2023 SUMMER IMPACT REPORT
A LETTER FROM THE CEO

This summer, we accomplished something that seemed impossible to me as of June: in 10 short weeks, we conceived, recruited and piloted a brand new summer program to help 15 high school students in the San Francisco Bay Area explore careers.

Our students this summer came from diverse backgrounds, and across the income spectrum. We helped students build career self-awareness, find career inspiration, practice networking skills and ultimately connect with professionals via virtual Q&As and in-person tours.

While the impact and learnings this summer have undeniably exceeded my expectations, I find myself especially grateful for having the opportunity to experience our summer program side-by-side with the students, and to witness the generous support of my own San Francisco Bay Area community, who have taken time and energy to create a great experience for our students. Explore and learn more about our program and its impact by reading our Summer Impact Report below or watching our Summer Impact Video by clicking here.
Our 15 students attended 7 virtual Q&As and went on 7 in-person tours.
  - They met with professionals working in a broad set of fields ranging from healthcare and law to music and design.
  - Our students also visited a wide variety of work environments: ranging from restaurants and smaller businesses to creative agencies, architecture firms, biosciences, and tech companies.

Our students collectively watched 181 career videos and made 186 connections with professionals over the course of 6 short weeks.

Our students gained more clarity and confidence around their career paths after high school, built a better understanding of what it takes to enter a career path, and gained significantly more access to professionals.

14/15 students would recommend our summer program to a friend even if no stipend was offered. 1/15 would recommend it if we offered more tours and Q&As with professionals.
WE ASKED STUDENTS...

HOW SURE DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR CAREER PATH AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

+38% WERE MORE CONFIDENT AT THE END OF OUR 6 WEEK PROGRAM

+44% WERE MORE PREPARED TO ENTER THEIR PREFERRED CAREER

+53% FELT THEY HAD REAL-WORK EXPOSURE TO THEIR PREFERRED CAREER
VOICES FROM OUR PARTICIPANTS

KAYLEE LINARES

“I wasn’t sure about pursuing any of the fields I was interested in, but, after speaking to various people, I know I want to go into pharmacy. I’m now more confident in finding what I want to do in the future.”

MATTHEW LARIN

“I have become more open when it comes to jobs. When we started this, I was pretty much set on being a Biomedical Engineer or Physicians Assistant, but now I am taking into account jobs such as Chefs, Dispatchers, or even HVAC, something which prior to this I wouldn't have thought of even looking into.”
MIGUEL ANGEL ALVAREZ

“This [program] has literally changed my life. I now have connections to the paths I would like to take and I’m so grateful for that!!! I signed up for a music production class! I honestly would [not] have had the courage to do that without you guys!”

Haley Oba

“I wish this was something offered at my high school since it'd be easier to find, and I'd probably do it earlier than when I did this program (summer before senior).”

“The independence the program offered [my daughter] as well as the opportunity to be proactive in planning her future was empowering for her.”

— Jaclyne Atoigue
Elizabeth’s Mom
KEY LEARNINGS

Students feel the pressure

When we asked students “how many of you feel a lot of pressure to figure out your future career right now?”, the response was almost a unanimous yes. It didn’t matter if they were completely undecided or if they had a very specific idea of what they wanted to do.

Our business and professional communities are ready to pitch-in and help

At the beginning of the summer, we were worried that finding professionals and workplaces that were personalized to our students’ career interests was going to be a big challenge. Our experience proved the opposite, and we learned that our community was more than willing to carve out time and help our students learn more about the world of work. Our staff time to facilitate, chaperone, and manage the logistics of the events turned out to be the tighter bottleneck.
Ingredients of magical moments

We got to personally witness - over and over again - moments when students lit up and whispered under their breath “that was really cool”. We learned that (1) individually personalized experiences, (2) in small groups that allowed students to have a conversation with a professional, (3) facilitated and chaperoned by our Hope Street staff were key to creating a wow moment. Surprisingly, we also learned that virtual zoom calls done right could be equally as powerful as in-person tours.

Equalizing access to a network of professionals

Our data showed that higher income students were more likely to recognize their lack of network connections and proactively participate in unfacilitated networking exercises, whereas lower income students were much more reluctant to network on their own. However, this summer with our staff facilitating connections between students and professionals, higher-income and lower-income students this summer were equally likely to have a career-clarifying wow moment. Given the importance of access to professional networks in a students’ future career trajectory, we see our work to connect students with professionals as critical to creating broader access to the professional community, and advancing economic opportunity for all.
Given our impact this summer, we are excited to tackle the next steps towards scaling the program.

As we go into the fall, we are working on building a career exploration app and delivering more virtual Q&As between students and professionals. We want to answer 3 key questions:

- Can we build an app that helps a student develop their initial career interests?
- Can we scale the operations of making inspiring connections between students and professionals virtually?
- Can we raise funds and support to pay for this work?

Think you can help us? Reach out!

- **Schools/non-profits:** we're looking for 60 students in NorCal to test our app and virtual program
- **Businesses:** we're looking for professionals to share their career journey with students
- **Donors:** we're looking to raise $2.5M/year to support the next phase of our work
- **Contact us:** outreach@hopestreetgroup.org
Thank you to our HSG staff Zain Ali, Design Director; Arielle Anthony, Summer Program Teacher Facilitator; Will Hanson, CTO; David Ma, CEO; and to our videographer Collin Young.

Thank you to the businesses that hosted tours:
- Google (Jen, Quan, Tiffanie, Anna, and Jon)
- Mammoth Biosciences (Trevor, Molly, Jackie, Brian, Alyssa, and Rhondene)
- Huntsman Architectural Group (Susan, Tiana, Brenea, Then, Filitsa, Jackie, and Eric)
- Fiat Lux (Perry Doig)
- Prubechu (Shawn Camacho and Shawn Naputi)
- ViV MGMT (Katie Patterson)
- San Mateo Electrician JATC (Glenn)

Thank you to the individual professionals that connected with students:
- Andrew Hsiang
- Andy Bell
- Brittni Liang
- Christopher Hussain
- Francine Sanfilippo
- Jenny Ding
- Jess Gillotte
- Kathy Quain
- Laura McDonald
- Rose Liu
- Shirley Ng
- Stephanie LaRue
- Won Gi Chong
- Genesis Silva

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN OUR PROGRAMS
Contact Us

Hope Street Group works to ensure every American has access to economic opportunity.

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