Final Report for Inspire Mountain View Grant Program

Los Altos Community Foundation
October 15, 2018
Joe Eyre, Executive Director

Overview of Inspire Mountain View Community Challenge

Through a unique philanthropic partnership, technology firms Google, LinkedIn, Symantec, and Synopsys collaborated with Los Altos Community Foundation to start the Mountain View Corporate Philanthropy Fund (later renamed Inspire Mountain View). The fund’s objective was to help address social and quality of life issues in Mountain View, the companies’ “hometown”.

Los Altos Community Foundation conducted a grants contest on behalf of the companies. The contest solicited and selected innovative philanthropic solutions to help improve equity and/or quality of life in Mountain View.

The competitive grant program was open to:

- Nonprofits
- An individual, government agency, or for-profit organization that is teamed up with a nonprofit (grants must be given to a nonprofit)
- An organization that is fiscally sponsored by a nonprofit.

Initially the total available to grant was $175k. Three grants were to be given, $25k, $50k, and $100k. Applicants would apply for one specific grant level only. Projects were to be done with the grant amount within 12 months.

Judging was done in three stages: A panel of judges reviewed all submitted applications and filtered those down to smaller number for the public voting. Public voting selected the top entry from each category. Immediately before the awards ceremony Google provided additional funding which enabled the program to expand from one grant/level to three.
grants/level (3 at $100k, 3 at $50k, and 3 at $25k), for a total of $525k of grants. Awards were given at a ceremony in the Mountain View Council Chambers in May, 2017.

Program Timeline:
- Funders initially provided grants totaling $200k in Fall 2016.
- October, 2016 - January, 2017: Steering committee formed with LACF, volunteers, and representatives from the four company funders. Team developed overall process, logo, web site, selection of online voting software, grant application, official contest rules, advertising/marketing plan, etc.
- Local nonprofits notified of challenge in December, 2016.
- Nonprofit Application period: Feb 14 - March 15, 2017. Forty-one nonprofits applied as part of the challenge, 17 at the $100k level, 16 at the $50k level and 7 at the $25k level.
- Preliminary Judging by the panel of local judges: April 3, 2017. The panel read the 41 submissions and met to filter them down to a manageable level for the public voting. They selected 18 in total, 8 at $100k level, 5 at $50k level, and 5 at $25k level.
- Public voting for top three entries (one at $100k, one at $50k, one at $25k): Apr 4 - Apr 21
- Last week of April, 2017: Google provided additional funding which enabled the program to expand from one grant/level to 3 grants/level, for a total of $525k of grants
- Public winner announcement: May 3, 2017
- Grantee check-in meeting: March, 12, 2018
- Final reports done: July, 2018

Conclusions

Overall, this first-time program turned out very well. A wide swath of diverse Mountain View community members benefitted from the grants. The grants also focused on a variety of topics and areas of interest, meeting the goals of addressing both community needs and improving quality of life for those who live and/or work in Mountain View.

Quotes from two funders:
- “The Inspire Mountain View program was exceptional in highlighting the innovative nonprofits that are helping our community. Thank you to The Los Altos Community Foundation for organizing and operating such an impactful program. We’re honored to give back to our community through Inspire Mountain View.” - Javier Gonzalez, Google’s Public Affairs Manager
- "We are proud to support Inspire Mountain View because of the ability to provide more support collectively, while shining a spotlight the amazing work of local nonprofits. We thank the Los Altos Community Foundation for coordinating this effort." - Katie Ferrick, Community Relations LinkedIn Corporation
The Funders’ time to define the program and financial support was of course essential for this program to even occur. Their additional resource support (such as Google Ambassadors) was also helpful.

LACF was pleased to provide this program, both for the benefit for the Mountain View community and also as a service for the funders.

Below are a number of positive outcomes and learnings that could be applied to a future program.

**Positive Outcomes of the Inspire Mountain View program**
- LACF provided vehicle for local companies to give back to their hometown community in a way that was easy and provided positive publicity for them.
- Donor comments included:
  - It complemented the other community benefit activities being done by the companies.
  - It engaged a lot of nonprofits (41)
  - It engaged the community through the voting. (Over 3,537 registered community voters; each voter could vote for one contestant in each of the 3 categories, $25k, $50k, $100k.)
  - They felt like LACF did a good job of fairly publicizing all 4 companies.
- For larger, established nonprofits, their Inspire Mountain View grant enabled them to try out and grow new programs that they might not have been able to do otherwise. Examples:
  - CSA food delivery to schools.
  - Canopy’s eco-schoolyards in local schools.
- For smaller nonprofits, the grant gave them both seed money to get established and also provided publicity and credibility.
- LACF convened a meeting of the grantees when they were about half-way through their one-year project. They appreciated and enjoyed getting together to meet and share their learnings and resources. This kind of meeting is something to consider when there are any “cohort” of grantees.
- Some nonprofits collaborated with other nonprofits in ways that might not have otherwise occurred. Examples.
  - The grant enabled Canopy to collaborate with Living Classroom. Together, this project enabled them to establish an even higher level of trust with the MVWSH administration and facilities staff.
  - Youth Drama for All partnered with the YMCA of Silicon Valley and the El Camino YMCA (Mountain View) to put on three Workshop/Funshop series.
- The Avenidas Tech and Aging conference drew over 300 participants. At this event, tech developers showcased their products and solicited input from the seniors.
• Google Ambassadors were very appreciated and helpful for several of the grantees.

Learnings about the Inspire Mountain View program:
• Should have provided more time and notice to nonprofits before the application period opens. This would give them more time to think of creative ideas, collaborate, and prepare.
• The public voting was a novel and different way to select grantees. It crowdsourced community input and generated publicity and excitement around the grants challenge. There were, however, a number of concerns that came up:
  o Some felt that the traditional grant selection process based on merit is more reliable.
  o Voting was driven more by the nonprofits, and thus was biased toward larger nonprofits who could drive supporters to the voting web site. There was no way to verify age or location of the online voters, so many could have been out of the community.
  o Some smaller nonprofits felt like they didn’t have much of a chance on the voting given that they were not able to round up a large number of voters.
• Grant selection:
  o Some felt that grants should not be for expanding their existing programs. Should only be for new programs.
  o Smaller nonprofits felt that the grants should be favored toward them, rather than bigger, more established nonprofits who could find the money otherwise.
  o Some donors felt that we should not allowed large grants to go to fledgling nonprofits with an annual budget that is a fraction of the grant. Also, one donor suggested that for smaller nonprofits, progress payments should be tied to milestones, rather than giving one big check.
• A number of the grants involved working with one or more schools. In the future, before grants are to be awarded, the school should verify that they are willing and able to work with the possible grant recipient. Specifics:
  o Schools need to be onboard before grant is awarded so they are clear and agree with the nonprofit’s objectives, schedule and budget expectations. The school needs to be able to provide resources to support the grantee’s project.
  o Staff support after project is underway. One grantee had a challenge with District turnover in a critical position for their work. Given this, the grantee had a difficult time getting landscape plans approved.
  o Nonprofits are not permitted access to students academic records, so metrics must allow for that.
• Some training/classes might have been useful for the grantees. For example, one said “While we reached our participant registrant goals, we desired to reach more schools and community members. We expended funds to market the program, but the marketing channels did not result in a successful return”. In this case, training/support around marketing may have been helpful.
• Connecting with the other Inspire MV grant participants early in the grant period would have possibly opened more opportunities to connect and collaborate.
• A donor mentioned that they would like to see progress updates on the web site, perhaps have newsletters and PR talking about progress.
• Have a 6 month "reunion" where they could share their results at that time, and any learnings, challenges, etc. They may even show that they tried a new approach and it did not work.

Summaries of the Nine Grantees

Safety Net
• **$100k grant to CSA** - To reduce access barriers to nutritious food for 300-350 low-income families/children by bringing healthy food to their schools.
  o The grant resulted in 46 grant distributions to families at Mountain View schools, serving 400 families, with 6-10 individuals/family. 97% of participating families reported eating better as a result of the food received from CSA. The program was so successful that other schools are requesting services. Funds were also used for a new CSA van, storage, personnel and additional protein-rich food.
  o "For my family, this helps us with feeding our children." - Parent participating in the program
  o "We are thrilled with the success of CSA's program that brings nutritious food to our campus for low income families. I have heard from numerous parents how thankful they are to be able to select the groceries they need. The program is truly making a difference in our school community." Ernesto Nassau, School and Community Engagement Facilitator, Mariano Castro Elementary School

Career improvement for better future employment
• **$100k grant to Mountain View Working Scholars** - To provide at least ten members of the Mountain View community a full Bachelors degree.
  o As of June, 2018, seven (7) MV Working Scholars students have applied to Thomas Edison State University knowing their tuition will be covered by the Inspire Mountain View grant.
  o “The Working Scholars program offers me a chance to graduate from an accredited school without jumping back into student loan debt. I can finally be considered for career opportunities that aren’t open to candidates that just have a GED. -- MV Working Scholars student.
  o "The Inspire Grant has inspired several other Bay Area cities to replicate this community benefit. Because we have made such an impact in Mountain View, there is organic word of mouth spreading throughout our active chapters about the benefits the program brings to the community as a whole." -- Program Leader
  o With the momentum Working Scholars picked up after winning the Inspire Mountain View grant, the program gained recognition from State Senator Jerry Hill as his Nonprofit of the Year. We have been able to replicate the Working Scholars model in 3 cities within his district. To date, over 2,500 college credits have been earned across those cities.
Education

- **$50k grant to Canopy** - To launch Eco-Schoolyards for Mountain View schools and students.
  o Through the Inspire Mountain View grant, Canopy was able to create eco-schoolyards at two Mountain View Whisman School District campuses, through the installation and care of 75 trees and 745 plants; engagement of 488 school and community volunteers in planting and teaching; and achievement of student/teacher participation by reaching 4,100 students.
  o Many of the MVWSD students are economically and ethnically diverse with 35% qualifying for free and reduced lunch and 27% English Language Learners. Research indicates that students with access to school gardens perform better in class and score significantly higher on science achievement tests.
  o Through the grant, Canopy was able to collaborate with Living Classroom and together, they were able to grow their working relationship with the school district.
  o "Thank you to Inspire Mountain View in funding Living Classroom and Canopy to green up our middle school campuses. The new native habitat gardens provide an excellent resource for our middle school science classes, and show students that even small places planted with native plants can make a difference. Thank you for supporting these two great community organizations." -- Cathy Baur, Chief Academic Officer, Mountain View Whisman School District

- **$50k grant to Olimpico** - To engage Mountain View students in STEAM learning and 3D printing.
  o Olimpico’s Inspire Mountain View project engaged 100’s of Mountain View students in learning about Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) and 3D printing technologies.
  o “The best part of summer was to learn tinker-CAD, design, and manufacturing of something useful for others." - Student.
  o "Because of Inspire Mountain View grant we had impressive level of pro-bono support from technology companies. Each day our students had volunteers from 8 companies who provided life-changing opportunities for the students to experience cutting-edge 3D printing technology.” - Teacher

Seniors

- **$25k grant to Avenidas** - The Avenidas Gen Lab MV will connect older adults and their families to technology to aid them in living independently and with dignity.
  o Through the Inspire Mountain View grant, Avenidas did outreach for its Gen Lab, reaching over 15,000 households, fueling 300 to attend its Aging and Technology conference. Of the attendees, 80% were 75 years or older.
Through the Avenidas tech events, participating older adults felt they had learned ways technology can help them in living independently longer.

"As someone caring for my Mom, I love that she is learning new ways from Avenidas to stay involved and engaged without her feeling she is losing her privacy." T. R Mountain View family caregiver

"The Inspire MV grant inspired the team at Avenidas to get creative and engage the entire mid-Peninsula community in the link between technology and positive aging."
- Amy Andonian, Avenidas President/CEO

**The Arts**

- **$50k grant to Youth Drama for All** (for developmentally challenged children) - To launch Mountain View Act for Good (MVAFG) Performing Arts Workshop (Funshop) series to unite people of all abilities, fostering empathy and inspiring an inclusive community.
  - Youth Drama for All workshops benefitted 187 special needs children and 23 adults, engaging them in improvisational and problem-solving skills to help expand resilience & confidence.
  - The grant enabled Youth Drama for All to partner with the YMCA of Silicon Valley and the El Camino YMCA, for three Workshop/Funshop events
  - "The Youth Drama for All Funshops changed my life. I learned how to say yes to taking my child's perspective so that I can connect with her. I also learned different connection tools." - Parent participant.
  - "In all of our Youth Drama for All Funshop series, it was striking for me to experience empathy and mindfulness through simple drama and improv activities." - Choreographer Mercy Forde

- **$25k grant to CSMA** - Provide a three day electronic music festival to bring together diverse constituencies who live and work in Mountain View to create a new sense of community through shared musical performances and workshops.
  - CSMA's three day electronic music festival, funded by an Inspire Mountain View grant, brought together over 400 diverse people of all ages who live and work in Mountain View, creating a new sense of community through shared musical performances and workshops.
  - CSMA's electronic music festival brought together a broad range of electronic music genres and workshop leaders including genre luminaries John Chowning and Curtis Roads.
  - "CSMA’s Electronic Music Festival was an eye-opening experience for both my seven-year old daughter and me. We learned many different genres of electronic music through music performances and interactive exhibitions". --Richard Kenney, attendee

**Positive approach to life and leadership**

- **$100k grant to Soulforce Circles** - To launch Soulforce Circles for youth & community
leaders to take action on local issues about using mindfulness, nonviolence, and compassion.

- With the grant, Soulforce Circles was able to expand to 3 circles of youth/community leaders, including its first including young adults & parents. Close to 100 people benefited from the Circles and community events. Soulforce Circles was able to reach out to new audiences and to partner with local community colleges and workplaces.

- Soulforce Circles believes its most significant accomplishment was the transformation of its individual leaders, who learned to create social change using love and nonviolence.

- “Soulforce gave me a safe environment to be secure in myself and introduce me to the practice of listening with my heart. Right now I feel like still a beginner, I am just beginning to change my attitude and behavior, considering kindness and non-judgement.” - High School Youth Leader

- "The Inspire Mountain View Grant was our first significant grant and we are so immensely proud that we were recipients of this grant. It tells us how beautiful our community is to allocate resources in this way. Soulforce Leadership would not have been able to run 3 circles and implement our various community events without this grant.” - Poonam Singh, Executive Director.

- **$25k grant to Mission Be** - To bring mindfulness practices to the Mountain View Community by impacting schools, parents and members of the community.

  - Mission Be conducted eight week student workshops in 14 classrooms, taught 233 parents, and hosted eight community workshops, including two with the Mountain View Police Department.

  - The majority of the students attending Mission Be’s workshops on mindfulness, funded by the Inspire Mountain View grant, felt that the program helped them and they were able to use the skills in school and in their daily life.

  - "Mission Be taught us how to have a positive mindset. It has helped the past few days to worry less about myself and others. I have a more positive outlook on life by turning my negative thoughts into positive ones." - Los Altos High School Student
## Financial Summary

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Thank You to the Funders and the many volunteers who assisted in the Challenge:

Funders:
- Google
- LinkedIn
- Symantec
- Synopsys

Steering Committee which did much of the Challenge work:
- Betsy Canfield, Symantec
- Elesa Cooperson, Synopsys
- Sanjay Dave, Mountain View Resident, Board Member Mountain View Los Altos Unified High School District
- Katie Ferrick, LinkedIn
- Javier Gonzales, Google
- Andrea Grindeland, Information Arts
- Mike Kasperzak, Mountain View Resident, Former-Councilmember
- Michelle Mann, Mountain View Resident
- Tony Siress, Mountain View Chamber of Commerce
- Joe Eyre, Los Altos Community Foundation

Judging panel who selected the finalists leading into the public voting:
- Anna Botelho, Google
- Betsy Canfield, Symantec
- Micaela Hellman-Tincher, Policy aid for the office of Santa Clara Supervisor Joe Simitian
- Mike Kasperzak, Community volunteer
- Alia Malik, Community volunteer
- Ken Rosenberg, Mayor
- Tony Siress, CEO, Mountain View Chamber of Commerce
- Alison Tanaka, Synopsys
- Kathy Thibodeaux, Community volunteer
- Sankar Venkatraman, LinkedIn
Final Reports from each of the Nine Grant Recipients

CSA - $100,000 Grant

One-line summary of the purpose of the grant:
To reduce access barriers to nutritious food for 300-350 low-income families/children by bringing healthy food to their schools.

List the 2-3 metrics and/or outcomes that you entered in your grant application to measure the success of this grant.
1. 85% of participants will report that they are less food-insecure, better able to maintain a healthy diet and make healthier food choices as a result of this program.
2. Our staff and school administrators will provide qualitative data on program effectiveness and suggested improvements.
3. We will track the conversion rates for new clients referred by the program.

Describe the most significant accomplishments and/or impact achieved as a result of this grant.
The program was far more successful than we anticipated; during the grant period, we conducted 29 separate grocery distributions at Castro, 16 at Theuerekauf and one during the holiday season at Monta Loma. We estimate that these distributions served more than 400 families, with many households of 6-10 individuals per family.

According to CSA survey data collected earlier this year, approximately 97% of participating families reported eating better as a result of the food received from CSA, and 99% rated the food provided as "good to excellent."

Overall, the program has been so successful that other schools are requesting services. To accommodate the need, we will be adding these schools to the current pick-up sites. We anticipate that we will be serving up to 600 families each month this time next year.

Have you encountered any unanticipated successes, challenges or outcomes? If so, explain.
We were surprised by the number of families participating in the program, and we suspect that due to the political climate, there are many other families who have not come forward. We were also surprised by the large family sizes and that the distributions were serving so many multi-generational households.

One of our challenges is promoting the use and benefit of culturally unfamiliar food items such as brown rice and kale.

Perhaps the most significant challenge was in capturing data. Our current system entails families completing a paper form when they pick up their food. However, since this information is not captured electronically, it is not easily accessible for analysis. Also, the limited literacy skills of many
parents required one-on-one assistance to administer surveys, resulting in unreasonably long wait times and discouraging families from picking up food.

**What would have happened if you had not received this grant?**

Without this grant, these families would be experiencing hunger and a lack of nutritious food. They would have to choose between paying for groceries and paying their rent and utilities. In addition to improving their nutrition, the grant has had a direct impact on stabilizing these families' housing situations.

**If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant program again, would you recommend we do anything differently?**

We were thrilled to have the opportunity to fulfill one of our strategic plan initiatives through this grant. Going forward, we recommend that future selection processes be based more on program merit than by popular vote.

We noticed that some agencies applying for funding did not adhere to the voting eligibility requirements (18 years of age, work or live in Mountain View). Also, several supporters experienced challenges with the voting platform; one said they did not receive a confirmation that their vote went through, and another said that voting for CSA appeared to preclude him from voting in the other categories.

**Please provide two to three quotes from those who have benefitted from your work because of this grant:**

- “Thank you for helping everyone who needs help.” Parent participating in the program
- “For my family, this helps us with feeding our children.” Parent participating in the program
- “An amazing program offered. Thank you!” Parent participating in the program

**Please provide one to two quotes (with attribution) from your nonprofit organization on the benefit of the grant:**

"We are thrilled with the success of CSA’s program that brings nutritious food to our campus for low income families. I have heard from numerous parents how thankful they are to be able to select the groceries they need. The program is truly making a difference in our school community." Ernesto Nassau, School and Community Engagement Facilitator, Mariano Castro Elementary School

**How did you publicize this grant from LACF?**

The grant was prominently featured in our 2016-17 Annual Report, included in a blog posting on our website (https://www.csacares.org/2018/01/31/fnc/) and also linked to media articles on our website (https://www.csacares.org/about-csa/csa-in-the-news/). The van purchased with grant funds has Inspire Mountain View signage. We talk about what the grant has enabled us to accomplish at donor receptions and other events, and the grant is often cited in our applications and reports to major donors and grant-makers.

The Inspire Mountain View grant provided the means by which CSA was able to bring nutritious food to over 450 low-income families in our community. Funds were used for a van, storage, personnel and additional protein-rich food.

The Inspire Mountain View grant helped reduce barriers to nutrition. Distribution is conducted during student pick-up for the convenience of working families and others who are unable to get to CSA during pantry hours.

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**MV Working Scholars - $100,000 Grant**

**One-line summary of the purpose of the grant:**
To provide at least ten members of the Mountain View community a full Bachelors degree.

**List the 2-3 metrics and/or outcomes that you entered in your grant application to measure the success:**
- Transfer at least 5 students to our partner University
• Support students individually and ensure their success in the program

Describe the most significant accomplishments and/or impact achieved as a result of this grant:
- As of June 12th, 7 students have applied to TESU. One of them is progressing through her capstone course now.
- As of June 12th, we have 149 students with a retention rate of 75%

Have you encountered any unanticipated successes, challenges or outcomes? If so, explain.
Participants progressing at an inconsistent rate. We have one participant complete 72 College Units in one year.

What would have happened if you had not received this grant?
If Working Scholars had not received this grant, we would have had to put restrictions on the applicants making this a much less compassionate program. Because of the grant, we are able to provide individual support and take care of participants every step of their educational journey.

If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant program again, would you recommend we do anything differently?
If the LACF were to run the Inspire grant again, I would recommend that the website be easier to navigate. A common question was "why are there so many steps?" It would also be very helpful to inform the public more about the grant, I'd like to see more signs around town. Maybe a few public announcements on apps like "Nextdoor" in neighborhood Facebook groups, etc. I spoke with hundreds of residents and workers in MV and I only spoke to two people who had heard of the grant.

Please provide two to three quotes from those who have benefitted from your work because of this grant:
• “The Working Scholars program offers me a chance to graduate from an accredited school without jumping back into student loan debt. I can finally be considered for career opportunities that aren't open to candidates that just have a GED. Most importantly, this program helps me conquer many obstacles, so I can thrive in my career. And when I succeed, I will have an incredible sense of accomplishment.” - Bob Schoenthal
• “I am excited about achieving a lifelong goal that I had given up on before I started Mountain Working Scholars. Now, I find myself wondering where my degree will take me and what opportunities it will afford me. I think about how I can use my degree to help others achieve their life, educational, and work dreams.” - Erendira Garcia

Please provide one to two quotes (with attribution) from your nonprofit organization on the benefit of this grant
"The Inspire Grant has inspired several other Bay Area cities to replicate this community benefit. Because we have made such an impact in Mountain View, there is organic word of mouth spreading throughout our active chapters about the benefits the program brings to the community as a whole." - Bo Cheli, Program Director

How did you publicize this grant from LACF?
Socialized the grant at the Mountain View Transit Center, our employees went around the city talking to members of the community, Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor.

Pictured is one of our Working Scholar events we hold to help empower our students with more than a college education. LinkedIn invited nearly 40 of our Mountain View Scholars into their office for a LinkedIn workshop where Scholars learned how to build their personal brand, the importance of networking, and how to create a rockstar profile. Scholars also had an opportunity to take a professional head shot for their profile.

With the momentum Working Scholars picked up after winning the Inspire Grant, we were able to gain recognition from State Senator Jerry Hill as his Nonprofit of the Year. We have been able to replicate the Working Scholars model in 3 cities within his district. To date, over 2,500 college credits have been earned across those cities.

We have successfully engaged community leaders in supporting the Working Scholars. Because the community voted this project as something that would help make Mountain View a more compassionate place to live, they have brought it to the surface within their organization as a viable solution to student debt and degree completion.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rx702hiX3b0&t=0s
Soulforce Circles - $100,000 Grant

One-line summary of the purpose of the grant
The purpose of the grant was to launch Soulforce Circles for youth & community leaders to take action on local issues about using mindfulness, nonviolence, and compassion.

List the 2-3 metrics and/or outcomes that you entered in your grant application to measure the success:
- # of people attending circles/events
- quality of experience using surveys & interviews
- cataloguing stories to assess depth of level of inner transformation as a measure of the external change they would make in the world

Describe the most significant accomplishments and/or impact achieved as a result of this grant.
The most significant accomplishment of this grant was the fact that we went from one circle of youth leaders to 3 circles of youth/community leaders, including our first experiment with young adults & parents. We did meet our metrics impacting at least 75-100 people we wanted involved in these circles and community events. We are happy we learned how to recruit and connect with these various audiences. We learned how to reach out to mothers and talk about our work in very different ways with them, and learned how to partner with local community colleges and workplaces where we may connect with local young adults. Each audience required a different recruiting strategy and different marketing strategy.

We also learned how to create a more sustainable soulforce circle as an ongoing incubator for social change, by implementing 6-week video calls after all of our intensive retreats. By doing this, our fellows integrated the actions they were taking in their lives and we kept the community going and kept track of what people were doing. The final stage was plugging them into a larger ecosystem of change, identifying mentors for them, and having regular ongoing monthly opportunities to keep their inner spirit and projects alive. In reflecting on the year, however, what we believe was the absolute most significant accomplishment was the shifts of transformation we observed in our individual leaders, who we believe now will forever create social change in the future using love and nonviolence as a force for change. We developed a path way of inner to outer transformation (Awaken, Choose, Integrate, and Surrender), which helps us understand the development of our leaders.

We are also very excited about our story telling platform. This platform will help us capture the shifts of transformation we observe in our fellows and share this with a broader audience.

Have you encountered any unanticipated successes, challenges or outcomes? If so, explain.
An unanticipated success was experiencing the power of working with young adult youth leaders (18-24). At first we were very worried about not getting enough young adults as part of our youth
leadership program. This was very challenging during the middle of the year, and it continues to be a challenge to learn how to recruit people into our program and keep them engaged with just how very busy people are in Silicon Valley. However, we finally figured out how to connect with them by changing the name of our workshop and outreach strategy at local community colleges, and once we started talking about our work in a different way we gained much more traction.

Because young adults have a bit more independence than high school students and feel more autonomy in their lives, they were able to engage in soulforce circles more seriously and regularly during the year, and we believe this may be a major strategy in the future. They were able to really follow through on their projects and the personal transformation they were striving toward. We also feel it is tangibly impacting the career choices they are making and projects they are involved in. We are excited about the potential of working with young adults in the future.

We also have learned a tremendous amount about our curriculum, particularly around how to create a strong container for learning, including our relationship to the food we serve and becoming truly a no-waste program-and also how we may engage mentors in the community to work with our fellows. We also have become experts in theater of the oppressed, which is a big part of how we teach our fellows.

Finally, we are excited about the new experiments we did that came out of emergence. That is, they were not planned, but they surfaced as key areas we wanted to work in, like kindness in the park or our deep time retreat. These emergent opportunities were ways we could explore our own inner transformation, while staying focused on some of our strategic, more planned projects. There was a balance of both emergent and strategic opportunities we were trying to figure out this year.

**What would have happened if you had not received this grant?**

This grant was the first major grant we received as an organization and enabled us to hold a bigger vision to work with multiple circles and engage in this work full time. If we did not receive the grant, we would not have been able to do 3 circles.

**If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant program again, would you recommend we do anything differently?**

First off we are very grateful for this initiative and feel tremendously proud to be apart of it. We really hope we do this project again. If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant again (and we hope they do!), we would recommend that this project funds only goes to new or under resourced nonprofits. Although we believe the for-profit and social enterprise projects were worthwhile, we believe they would have gotten the money some other way, and that it was a bit unfair to compete with organizations who had such wide networks or had a for-profit sister organization. We would recommend keeping Inspire Mountain View to new and under-resourced nonprofits because nonprofits in this area struggle for basic things, even things like office space, and we should encourage new and creative solutions.

Secondly, although we like the fact the community voted, we are worried about the way this worked out. Would an organization that knew more people get more votes, and it not necessarily
be an assessment of the quality of the project itself. Furthermore, we don't know if low-income or people who benefit from these projects would actually have the time to vote or the ability to vote online. The voting platform was also not that easy to use, as many people asked us if they voted or not.

One idea is to have a committee of 50 people who are a cross-section of the community who would vote on who would get the project grantee by reviewing each grant carefully and deciding how to allocate the money. Perhaps the 50 people could also represent past recipients of Inspire Mountain View grant, as well as specific people in government, nonprofit, business, and direct beneficiaries too who are diverse across class, race, and income level. They would definitely have to be very diverse, and not just people who may already have privilege or a particular perspective. This is just an idea and I'm sure there are many ways to do this.

Please provide two to three quotes from those who have benefitted from your work because of this grant.

"As someone who has graduated high school, I have been growing up and learning about the world a bit more as I venture outside "the nest." Before entering Soulforce, I had gone through a change in my actions by being politically active and canvassing despite being extremely shy. However, I have found that knowledge alone has not been sufficient in my day to day life and desire to help build a better world. The feelings of fear, hopelessness, and anger have manifested in my behavior. Defensiveness and a combative attitude have reinforced weakness in communication.

Soulforce gave me a safe environment to be secure in myself and introduce me to the practice of listening with my heart. Right now I feel like still a beginner, I am just beginning to change my attitude and behavior towards one of kindness and non-judgement. However, with the skills and ways of nonviolence I feel the strength to become vulnerable and reach out to others and accept that I don't have all the answers. I hope to connect with others and create an environment where we can all find hope and the belief in our capability to add to the pool of knowledge and realize our intrinsic worth as human beings."

- High School Youth Leader (recently graduated)

"My experience in Soulforce as being one of the defining moments in my life. That might sound overzealous, but I truly feel that way. It's the first time in my almost sixteen years that I've been able to translate my thoughts about the problems in my community and then take actual part in finding ways to solve the problems or at least raise awareness that there ARE problems. Soulforce has become a canvas for my fellows and I to look into ourselves as well as the world around us and appreciate the diversity of our community, while taking care in serving each other on both an interpersonal and communal level. It's been a very empowering project for me to say the least. I've learned what it means to work with a group who is just as passionate and anxious as I am to do SOMETHING no matter how small to connect and serve.

-Soulforce Youth Leader

Please provide one to two quotes (with attribution) from your nonprofit organization on the benefits of this grant:

"We are immensely grateful for the Inspire Mountain View grant which was voted in by community
members in our own community, because it told us that the work we do with youth leaders matters to everyone in our community.”

"The Inspire Mountain View Grant was our first significant grant and we are so immensely proud that we were recipients of this grant. It tells us how beautiful our community is to allocate resources in this way. Soulforce Leadership would not have been able to run 3 circles and implement our various community events if it wasn't for the support of this community-sponsored grant.”

**How did you publicize this grant from LACF?** On all of our materials /flyers

This is a picture of our young adult cohort! We were very excited to launch our work with these young adults.

![Young adult cohort](image1.jpg)

This is a picture of some of our youth in our high school circle.

![Youth in high school circle](image2.jpg)

This is a picture of our fellows doing theater of the oppressed. We use this technique to understand oppression in our society and how we may interrupt this oppression in the world with great love.

![Theater of the oppressed](image3.jpg)
Canopy (in partnership with Living Classroom) - $50,000 Grant

One-line summary of the purpose of the grant
Eco-Schoolyards for Mountain View Kids and Beyond.

List the 2-3 metrics and/or outcomes that you entered in your grant application to measure the success:
1. Habitat installed and maintained: Plant 100 trees, 790 shrubs, perennials, and groundcovers consisting of at least 40 native species, and elements that qualify the sites as National Wildlife Federation Schoolyard Habitats.


3. Student/teacher participation: 100% science teacher participation across grades 6-8, reaching all 1,460 students.

Describe the most significant accomplishments and/or impact achieved as a result of this grant.

With support from the Inspire Mountain View Challenge and the Los Altos Community Foundation, we have accomplished the creation of eco-schoolyards at two school campuses, through the installation and care of 75 trees and 745 plants; engagement of 488 school and community volunteers in planting and teaching; and achievement of student/teacher participation by reaching 4,100 students. The most significant accomplishments from this grant period are outlined below.

Metric #1: Habitat installed and maintained and Metric #2: Volunteer engagement. During this grant period, Canopy and Living Classroom achieved significant headway in installing native plant habitats to create eco-schoolyards at two campuses in the Mountain View Whisman School District (MVWSD). The campuses of Graham Middle School and Crittenden Middle School are serving as test pilots for greater involvement at all MVWSD schools. The students in MVWSD are economically and ethnically diverse with 35% qualifying for free and reduced lunch and 27% English Language Learners.
Ethnically, students in MVWSD are 40% Hispanic, 30% white, 14% Asian, 10% two or more races, 3% Filipino, 2% black and 1% other. The most recent data from the previous school year lists 85 students as homeless. This work is important because as research indicates, students with access to school gardens perform better in class (C&NN) and score significantly higher on science achievement tests (Univ. Colorado).

At the Graham campus, 35 new trees and 195 native understory plants were installed by Canopy with the engagement of 197 school and community volunteers; and an additional 7 trees and 110 landscape plants were installed with the help of contractors already engaged by the District. Living Classroom also had 70 volunteers from Google and Beautiful Day working with them in the garden to install 5 native trees and 75 native perennials, shrubs, and groundcovers. The garden at Graham features 40 unique species of native plants.

At the Crittenden campus, 28 trees and 365 native understory plants were installed by Canopy with the help of 165 school and community volunteers. Living Classroom had an additional 25 volunteers working to install the new native habitat garden during the workday and about 6 people from landscape contractors (in-kind donation from contractor companies) prepared the garden beforehand. The Maniglia Landscape Company, through the California Landscape Contractors Association San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, donated their time, materials, expertise and equipment to install the pathway, contour the soil, and install the irrigation. This project was chosen as their annual Chapter Project. We have also been lucky to work with a local landscape designer who is a former MVWSD parent and has provided her design and assistance on a pro bono basis.

Metric #3: Student/teacher participation.
With the completion of the native habitat gardens at Graham and Crittenden, they greatly enhance existing options for school-day outdoor instruction and other uses. Living Classroom is working to gain 100% of student and teacher participation in the coming school years. Living Classroom has recruited 25 volunteer docents to assist with teaching lessons in elementary school classes, with progress being made to reach docents for middle school classes. In the 2017-18 school year, Living Classroom provided school day instruction to 4,100 kindergarten to fifth grade students for an average of five lessons per classroom, for a total of 550 lessons. Approximately 25% of those lessons were in the schools’ native habitat gardens.

Furthermore, Living Classroom piloted a lesson at Graham on the Adaptations of California Native Plants. This led to an agreement secured with MVWSD to pilot more science lessons in the native habitat garden at Graham in the 2018-19 school year. They will also be providing 24 garden-based lessons in the coming school year to all of the Graham and Crittenden social studies classes, serving approximately 500 sixth grade students.

In addition to the educational opportunities brought to the classrooms, on May 31, Canopy and Living Classroom co-hosted a workshop, “Bringing Nature Home”, to share information about native plant habitats with the surrounding community. Living Classroom founder, Vicki Moore, presented to community members gathered at the Mountain View Senior Center on how trees and native plants are key to restoring local ecosystems. She presented research from the recent California
Native Plant Society conference that has major implications on the way trees and plants are used in gardens and landscaping. Special emphasis was made on what actions residents can take and easy-to-use online references were shared to support them.

**Have you encountered any unanticipated successes, challenges or outcomes? If so, explain.**

Through implementing the program as described above, one huge success from this collaboration is that Canopy and Living Classroom were able to establish an even higher level of trust with the MVWSD administration and facilities staff. As the landscapes continue to grow and the new programs develop, we believe the District will begin to value our role in supporting their outdoor learning spaces, providing a win/win for the students/educational purposes and reduced maintenance and water needs. The trust we have built up will help us to continue growing our work at Graham and Crittenden, as we pursue funding to extend to other schools in the district.

One truly unanticipated success was encountered at one of the community planting events. We enlisted a group of Google volunteers who were working with some particularly nasty soil. Canopy provided a few heavy duty (i.e. expensive) digging bars in addition to the pickaxes and shovels we typically provide. One Googler was so impressed with the design and function of these digging bars she asked if she were to make a $1,000 donation would we purchase 10 more of them for future work days. We responded “of course!” And sure enough, the following week we received a $1,000 gift and promptly purchased 10 more digging bars.

One challenge encountered was that the District experienced turnover in a critical position for the work that we do. Their longtime director of maintenance retired shortly before our project began, and his replacement was only in place for a few months before he also left. This proved quite challenging for gaining approval of our landscape plans. In the interim, we took the opportunity to further develop relationships at the District both above and below this position. For the final plantings we were fortunate to work with the newest Director of Maintenance, and look forward to continuing our work with all of these various contacts. At this point we have built the relationship and trust to continue our eco-schoolyard program at the schools.

**What would have happened if you had not received this grant?**

If we had not received this grant, we would not have been able to go forward with the eco-schoolyard program at the Mountain View Whisman School District. The funding from this grant was significant in helping us to launch this program and bring native plant habitat and environmental education to the District.

**If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant program again, would you recommend we do anything differently?**

Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment on the Inspire Mountain View grant program. To be completely honest, we would suggest removing the voting element in future funding initiatives. While we definitely benefited from the exposure afforded by this process, we believe grants should be awarded based on merit and not through a popularity contest. It takes a great deal of resources for small grassroots nonprofits to solicit the votes that may or may not result in funding, and that kind of uncertainty and diversion from our mission can be highly volatile. While it is wonderful to involve the community in selecting deserving nonprofits to offer programs and
services in Mountain View, perhaps there is another way, such as through a committee of community members and stakeholders who review and select the awardees.

**Please provide two to three quotes from those who have benefitted from your work because of this grant:**

"Thank you to Inspire Mountain View in funding Living Classroom and Canopy to green up our middle school campuses. The new native habitat gardens not only provide an excellent resource for our middle school science classes, they also are real habitat for our local wildlife and show students that even small places planted with native plants can make a difference. Canopy’s tree planting and landscape projects helped to beautify our campuses and brought out hundreds of community volunteers. Thank you for supporting these two great community organizations."

Cathy Baur, Chief Academic Officer, Mountain View Whisman School District

“Thank you so much for the work you've done transforming the landscape in front of the school. My family and I walk by here every day and what you've done has inspired us to re-do our own landscape.” -- School neighbor

**How did you publicize this grant from LACF?**

We publicized this grant through the following platforms: Garden signs at Crittenden Middle School; Signage for plants at Crittenden and Graham; Large signs about native plants (in progress); outreach materials for the “Bringing Nature Home” workshop; Canopy’s website; Canopy’s e-newsletter; Canopy’s Annual Report; Living Classroom’s website; Living Classroom’s e-newsletter

Graham volunteers.
SEWA is a community service group of Indian-Americans that came out to volunteer for the Crittenden garden project.

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**Olimpico- $50,000 Grant**

**One-line summary of the purpose of the grant**
Engaging Mountain View students in STEAM learning and 3D printing.

**List the 2-3 metrics and/or outcomes that you entered in your grant application to measure the success:**
Prior to the start of the summer session, the instructors produced a list of grade-appropriate vocabulary words related to each subject area.

**PRE-POST ASSESSMENT DATA COLLECTION PROTOCOL**

Teachers used the appropriate rubrics to assess the quality of the pre and post writing samples completed at the beginning and end of each week. The samples collected from each student were linked so that the evaluator could determine if growth occurred.

- At the 4.0 level, Grade 3-5 students are expected to write in paragraphs with topic sentences.
- At the 3.0 level, students are expected to write in complete sentences.
- At the 2.0 level, students are expected to understand and apply more abstract science concepts.

Post-assessment ratings showed growth across the board.

**Describe the most significant accomplishments and/or impact achieved as a result of this grant.**
Over 500 students were impacted directly. Three STEM teacher networks reviewed and praised Olimpico Learning lesson plans.

Olimpico Learning is proud of its greater impact -- reaching to 10 school districts and sharing Olimpico Learning 3D curriculum and impacted 50,000 students in California.

**Have you encountered any unanticipated successes, challenges or outcomes? If so, explain.**
Our biggest challenge has been the 1-year time line and the limited budget. Half of the funding was directed to one school, Alta Vista High School.

We would like to reach out to all MV schools and replicate this program in Castro, Theuerkauf, Graham, Crittenden, and Monta Loma.

**What would have happened if you had not received this grant?**
We would not have incorporated fun, innovative technology, 3D printing, design, and community impact so quickly into the summer program.

This has been a very successful implementation in many ways.

**If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant program again, would you recommend we do anything differently?**
We all grew and learned so much from the past year. Having a supportive community is critical to having significant impact.

**Please provide two to three quotes from those who have benefitted from your work because of this grant:**
Our teachers said: "Because of Inspire Mountain View grant we had impressive level of pro-bono support from technology companies. Each day our students had volunteers from 8 companies who provided life-changing opportunities for the students to experience cutting-edge 3D printing technology.

Our students said, "The best part of summer was to learn tinker-CAD, design, and manufacturing of something useful for others."

**Please provide one to two quotes (with attribution) from your nonprofit organization on the benefits of this grant:**
Olimpico Learning Team appreciate the opportunity to have impact on such large scale so quickly.

Olimpico Learning parents love how creative students are becoming by trying new things each day. It was cool to fail. Students ALL learned FAIL means First Attempt In Learning.

**How did you publicize this grant from LACF?**
Publishing articles online and on several websites, LinkedIn, Gitbook, Twitter, Facebook, and tech presentations.
Youth Drama for All - $50,000 Grant

One-line summary of the purpose of the grant
Mountain View Act for Good (MVAFG) Performing Arts Workshop (Funshop) series unites people of all abilities, fostering empathy and inspiring an inclusive community.

List the 2-3 metrics and/or outcomes that you entered in your grant application to measure the success:
Outcome: >50 individuals of varied abilities will participate in the workshops over 1 year
Metric: Attendance Records/Registration Forms (identifies special needs)
Outcome: 100% of participants will engage in improvisational and problem-solving skills to help expand resilience & confidence.
Metric: Pre-/Post observation of engagement in workshop activities
Outcome: 85% of participants will report increased skills and comfort level in their interactions with others that act/look differently.
Metric: Pre/Post participant questionnaire

**Describe the most significant accomplishments and/or impact achieved as a result of this grant.**

Through our partnership with the YMCA of Silicon Valley and the El Camino YMCA (Mountain View), we were able to develop three Workshop/Funshop series, and host multiple community events including a Winter celebration and a Zumba event. This resulted in a more inclusive community by bringing the special needs and general community together in fun, inspiring settings.

The "Say Yes, Play, Grow!" Funshop series used improvisation to bridge communication and understanding among the 1:1 adult/child (grades 1-3) pairs. The concentration of this series provided an opportunity for the adult-child pair to receive exposure and perspective of differing abilities and challenges. There was a mix of special needs and neurotypical participants.

Through two other Workshop/Funshop tracks ("Shift, Connect, Spark!" and "Link, Laugh, Let Go!") we developed activities that focused on participants making connections and developing social skills through acting and facial expressions in short plays, and applying the body-brain connection, creative muscle and mindfulness through body movement and gestures.

Through the three Funshop series and all events, we created an ideal environment where individuals of all abilities were united to interact and play together. This resulted in a better understanding of differences and fostered empathy for each other. Participants were able to connect, develop trust and lasting friendships. The highlight is that participants have the mind- and skill-set to make Mountain View a more inclusive community.

We reached a total of 187 registrants. Many participants attended multiple Workshops/Funshops. We had 62 unique student registrants spanning grades 4-12 and 18+ year olds, both special needs and general ed. students, as well as 23 unique adult registrants.

**Have you encountered any unanticipated successes, challenges or outcomes? If so, explain.**

While we reached our participant registrant goals, we desired to reach more schools and community members. We expended funds to market the program, but the marketing channels did not result in a successful return.

**What would have happened if you had not received this grant?**

If we did not receive these grant funds, this program would not have been as widespread in the community and we would not have held as many events. The funds were able to support staffing to help develop and run the programs. We were so honored and grateful to have been connected with
our Google Ambassador, Haviva Kohl, who added so much to the season by supporting our vision. Without this grant, we would not have received her help, advice and guidance.

If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant program again, would you recommend we do anything differently?
Connecting with the other grant participants early in the grant period would have possibly opened more opportunities to connect and collaborate. Once the grant is underway, it was very difficult to find time to meet the other nonprofits. This could result in the sharing of resources, ideas or simply to connect. A suggestion would be to have a date scheduled early so grantees can calendar it.

Please provide two to three quotes from those who have benefitted from your work because of this grant:
A parent participant in the Improv Funshop commented, "It changed my life. I learned how to say yes to taking my child's perspective so that I can connect with her. I also learned different connection tools. All these things I learned can be applied to your spouse and others."

A participant from the Say Yes, Play, Grow! Funshop stated, "Love the upstairs/downstairs brain acknowledgement, coming from a neuroscience background. It was a great way to understand the brain in a quick, easy reminder. Great tools for how to play more, shift, center & connect. Enacting really helped with remembering tools."

Please provide one to two quotes (with attribution) from your nonprofit organization on the benefit of this grant:
Board Member Carley Brandt stated this grant “allowed for enhanced programming that provided new experiences for our community. This was a unique opportunity for our special education and general education youth to interact in an inclusive setting, to explore the basics of who we are, and how empathy helps us connect—whether to a new friend or to an entire audience of friendly faces.”

Choreographer Mercy Forde observed, "In all of our funshop series, it was striking for me to experience empathy and mindfulness through simple drama and improv activities (frozen pictures and mirroring)."

How did you publicize this grant from LACF?
We publicized this grant from LACF on YDFA’s website and via YDFA's email list. We reached the larger community by using Peachjar as well as the El Camino Y (Mountain View) who supported our Funshops and special events by advertising through their marketing channels.

The Connect, Shift, Spark! Short Plays and Expressions Funshop allowed participants to practice different emotions and gestures, and to apply those to various social themes and messages in the plays. This group of actors is shown practicing together, which allowed connections and friendships to form. The synergy of being united in an activity and sharing the experience helped to build interpersonal skills and to strengthen relationships. The short plays were presented at a showcase to an audience of 200+, strengthening the connections across the
special needs and broader communities.

This group shows how movement, music and dance inspire the inclusion of all abilities in a fun, dynamic way. The Link, Laugh, Let Go! Movement Funshops used everyday activities and popular music and movies to practice body movement and expression (E.g., sports, superhero poses). Participants showcased their talents to an audience and “set the stage” to continue to shift our community's mindset to one that focuses on each person's abilities, rather than disabilities.

One of the unique, grant objectives was to find ways to include both adults and children in learning together. The pre- and post-parent survey strongly indicates the Say Yes, Play, Grow! Improvisation for Families Funshops provided an effective way to move the needle in parent-child interactions and in building an inclusive community.

The photo insert shows the adult-child partners in the mirroring exercise and saying "yes" to each other's ideas, which provided a platform for perspective-taking, empathy, understanding, inclusion and connecting.

The robust design elements, which helped deepen empathy and build inclusion, can be leveraged in other applications in the non-profit and corporate settings.
A parent participant stated, "This has given me permission to revisit my inner child, and connect with my daughter in a new way."

Avenidas - $25,000 Grant

One-line summary of the purpose of the grant
Avenidas Gen Lab MV will connect older adults and their families to technology to aid them in living independently and with dignity.

List the 2-3 metrics and/or outcomes that you entered in your grant application to measure the success:
We measured
1) pre-seminar knowledge of tech supports through surveys
2) post-seminar survey of how they see specific devices etc helping them in daily life
3) Number of firms we were able to engage to conduct focus work with our older adults to influence product design.

Describe the most significant accomplishments and/or impact achieved as a result of this grant.
1) Developed outreach campaign to spread word about Gen Lab - Reached over 15,000 households which helped fuel attendance at the Aging and Tech conference to 300. (80% persons 75+)
2) Pre and Post tested 82 older adults participating in product focus groups. 93% felt they had learned ways technology can help them living independently longer.

Have you encountered any unanticipated successes, challenges or outcomes? If so, explain.
The Tech and Aging conference drew over 300 participants which is one of our best attended conferences. One of the challenges we have had and continue to encounter is to get product
developers to understand the value of input from a constituency that is older and perhaps not tech savvy. Younger developers believe that if they build it people will embrace it. We see it as our role to continue to give them the opportunities of engaging with those who will use the product.

**What would have happened if you had not received this grant?**
This funding was essential to provide the time to reach out to the tech community and organize small group technology meetings where they met with older adults and family caregivers. We would not have had the bandwidth to put together the great Aging and Tech conference which truly helped those who can benefit from new emerging technology to help them deal with the challenges of growing older.

**If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant program again, would you recommend we do anything differently?**
This funding was amazing but it would be great to have 2 years of funding because this was strategic work and it will definitely take at least two years to fully develop.

**Please provide two to three quotes from those who have benefitted from your work because of this grant:**
"Being shown new health devices that can help me be more independent is priceless. Everyone was interested in what we have to say!" BK focus group participant
"As someone caring for my Mom, I love that she is learning new ways to stay involved and engaged without her feeling she is losing her privacy." T. R Mountain View family caregiver

**Please provide one to two quotes (with attribution) from your nonprofit organization on the benefits of this grant:**
"The Inspire MV was a great name for this initiative because it inspired the team at Avenidas to get creative and engaged the entire mid-Peninsula community in the link between technology and positive aging. Thanks to Los Altos Community Foundation!" Amy Andonian, President/CEO

**How did you publicize this grant from LACF?**
In the Avenidas Newsletter (2,500 members), tri-fold brochure to 4,000 homes, promoted events on social media platforms, article in PA weekly, annual report.
One-line summary of the purpose of the grant
CSMA's three day electronic music festival will bring together diverse constituencies who live and work in Mountain View to create a new sense of community through shared musical performances and workshops.

List the 2-3 metrics and/or outcomes that you entered in your grant application to measure the success:
Host a well-attended festival for a diverse audience
Broaden audience's understanding of electronic music & its genres

Describe the most significant accomplishments and/or impact achieved as a result of this grant.
The showcased musicians represented a broad range of electronic music genres and workshop leaders included luminaries in the field, such as John Chowning and Curtis Roads. Attendance for the weekend exceeded 400.

Have you encountered any unanticipated successes, challenges or outcomes? If so, explain.
The days were very long for our small staff and group of volunteers. The event was free, but required tickets via EventBrite, which was confusing to some.

What would have happened if you had not received this grant?
We would not have held the three day festival

If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant program again, would you recommend we do anything differently?
I liked the process, particularly the community voting component.

Please provide two to three quotes from those who have benefitted from your work because of this grant:
The Electronic Music Festival at CSMA was a great success! The confluence of music, technology, and design proves to be innovative, educational, and entertaining. Thanks, CSMA! -- Jinlin Wang, attendee
The Electronic Music Festival was an eye-opening experience for both my seven-year old daughter and me. We learned many different genres of electronic music through music performances and interactive exhibitions. --Richard Kenney, attendee

Please provide one to two quotes (with attribution) from your nonprofit organization on the benefits of the grant.
The Electronic Music Festival was greatly enjoyed by all who attended and presented the School in a very positive way. We delivered some provocative music, fun experiences and thought-provoking discussion. I think Mountain View was inspired! --Vickie Scott Grove, Executive Director
The three-day festival brought together diverse participants who might otherwise have not been to our School. It perfectly highlighted the intersection of music and technology and engaged people from different parts of our community. -- Chiung-chi Chen, Director of Community Engagement

How did you publicize this grant from LACF?
CSMA website, CSMA event postings, CSMA social media, CSMA signage/flyers, print advertising, online event listings, email advertising, press outreach

Blog post on the festival: http://arts4all.org/about/news-blog/electronic-music-festival
CSMA would like to thank everyone who made it to the Electronic Music Festival! Thank you for your support in making this a successful and spectacular event! Take a look at the highlights from the three-day festival.
Mission Be - $25,000 Grant

One-line summary of the purpose of the grant
To bring mindfulness practices to the Mountain View Community by impacting schools, parents and members of the community.

List the 2-3 metrics and/or outcomes that you entered in your grant application to measure the success:
One metric was that we will survey the students to measure the effectiveness of our program. We found:
76% of students felt that mindfulness helped them.
69% of students continued to practice mindfulness in school in the post survey.
55% of students reported practiced mindfulness on their own outside of school after the program ended.

A second metric was that we will survey the community to measure the effectiveness of our program.
We found:
91% of police officers rated our CEO as skilled in delivering the workshop.
62% of the officers stated that they would use mindfulness in the future.

Describe the most significant accomplishments and/or impact achieved as a result of this grant.
Mission Be made great impact in Mountain View:
We offered:
Student Workshops: Implemented our eight week course in 14 classrooms (exceeding our goal of 12) in 4 different MVLA Schools from October to March 2018:
Four in Stevenson Elementary School
Four in Springer Elementary School
Four in Los Altos High School
Two in Mountain View High School

Parent Workshops: Brought four mindfulness workshops to parents at MVLA Schools. 233 parents registered total for the high schools and elementary workshops (exceeded our goal of 200).

Planned Eight Community Workshops:
Planned eight (exceeded goal of four) community workshops from March to April 2018 at: Historic Adobe Building, Singularity, Health IQ, East West Books and the Senior Center, two at the YMCA and two at the Teen Rec. Center. We also hosted two workshops at the MVPD that went very well, serving 80 police officers.

Total Est. Served:
322 Students (14 classrooms, est. 23 students per classroom)
205 Parents (233 registered)
57 Educators (Faculty meetings, classrooms & teacher training combined)
232 Community Members (302 registered)
80 Mountain View Police Officers

Have you encountered any unanticipated successes, challenges or outcomes? If so, explain.
Mission Be has made incredible impact in the past 12 months, exceeding our expectation all areas of projected impact.

Our greatest unanticipated success was the feedback we received from the students! We received a plethora of inspiring notes and thank you notes from our students. We were also impressed by the turnout for the parent nights at the high schools. We had over 115 parents at MVHS, this is a very high level of engagement for an evening workshops parents of teens. We were also happy with the responses and positive feedback from the police department. We were grateful that it went so well.

One challenge was collecting hard data from the school, as we are not permitted access to students’ academic records. However, we have excellent feedback data from the students.

A second challenge was because we were offering the community workshops for free, we found that some people registered and did not attend at Singularity in particular- due to rain but, also at
the YMCA, one of our classes was missing a number of registrants. But, overall since we hosted 8 workshops instead of 4, we significantly exceeded our numbers of registrants overall.

**What would have happened if you had not received this grant?**
We may not have had the funding and support to bring the program to the Mountain View and Los Altos Community and School District.

**If LACF was to run the Inspire Mountain View grant program again, would you recommend we do anything differently?**
I would consider the challenge that smaller less resourced nonprofits have in gaining community votes. If their annual budget is less, the NFP might have less resources to win a contest based on community outreach. I believe it would be better to base it on the mission and how that mission aligns with the foundation's goals.

**Please provide two to three quotes from those who have benefitted from your work because of this grant:**
"I've received some great feedback from your presentation last week. Thank you so much for sharing your knowledge and passion for mindfulness and well-being with our officers." Captain Jessica Nowaski, MVPD

"Thanks so much for teaching me to think of fear differently. I can now overcome fear easier. I also thank you for teaching me how to clear my mind and relax. I am sure I will use your teachings for the rest of high school." - Los Altos High School Student

"Thank you for teaching us how to have a positive mindset. It has helped the past few days to worry less about myself and others. I have a more positive outlook on life by turning my negative thoughts into positive ones." - Los Altos High School Student

**Please provide one to two quotes (with attribution) from your nonprofit organization on the benefits of this grant:**
"Mission Be introduced mindfulness to many young adults, teaching and empowering them with amazing new skills to help cope with the high demands and stress of school. The many breathing practices and digital detox practices were especially practical and useful takeaways for the children." Miranda Fajardo

"We are very grateful to the Inspire Mountain View Grant managed by the Los Altos Community Foundation! They allowed us to make tremendous local impact in our own community. Because of the foundation we were able to impact children, parents, teacher, the elderly and even our local police department by teaching them the important practices of mindfulness based stress-reduction techniques. We had a wonderful outpouring from our local community and schools! We are so glad that we were able to provide a service to support the mental health and well-being of our students and community members. It was a great gift for Mission Be to receive this support from the foundation and we appreciate the opportunity to truly inspired Mountain View!" Carin Winter, Mission Be, CEO
How did you publicize this grant from LACF?

We stated in our written materials for advertising and promotion that the program was made possible due to a grant from Inspire Mountain View, managed by the Los Altos Community Foundation. We also thanked the organization during each of our introductory workshops in the community and at our teacher trainings.