



TUTORING CHICAGO

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020

tutoring
CHICAGO

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Tutoring Chicago,

For 55 years, Tutoring Chicago has strived for more equitable education with one-on-one tutoring and social emotional support at no cost to children and families. Today our mission is more important than ever. Chicago's children, our city's most valuable and yet most vulnerable, are struggling. The impact of losing almost a full-year of classroom instruction, social emotional support, and human connection is unfathomable, especially for those children in low income households and under resourced neighborhoods.



Although our doors cannot physically open, our commitment to our students, families, and volunteers is just as strong. Over the last year, the organization continued weekly tutoring, quickly transitioning to an all digital delivery model, distributed nearly 350 Chromebooks along with headphones, webcams and much needed technological support.

The students of Tutoring Chicago are supported by remarkable volunteers who know the value of grace and consistency in the face of so much worry and uncertainty. Our tutors are caring role models who provide academic and social emotional support personally tailored to the needs and potential of their students. They remind the children they're not alone in the midst of challenging times; fostering resilient and positive mindsets that are more prepared for growth and development.

While no one was prepared for a challenge of this magnitude, Tutoring Chicago's strategic plan calls for flexibility and adaptability in response to the needs of our students, volunteers, and community. Never did we think their needs would so rapidly change. But our cohesive mindset, recent pilot programs, and solid foundation prepared the groundwork for a rapid response and shift to e-learning for hundreds of children.

We are incredibly grateful for the determination of our parents, the commitment of our volunteers, and the generosity of our donors to aid in this transition and continued success of our program delivery.

Yet the resilience and tenacity of our students is truly the most remarkable. Despite overwhelming obstacles, being hardest hit by the economic impact, experiencing higher rates of food insecurity, family instability, and other shocks from this disruption, the children of Tutoring Chicago are driven to learn and connect.

I am honored to bear witness to such incredible resiliency over the last 20 years. Thank you to everyone who recognized the value of human connection and the need for significant academic support to Chicago's most deserving population. Together we are fostering growth that will be needed well beyond this crisis.

Thank you and be well.
Erin McPartlin
Executive Director

ABOUT TUTORING CHICAGO

Our mission: To empower economically disadvantaged children through education

Our vision: Brighter futures for Chicago's children

SMART Program

Social Emotional Learning, Mathematics, Accountability, Readng, Technology

Our SMART Program pairs students in grades 1 through 6 with volunteer tutors who follow a grade appropriate curriculum focusing on homework review, math, reading and technology skills, while incorporating important elements of social-emotional education.

LIT Program

Literacy Intensive Tutoring

Our LIT program pairs students in grades 1 through 6 with volunteer tutors who follow a structured reading curriculum that meets the needs of their students. LIT is designed to help struggling readers work towards grade-level success. Students attend two times/week and are continually assessed on their progress and growth.

7th Grade Program

Expanding our programming to middle school students has been a long-term strategic goal of Tutoring Chicago. The curriculum focuses on lessons around study habits and test preparation, including an emphasis on social emotional learning.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Year ending, July 31, 2020

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

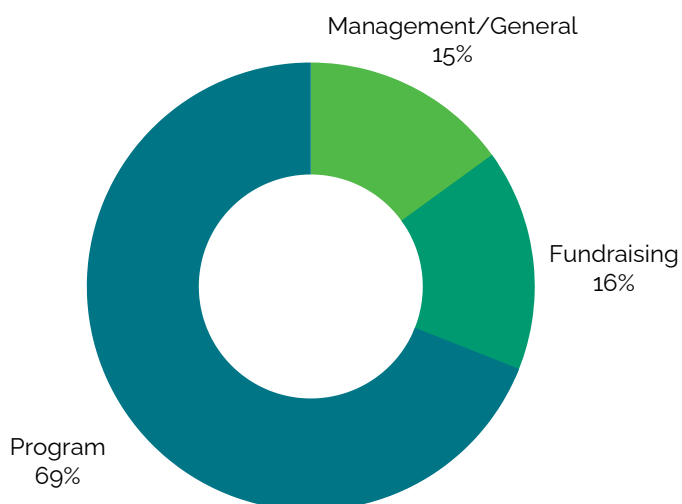
Cash/cash equivalents/investments	\$ 1,261,297
Grants receivables	255,400
Prepaid expenses/other assets	17,632
Property, equipment, and net accumulated depreciation	<u>2,198</u>
Total assets	\$ 1,536,527
 Total liabilities	 43,050
PPP loan	<u>177,259</u>
Net assets	\$ 1,316,218
 Assets without donor restrictions	 755,263
Assets with donor restrictions	560,595

EXPENSES

Management/general	\$ 219,202
Fundraising	221,574
Program	<u>905,123</u>
Total expenses	\$ 1,345,899
 Direct fundraising expenses	 <u>32,529</u>
Total expenses with Fundraising	\$ 1,378,428

REVENUE

Foundations	\$ 988,413
Corporations	77,665
Individuals	141,224
Events (gross)	72,216
Interest	69,646
Miscellaneous	1,999
In-Kind	<u>13,670</u>
Total	\$ 1,364,833



OUR IMPACT

2019-20 HIGHLIGHTS



BECAUSE OF TUTORING,
OUR STUDENTS:

78% ENJOY READING MORE

90% ENJOY MATH MORE

17,617

SESSIONS PROVIDED
DURING THE 2019-20
SCHOOL YEAR

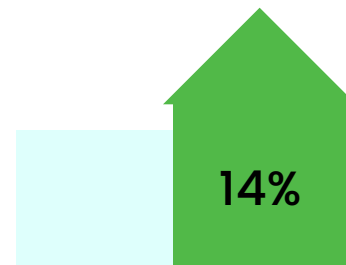
DEMOGRAPHICS

Tutoring Chicago serves
students from **224**
Chicagoland schools.

100% of Tutoring Chicago
students qualify as low-
income.

ENROLLMENT INCREASES

Average of 890 students a week, a 14% increase
compared to the 2018-19 school year.

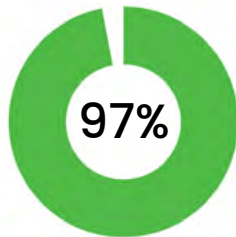


“After two weeks of tutoring, my daughter's teacher called me and asked what I was doing differently - she was reading better, she even helped another child. I said, she is going to LIT!”

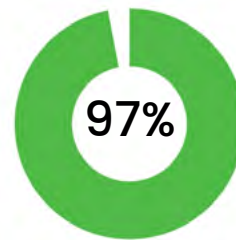
-Tutoring Chicago parent

PRAISE FROM PARENTS

97% OF PARENTS WOULD
RECOMMEND TUTORING
CHICAGO TO ANOTHER PARENT

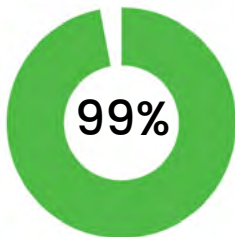


97% OF PARENTS REPORT A
STRONG AND POSITIVE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THEIR
CHILD AND HIS/HER TUTOR

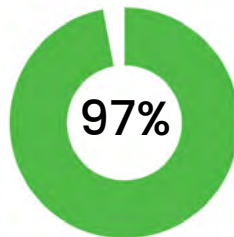


TUTOR AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

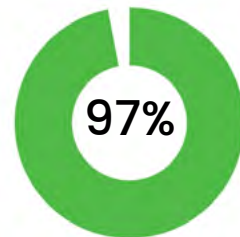
99% OF TUTORS
WOULD RECOMMEND
TUTORING CHICAGO
TO A FRIEND



97% OF TUTORS REPORT
A STRONG AND
POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP
WITH THEIR STUDENT



97% OF 5TH AND 6TH
GRADERS WOULD
RECOMMEND TUTORING
CHICAGO TO A FRIEND



OVERALL POSITIVE GAINS

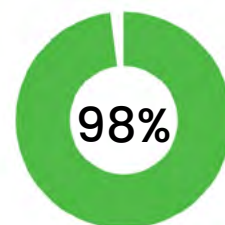
89% OF 5TH AND 6TH
GRADERS REPORTED AN
INCREASE IN
CONFIDENCE IN MATH
BECAUSE OF TUTORING



86% OF 5TH AND 6TH
GRADERS REPORTED AN
INCREASE IN CONFIDENCE
IN READING BECAUSE OF
TUTORING

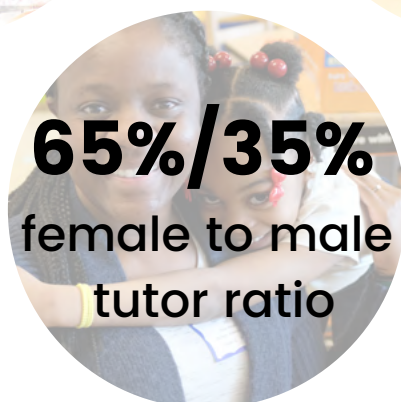
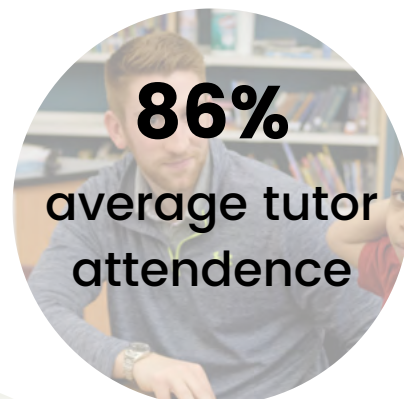


98% OF PARENTS
REPORTED AN
INCREASE IN THEIR
CHILD'S ENJOYMENT OF
LEARNING NEW THINGS



THE ONES WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

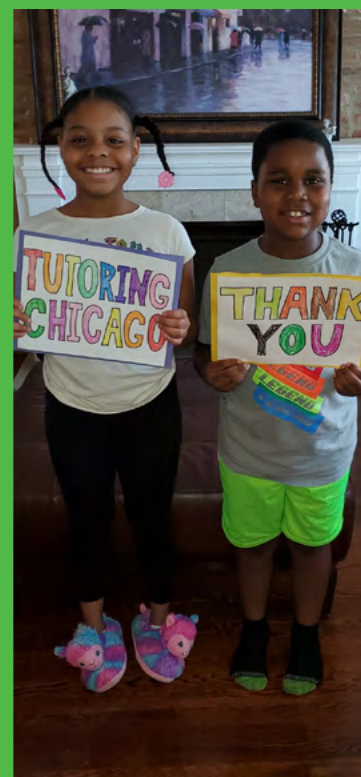
2019–2020 volunteer tutor profiles



Meet Ryka, Logan Square Tutor

"When I was in first grade, I had a tutor through Reading Recovery, and I still remember her! She made reading fun and enjoyable, and built up my confidence. So when I was older, I remember how much my tutor impacted me in that one year, and I knew I wanted to be a tutor at some point.

This is my 7th year [with Tutoring Chicago] and it's been super rewarding. [My most recent student and I] have been together for three years, she's a 7th grader this year. I would say my biggest accomplishment is seeing her growth in confidence in herself and in the subjects she enjoys. She's excited about learning, she's excited to tell me about things she has to do for school, like essays, and she's coming up with solutions for herself, she's not waiting for me to come up with ideas, we talk about her ideas together."





TUTORING CHICAGO'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Like the rest of the world, the COVID-19 crisis turned Tutoring Chicago's world upside down. In keeping with state and federal guidelines, Tutoring Chicago halted all in-person tutoring, preventing all students and tutors from meeting in the typical in-person format.

However, we quickly pivoted our programming to remote options, rolling out digital tutoring to our 800+ students and tutors. Led by our expert educators and supported by our dedicated volunteers, Tutoring Chicago continued to provide the valuable educational and emotional support our students need.

Within only a few weeks of the state-wide shutdown, over 75% of our students were connected digitally with their tutors, utilizing a variety of platforms, including Zoom, Google Hangouts, and even Facetime. These digital tutoring sessions occurred weekly, with some students and tutors connecting as much as four times a week!

**"I am beyond grateful.
I'm actually crying
happy tears as I type
this email to you.**

**This Chromebook is
what we need so
desperately for school
work at home.**

**Johnny has been trying
to use my 6-7 year old
tablet...it's a dinosaur,
super slow and
unpredictable."**

**- Elena, a Tutoring Chicago
parent**

Throughout the spring and into the summer, Tutoring Chicago carefully curated resources to support our tutors, students, and their families with numerous learning activities and technology support modules. Finally, our families were surveyed to determine what may have been preventing their students from participating, including technology limitations. With the help of our generous donors, Tutoring Chicago sent more than 215 new Chromebooks directly to our students, improving their ability to actively engage in their education.

Despite the early challenges the pandemic brought to our day-to-day lives, connecting our students with empathetic and understanding people proved to be powerful. It reminded students and adults alike that they aren't alone in the midst of challenging times, fostering positive mindsets that are more prepared for learning, growth, and development.



Thank you to our 2019-20 partners



360 Partner Spotlight: Wellington Management

"Chicago is one of the more diverse cities that Wellington Management has a presence in. So it's important for us to see underrepresented groups be given the same opportunities that everyone else receives. We believe it's important to give back to your community if you want to see results.

Tutoring Chicago has set an example for other organizations that come through our grant review process, and has set the standard for what we measure other organizations against. Our coworkers love when they are picked to be on the Tutoring Chicago review team, they love being able to see the students in person. We also love the holiday wish list initiative, that's one of our staff's favorite ways to be involved. Recently, a coworker became a tutor and she can't say enough good things about the program and the young girl she's tutoring...in fact she's trying to recruit others in the office to get involved!"

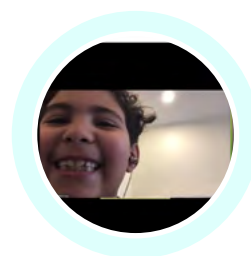
– Maggie Castiglione, Wellington Management

2020-2021: Education Doesn't Stop

With the continued impact of COVID-19, Tutoring Chicago's 2020-2021 tutoring year is **entirely digital**. Building upon the success of our shift to remote learning in the spring, we developed a delivery model that best meets the growing needs of our students and tutors. This allows nearly 900 students to receive the academic support they need while providing schools and community centers the time needed to re-open in a safe and feasible manner.

All students and tutors work together at least once a week on our synchronous remote learning platform. Monitored live by our staff, each pair has access to our Google Classroom, whiteboards, and shared screen technology.

Thanks to the generosity of so many community donors, we continue our efforts to secure and distribute the necessary technology and support our students and families need to succeed in this digital learning environment.



Student retention & 7th grade expansion

All of our 2019-20 students were invited to return, including our former 6th graders - now 7th graders. We focused heavily on retaining all of our students, helping to ensure their consistent support in this new school year and combating learning loss. In fact, 86% of our current (2020-21) enrollment of 850 students were enrolled last school year (2019-20).

For the first time, we welcomed 7th graders into our program and created a new curriculum with special programming focused on their unique academic and social emotional needs. All of these students were in our program for at least a year prior and are working with veteran tutors.

Community response

Volunteers, donors, and community partners have passionately responded to the crisis. Since June, over 1,000 adult volunteers have applied to be tutors in our one-to-one digital format - a 20% increase from the same time last year. With this overwhelming response, each child has their own tutor for the school year and more children can enroll into the program as our digital capacity accommodates.

We are committed to the well-being of our students and their tutors, which includes their personal health and safety; therefore, we are ready to adjust our tutoring to whatever medium can meet their educational needs while also protecting their health this year.

Tutoring Chicago's programming has been and will continue to align with the expert guidance from our state and federal leaders as we aim to promote educational achievement among our students.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS



\$250,000 and above

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Invest for Kids

\$50,000 – \$249,999

NEX Giving Day
Wellington Management Company
Charitable Fund

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Damico Family Foundation
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Meet Zack Fishman and Rebecca Unger Fishman, supporters of Tutoring Chicago



The Fishmans at Logan Square's annual holiday party.

Chicago's children want a great education. Chicago needs educated children who can grow up to become great Chicagoans. We live and work in Chicago and we care deeply about our neighbors and our city. Tutoring Chicago's efforts to bring one-on-one tutoring to our city's disadvantaged children is helping to build a stronger, more vibrant, communities, and thus a better city to live and work in.

I was tutoring a 4th grader in math and doing all the explaining and teaching that I could muster. I started the fifth week with the usual greetings when suddenly my student told me that she was going to

teach me the lesson today. She was so proud of her new math skills that she could not wait to show me. I spent a very happy session learning how to calculate the area of compound shapes from my "teacher." There were plenty of proud giggles and smiles from my student, the new lover of math! Music to my ears. We believe that education is a cornerstone to a good life. This core belief leads us to focus a great deal of our charitable giving on education. We feel that our donation to Tutoring Chicago is a perfect fit because we know our donations are going a long way while doing exactly what we want them to do.



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