as they transition from elementary school to become Bobcat Scholars at Hilltop Heritage Middle School. Over the next three years, every Bobcat has the opportunity to practice success skills like time management, grade monitoring, and study methods. The Bobcat Scholars program incorporates social and emotional

learning, self-advocacy, and expanded STEAM activities in topics like engineering, programming, and geometry. Through early conversations about colleges and careers, our middle schoolers get a head start in creating goals for their future. Our 6th-8th Graders work alongside their Middle School Academic Coaches, who help continue the Peace Partnership of tutoring, mentorship, and guidance.

## Josh's Story



Josh is an 8th grader attending Peace's Bobcat Scholars program at Hilltop Heritage Middle School. He is optimistic and sets his mind to stay focused on the present. Josh's favorite subject is algebra, and the connection he shares with his Academic Coach, Mr. Josh, helps focus their tutoring time to ensure that he is ready for upcoming math tests.

Josh doesn't just connect with his Coach, however. He believes in supporting his peers by keeping them on the right track. Josh's fellow Bobcats recognize his leadership in the way he empowers those around him - offering help when they find their work challenging or standing up for others when they need a friend. Being a part of Bobcat Scholars has inspired Josh to be a leader now and in the future.

"There was a time I remember I was having complications with my social studies class. I had to hand-write an entire essay, and I wanted to quit.

I was discouraged at first, but my sister, along with my Academic Coach, motivated me to keep going.

Because they gave me the push to keep going, I want to learn how to become a Civil Engineer and get help with the next steps to reach my goal."

— Josh, 8th Grade



# 74% of Peace Scholars

Reported having normal to high self-esteem or self-confidence

## 233 Care Packages

& Academic Resources Distributed



Representing a nearly **28% increase** in the number of care packages Peace was able to deliver compared to FY 2019-2020. Packages sent to students' homes included items such as academic supplies, food items, nutritional assistance, and hygiene supplies.

*(Data shown reflects whole-organization outcomes across all Peace programs.)*

# High School, College & Career

The Hilltop Scholars program serves high school students from across Tacoma and after graduation.

When students enter 9th Grade, they take up the mantle of Hilltop Scholars, Peace's flagship high school program. Hilltop Scholars is centrally located at 21st and South Cushman and welcomes high school students from all across Tacoma. Gathered in the heart of the Hilltop, students spend the afternoons meeting with peers, learning from community partners, and connecting with their high school academic coaches.

At the Hilltop Scholar level, all high school Scholars work 1:1 with their coaches to complete 13th-year plans, apply to college, explore financial aid options, and continue tutoring activities to finish high school strong. Then, whether they apply to two- or four-year colleges, kick-start a new career, or take time off, Peace continues the relationship to make sure our students feel supported through graduation and beyond.



**\$505,448**

**in Scholarships and Awards**

**Earned by Graduating Hilltop Scholars**

*(Data shown reflects whole-organization outcomes across all Peace programs.)*

## Nia's Story



Nia is an astute, hardworking Hilltop Scholar alumna who loves to learn. In fact, she expresses that the best part about being a lifelong member of the program is the opportunities to learn about many different subjects and areas of interest, exploring different ways to find and use resources from the community. Nia graduated from Stadium High School in 2021 and is now a student at Central Washington University.

Nia remembers a specific moment from high school when she felt particularly supported by her Academic Coach at Peace. During Nia's senior year, she was feeling overwhelmed during a period of particularly high stress in her personal life that caused her to lose focus and balance with her studies.

While her original plan was to go straight into college after high school graduation, circumstances led her to decide on a gap year instead. Through continued contact and conversations with her Academic Coach, she decided to continue applying for financial aid opportunities so that funding for college would still be available in case she changed her mind once her personal life settled down.

Nia's efforts paid off, and she is now a thriving first year student at Central Washington University, instead of taking a gap year. The connections fostered by the Academic Coaching program mean that Peace Community Center will be able to continue supporting Nia as she navigates college and enters the next chapter in her life.

"Peace Community Center has really helped me prepare for life after graduation by walking me through what college life would be like. They also connected me to multiple resources and helped me develop my networking skills."

— Nia, Hilltop Scholars Alumna

# Financial Report

## 2020-2021

### Operating Support and Revenue

Individuals	\$ 333,865
Businesses	\$ 42,674
Churches	\$ 42,397
Other Revenue*	\$ 425,736
Government	\$ 199,010
Foundations	\$ 695,600
<b>Total Operating Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 1,739,282</b>

### Operating Expenses

Elementary Program	\$ 323,513
Middle School Program	\$ 266,066
High School Program	\$ 315,376
College & Career	\$ 122,830
Other Programs**	\$ 111,596
Management & General	\$ 151,384
Fundraising	\$ 170,471
Rentals	\$ 11,445
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,472,612</b>
Change in Net Assets from Operations	\$ 266,661

\* Other revenue includes in-kind, interest income, rental income (net), reimbursements, and miscellaneous income.

\*\* Other programs includes Vibrant Schools Tacoma Coalition, community meals program, and other support services of the Center. Peace Community Center is the fiscal agent for Vibrant Schools.

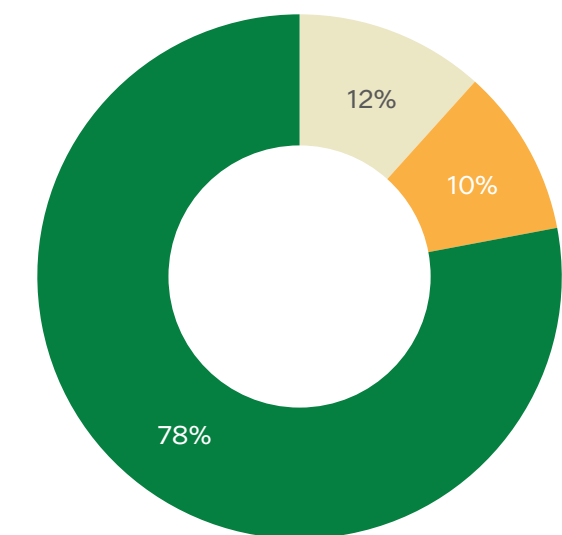
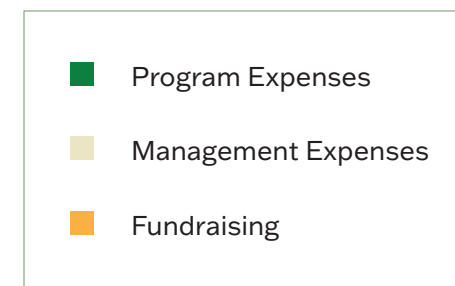
### Statement of Position

Assets	
Current	\$ 1,350,328
Property & Equipment, Net	\$ 2,815,276
Long Term Pledges Receivable	\$ 81,132
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 4,246,736</b>

### Liabilities & Net Assets

Total Liabilities	\$ 403,076
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$ 2,213,138
Designated	\$ 194,213
Temporary Restricted	\$ 1,436,309
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 3,843,660</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 4,246,736</b>

### Breakdown of Operating Expenses



# Thank you to our 2020-2021 donors\*!

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 Fuchs Foundation  
 Greater Tacoma Community Foundation  
 Group Health Foundation  
 Hugh C. Wallace Trust  
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 Stewardship Foundation  
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## CHURCHES

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 Elbe Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 ELCA SSWA Synod Region 1  
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 Mount Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 Mountain View Lutheran Church  
 Peace Lutheran Church  
 Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church  
 Shiloh Baptist Church  
 St. Mark's Lutheran Church by the Narrows  
 Tacoma Minister Alliance  
 Transformation Ministries International  
 Trinity Lutheran Church  
 ELCA

## BUSINESSES

Recognition Name  
 Amazon  
 BCRA Design  
 Boeing Company Gift Match  
 Carolyn Kors  
 Chihuly, Inc.  
 Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund  
 Google  
 Graduate Tacoma  
 Gray Lumber  
 Hilltop Educational Opportunity Fund  
 IBEW Local 76  
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 Johnson, Stone and Pagano, P.S.

Kaiser Permanente  
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 Maddock & Associates  
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## Thank you to all the community partners and volunteers who made our work possible in 2020-2021!



\* Gifts made between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021

\*\* Denotes Pathway Partner monthly contributor







HE COME  
TROUBLE


NOTE: Meet Teacher



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2106 S Cushman Ave  
Tacoma, WA 98405  
[www.peacecommunitycenter.org](http://www.peacecommunitycenter.org)  
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 Peace Community Center

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