

SANTA BARBARA UNITED

BUILDING BETTER FUTURES TOGETHER

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Goleta Literacy Partnership

Checking in: One year later



STUDENTS UTILIZING POWER READING TOOLS THROUGH THE GOLETA LITERACY PARTNERSHIP HAVE MADE SOME IMPRESSIVE STRIDES IN JUST ONE SCHOOL YEAR – ALL THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU!

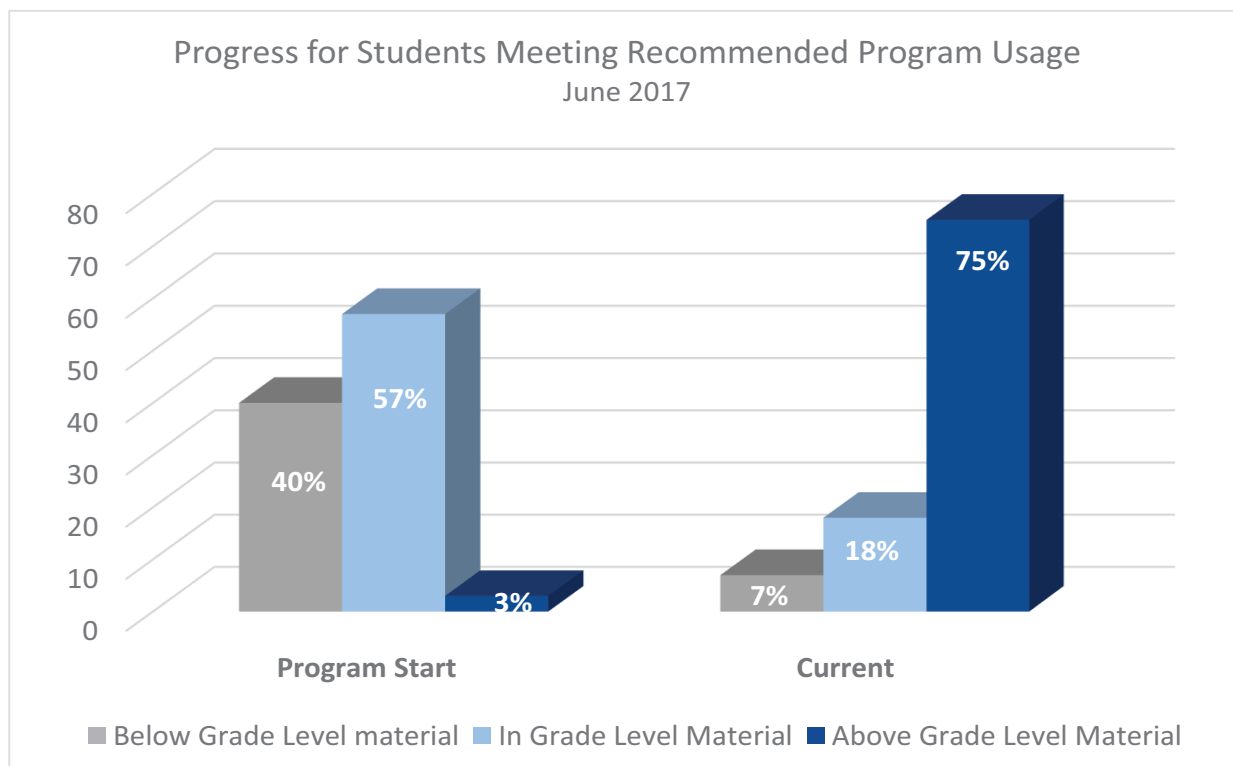
In September 2016, United Way and Goleta Union School District (GUSD) launched the Goleta Literacy Partnership, a first of its kind partnership to provide three-year district-wide literacy improvement through Power Reading in GUSD. The partnership provides unlimited Power Reading literacy improvement software at all nine GUSD elementary schools and ongoing teacher support, training, and evaluation from United Way.

Power Reading is an interrelated set of online, research-based literacy tools and techniques that helps students improve reading skills, and helps teachers more easily reach every student at their skill level. When Power Reading is used as a part of a larger rotational blended learning model (a combination of digital tools and GUSD’s highly successful traditional teaching methods), students are well-supported to reach their individual goals and achieve academic success.

The Goleta Literacy Partnership was formed to offer additional assistance to GUSD’s socioeconomically and academically diverse group of 3,674 students at its 9 elementary schools. In the past, GUSD has often been overlooked for state and federal support because of the number of GUSD students who do not qualify for supplemental services. This has left the students who are English Language Learners, struggling academically, and/or socioeconomically disadvantaged (now at 50% and whose populations have grown substantially over the past 10 years) without resources that would dramatically enhance their achievement.

The support of community partners have helped nearly 2,300 GUSD students use Power Reading’s Lexia Core 5 software during the 2016-17 school year. The first year of the program implementation has already yielded promising results! Thanks to your support, among students who met the recommended program usage, the percentage of students working at or above grade level material within the Power Reading software has increased from 60% to 97%.

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Kindergarten Success Institutes Kick Off

Kicking off a good start in school

SUMMER MARKS THE COUNTDOWN TO THE FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN FOR MANY ANXIOUS AND EAGER YOUNGSTERS AND THEIR PARENTS.



For those of them who do not have previous preschool experience, this will be their very first exposure to classroom learning and can reveal that they are behind their peers on a number of school readiness indicators. These students often have very limited knowledge of letters, numbers, shapes, or colors; may not have learned classroom behaviors like sitting quietly, raising their hands to speak, or sharing; and may not know their own name.

In response to high numbers of local students entering kindergarten in need of additional preparation for kindergarten, as well as kindergarteners who are still struggling, UWSBC partners with local schools and youth organizations and funders to provide Kindergarten Success Institutes (KSI).

Through KSI, UWSBC provides curriculum and credentialed teachers to help more than 150 students master the social/emotional, language, motor and approach to learning skills that are essential to their future success in kindergarten and beyond. This summer, dozens of incoming kindergarteners will learn the academic and social/emotional skills they need to be successful in kindergarten from day one.



An instructor with Kindergarten Success Institutes participants at Harding Elementary School

Last year, because of your support, participants demonstrated a 55% improvement in kindergarten readiness scores, ensuring that they are able to keep up with peers in their early school years!

Your support of KSI makes success stories like Michael's possible. Michael had never been away from home without a family member. His English skills were very limited, his entry level assessment skills were low, and he could not respond when asked his name.

After just a few days in class, however, he became comfortable and was joyful and eager to participate in everything, even raising his hand for clarification when he did not understand the question and patiently working his way to understanding. He was always the first student to arrive and never missed a day of class.

By the end of the third week, he had mastered simple tools like scissors and pencils, he was successfully writing his name at every opportunity, and he was ready to enter kindergarten with the necessary basic skills to support his confidence and classroom learning. KSI made the transition into kindergarten much easier for Michael as he was now ready, excited, and better equipped to learn.

As 20-year KSI instructor, Krista Munizich, puts it, "The Kindergarten Success Institute program provides a foundation for children which cannot be measured by an assessment... It provides an opportunity for children to enter school as confident students."

Thank you for your support of students like Michael through KSI. Because of you, he and hundreds of his peers have brighter futures.

Fun in the Sun Alumni

Where are they now?

THANKS TO YOU, DALIA , RENÉ, AND ANGELICA ARE HEADED TOWARDS BRIGHTER FUTURES!

Angelica

Like many Fun in the Sun scholars, Angelica Hernandez dreamed of being the first person in her family to go to college but wasn't sure how to get there. By supporting Fun in the Sun, you set Angelica on a new path to success!

Before FITS, she spent summers at home, bored with her younger brothers, because there were no other affordable summer learning programs in her neighborhood. Through summers at Fun in the Sun, you helped introduce Angelica to new enrichment activities, as well as literacy improvement and academic curriculum that ensured that she had the skills and grades she would need in high school and college. Hundreds of daily Lunch Bunch community volunteers just like you generously shared their careers and life stories with her to inspire her to always dream bigger.



These dreams led her to begin her college education at Santa Barbara City College. Because of your belief in Fun in the Sun, she was able to then go on to the University of California, Berkeley, graduating with a B.A. degree in Sociology and then to Northeastern Illinois University, where she graduated with a Master's degree in Educational Leadership in Higher Education.

You made the crucial difference in Angelica's life, providing the opportunity that helped her turn her potential into success. Thank you!

René



As a young person growing up in Santa Barbara, Rene had a difficult home life and a childhood that was not easy. Fun in the Sun allowed him an important escape and outlet away from home that, he says, "opened a whole new world of hope, life, inspiration, and motivation" for him. FITS provided him an environment that helped him believe that he could accomplish the things he'd only dreamed about before FITS.

With the support of FITS program staff and community members like you, Rene practiced important leadership skills, was exposed to horizon-broadening field trips that he shares would not have been possible otherwise, and developed the inner compass to believe in his dreams and his ability to accomplish them. It was this community support and Rene's belief in his potential that led him to attend California State University, Northridge, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. In 2015, he returned as a FITS program staff member and currently works as an Academic Preparation & College Readiness Coordinator at UCSB. He has already dedicated many years to giving back to other students like him and help them achieve their dreams of attending college.

Dalia

Since she was a little girl, Dalia has dreamed of becoming a lawyer. Your support of FITS has helped put her on the fast-track to attaining her dream.

The time invested in Lunch Bunch, FITS's daily volunteer mentorship component, by community members like you, and the support of dozens of program staff helped Dalia flourish into a confident and capable high school student. It was during her years in FITS that Dalia met Santa Barbara County District Attorney, Joyce Dudley, and established an ongoing mentorship relationship with her.

Dalia and Joyce have stayed in touch since Dalia graduated from high school and went on to attend UC Santa Cruz. Joyce even attended Dalia's graduation this summer and will be offering support and advice as she applies to law schools next fall! Dalia and United Way thank you for your support of Fun in the Sun; it helped her get where she is today!



United Way Honors Legacy Donors

32nd Annual Heritage Club Luncheon

THE HERITAGE CLUB HONORS FORWARD-THINKING INDIVIDUALS CHOOSING TO INCLUDE UNITED WAY IN THEIR ESTATE PLANS.

Their gifts come in many forms including Charitable Remainder Trusts, Gift Annuities, Donor Advised Funds, Pooled Income Funds, Bequests, and gifts of Retirement Accounts or Life Insurance Policies.

The 32nd Annual Heritage Club Luncheon, sponsored by Kayne Anderson Rudnick, was held at the Santa Barbara Zoo on June 1st. The honorees welcomed new Heritage Club members Lucille Owens and Robbie Faeh, reminisced, reconnected with old friends, and shared their passion for United Way. Legacy Supporter of the Year Awards were presented to Dr. Ursula Henderson and Judy Goodbody by Diane Doiron, Planned Giving Committee Chair.

Dr. Ursula Henderson's commitment to her community is an intrinsic part of her nature. For 40 years, Dr. Henderson (right) has served Santa Barbara in many roles including psychiatrist, community leader, philanthropist, board member and volunteer. She became a member of the Heritage Club in 1994, when she included United Way in her estate plans. In 1999 United Way presented her with the Abercrombie Award for Community Excellence.

Dr. Henderson has been a long time United Way leadership donor, and has been involved with United Way's Red Feather Ball as a patron, a Red Feather Ball Women's Committee member, and by inviting others to join her in supporting United Way by donating silent auction items.

Her decision to include United Way in her estate plans reflects her commitment to her community and to United Way, and will impact the community for years to come.



Judy (left) served United Way of Santa Barbara County as the Gift Planning Services Officer from 2000-2017, assisting donors with their financial, estate planning, and philanthropic goals through planned giving arrangements. Ms. Goodbody became a member of the Heritage Club herself in 2005, when she included United Way in her estate plans.

Ms. Goodbody's work continues to impact both United Way and the donors she has served. She leaves a legacy of a diversified and organized planned giving program and institutional financial stability that allows United Way of Santa Barbara County to tackle some of Santa Barbara's most difficult challenges.

Darnel Bentz, Senior Vice President, represented Kayne Anderson Rudnick at the Heritage Club Luncheon. Kayne Anderson Rudnick was the luncheon sponsor and also manages United Way's endowment funds. Kayne Anderson Rudnick is regularly listed as one of the top 10 Independent Financial Advisors nationwide.

About The Heritage Club

The Heritage Club was established in 1982 to honor forward-thinking individuals choosing to include United Way in their estate plans. The first Heritage Club Luncheon was held three years later.

Through wisely planned gifts, Heritage Club members have extended their United Way support for generations to come. Their gifts come in many forms including Charitable Remainder Trusts, Gift Annuities, Donor Advised Funds, Pooled Income Funds, Bequests, and gifts of Retirement Accounts or Life Insurance Policies. Heritage Club members are recognized on the Wall of Honor in the conference room of the Stuart Taylor Community Center, United Way of Santa Barbara County's office.

For more information about the Heritage Club please contact Shanna Wasson Taylor at 805-965-8591 x120 or staylor@unitedwaysb.org or via the planned giving website at www.unitedwaysb.gift.

GUSD Literacy Partnership

Continued from page 2

Students, parents, and teachers alike have raved about the program. GUSD teacher, Loriann Mastromarino, shared, “This was my first year using Lexia with my first grade students. I find Lexia to be quite a valuable resource as these young students are beginning their lifelong reading journey. Besides being highly engaging for the students, what I appreciate most about Lexia is the individualized lessons and the large body of data that is available to guide my instruction. Lexia is a great tool to have in my teacher toolbox.”

It takes the support of an entire community to make programs like the Goleta Literacy Partnership a success. To learn more about how you can make a difference, please visit www.unitedwaysb.org/donate.

Goleta Union School District Literacy Partnership Donors

Lead Sponsors - \$25,000+

Goleta Union School District

United Way of Santa Barbara County

Walter & Holly Thomson Foundation

Silver Sponsor - \$15,000

Montecito Bank & Trust

Bronze Sponsor - \$10,000

Mike & Dale Nissenson

Deckers Outdoor Corporation

Pewter Sponsor - \$5,000

Lance Connor & Nancy Werner

Sponsors up to \$4,999

AGIA Affinity Services

Berkshire Hathaway

Bob & Robin

Howard-Anderson

Randy Glick

Rudi Schulte Foundation

Santa Cruz Markets

Taryn O’Connell

Paul Sherman

Kevin Nelson

Patrice Ryan

Deanna Panzarella

Afshin Fatholahi

David Washburn

Remembering Michael Towbes

In Memoriam of a Community Volunteer and Philanthropist

UNITED WAY OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY IS HONORING THE LEGACY OF MICHAEL TOWBES, WHO, OVER HIS NEARLY 60 YEARS IN SANTA BARBARA, BUILT A REPUTATION AS A LEADER IN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNITY BANKING, AND PHILANTHROPY.

Towbes was unique from many other business executives in his belief in community impact and businesses’ role in creating positive long-term community benefits. UWSBC had the distinct pleasure to have worked with Michael Towbes, starting through Montecito Bank & Trust, since 1975. Michael was supportive of UWSBC from the very beginning that year and every year after in increasing ways. During his time on the Santa Barbara Foundation’s Board, he was also supportive of various partnership efforts to identify ways UWSBC and the Santa Barbara Foundation could develop more efficiencies and impacts.

Michael’s vision of corporate philanthropy and voluntarism was woven into the culture of each of his businesses. Not only have Montecito Bank & Trust and the Towbes Group given donations generously at both the corporate and employee levels; they also donate many hours of volunteer work to dozens of nonprofit organizations across Santa Barbara County. In addition, Michael influenced other business leaders to do the same in their organizations. We feel honored and grateful to have had the opportunity to work so closely with Michael and the staffs of Montecito Bank & Trust and the Towbes Group to accomplish shared community goals, and we look forward to working together to carry on Michael’s vision.

Michael Towbes is dearly missed by United Way’s staff, volunteers, and beneficiaries, as well as the Santa Barbara County community. We thank him for his generous and caring spirit, for setting a new standard of leadership and community support, and for touching the lives of so many thousands of local residents.



Board of Directors 2017- 2018

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Retired Executive

Diane B. Doiron, CLU - Vice Chair

Doiron Financial Associates

Mike Nissenson - Vice Chair

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Steve Ortiz - Board Secretary

United Way of Santa Barbara County

Rick W. Scott - Chief Financial Officer

Cancer Foundation of Santa Barbara

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Board Members

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Leo Hamill - *City National Bank*

Susan Hersberger - *Retired Executive*

Bob Hollman - *Retired Executive*

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Alex Koper - *Citibank*

Cliff Lundberg - *Westmont College*

Terri Maus-Nisich - *County of Santa Barbara*

Chuck Mertz - *Lockheed Martin*

Bob Montgomery - *Montgomery Vineyards*

Kevin Nelson - *Cottage Health*

Mike Noling - *Community Volunteer*

Business Leader

David Prichard - *U.S. Trust*

Maryan Schall - *Community Volunteer*

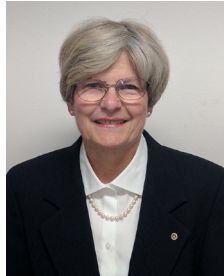
Philanthropist

Meet our New Board Members

United Way of Santa Barbara County Board Welcomes New Members

THE UNITED WAY BOARD AND STAFF ARE THRILLED AND HONORED TO ANNOUNCE ITS THREE NEWEST CONFIRMED MEMBERS.

Susan Hersberger



Susan is the current Chair of United Way's newly-created Women United affinity group and has recently retired from Aera Energy where she served as Public Affairs Director. Susan has worked tirelessly to launch Women United, a group of female community leaders dedicated to expanding United Way's educational initiatives. Their goal is to ensure that more students succeed in school and achieve meaningful careers. Welcome, Susan!

Bob Hollman

Bob is a successful commercial real estate developer and owner in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara. Bob is deeply committed to building better futures for Santa Barbara County students through United Way's education programs. He is also an avid bridge player and enjoys traveling with his wife Joan. Welcome, Bob!



Maryan Schall



Maryan is a longtime supporter, volunteer, and friend of United Way. She is a dedicated community philanthropist to many local nonprofit organizations, for which she is being recognized at the 2017 Red Feather Ball. In addition to her many other volunteer commitments, she has recently joined the Steering Committee of Women United. Welcome, Maryan!

United Way's Board and Staff are deeply honored to welcome such passionate, energetic, and esteemed community members. Their unique insights and valuable efforts will change the lives of thousands of children, families, and seniors right here in our community.

United Way



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*You are invited to the 21st Annual
United Way of Santa Barbara
Red Feather Ball*

"Twilight on the Pacific"

Join us in honoring Maryan Schall

Friday, October 6th

6:00-10:00pm

Four Seasons Resort, the Billmore, Coral Casino

