

2024



SUMMER SERVICES

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Summer Services grants present a distinctive opportunity for non-profit organizations to secure funding aimed at improving their summer programs. For the past nine years, the Children's Board has worked with the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners to offer these grants specifically for summer programs catering to youth aged 6-14. In 2024, Summer Services grants supported six non-profits to receive funding that enhanced the quality of their programs across six key focus areas:



Arts



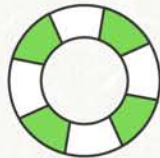
Character
Development



Literacy



Fitness /
Nutrition



Safety



STEM



Funds in the amount of \$147,667 were awarded to the following agencies:

After School All Stars Tampa Bay - \$20,000
Housing Authority of the City of Tampa - \$27,704
ReDefiners World Languages - \$30,000
Tampa Heights Junior Civics Association - \$19,963
Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA - \$20,000
The Family Enrichment Center - \$30,000

DEMOGRAPHICS

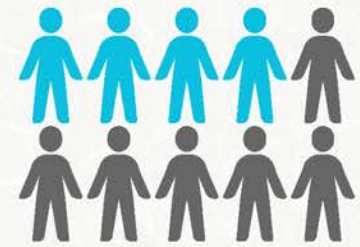
A total of 227 youth from Hillsborough County benefited from the six programs funded by Summer Services Grants. An analysis of the participants' ages indicated that more than half were between 6 and 9 years old, with 9 years being the median age. Furthermore, program engagement statistics revealed that 84% of all participating youth remained enrolled throughout the entire duration of the services provided.

227 YOUTH

84% Remained enrolled in summer programs

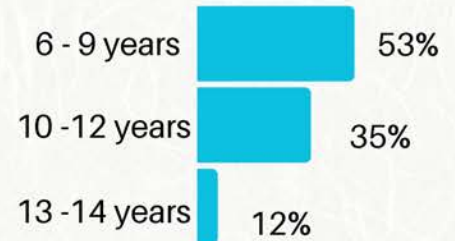
81% Eligible for free or reduced lunch

Gender

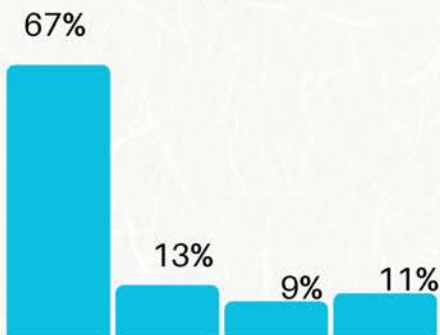


44% Female

Ages

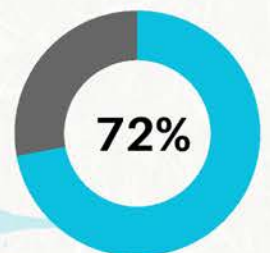


Race



67% Black or African American, 13% White, 9% Two or More Races, and 11% Other .

Ethnicity

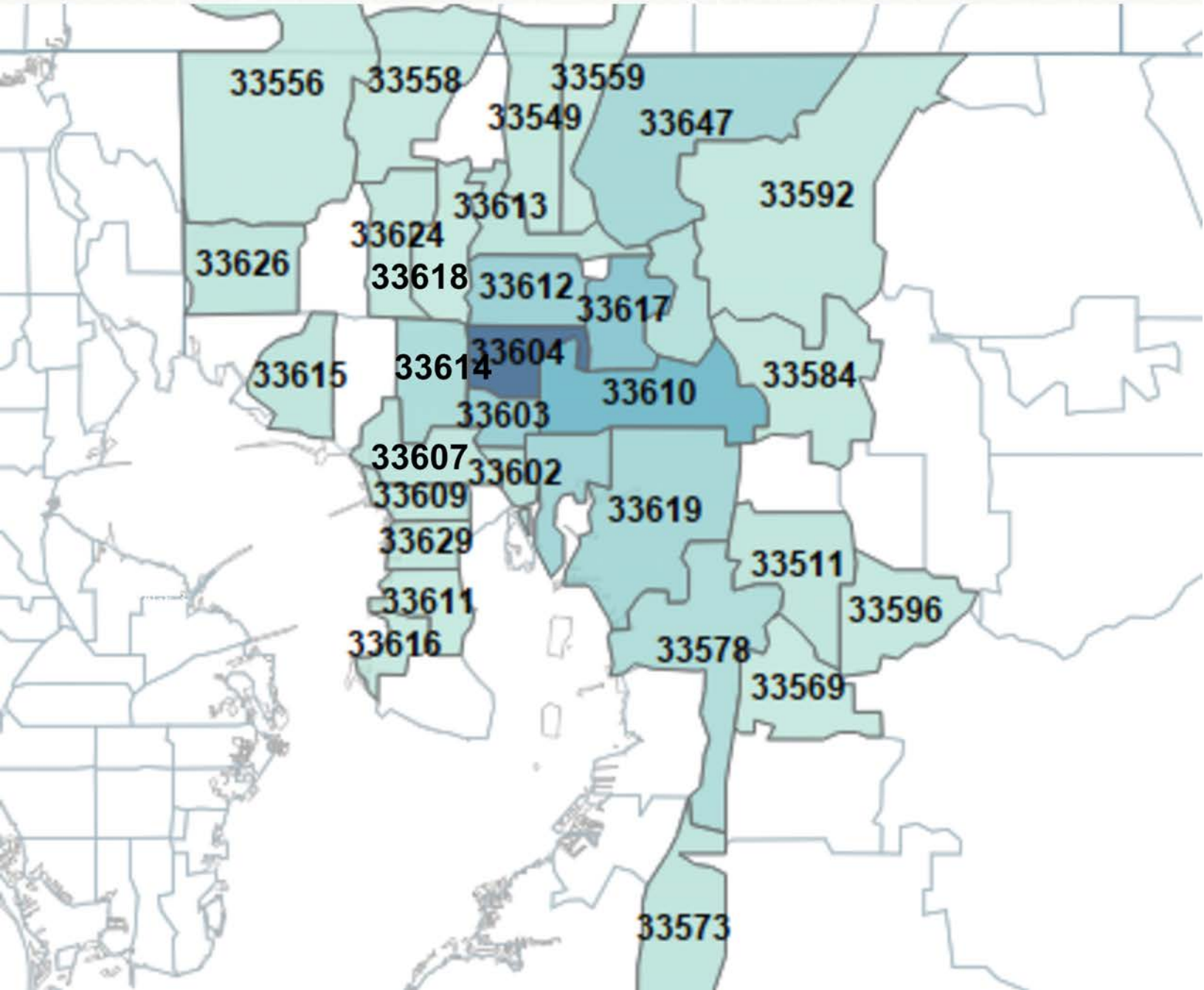


Not Hispanic or Latino



MAP

Participant zip code information was collected and reported for all youth attending the summer programs. The map illustrates that program participants resided in 32 Hillsborough County zip codes, with the greatest concentration of participants living in East Tampa, Temple Terrace, and Central Tampa (33603, 33604, 33605, 33610, 33612 and 33617).





ARTS

The Summer Services grants offer a chance for a truly enriching artistic experience. This summer, youth were presented with numerous opportunities to participate in both performance and visual arts activities. They explored various forms of visual arts, engaging in projects such as arts and crafts, as well as mosaics, cartooning, among others. The youth took also dance and bucket drum lessons, which allowed them to learn proper techniques. As a result, 100% of the participants reported an increase in their knowledge of the arts.



Summary of Activities

- Mosaics
- Water Colors
- 3D Sculpture
- Mural Design
- Crayon Stained Glass
- Field trips to the Tampa Museum of Art





CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT



Character-building activities play a crucial role in instilling values that encourage ethical behavior and responsibility among the youth. This summer, the programs offered a range of opportunities for youth to engage in meaningful discussions focused on effective communication, building healthy relationships, and enhancing self-esteem and confidence. By the end of the summer, 91% of youth showed an increased understanding of positive social skills as a result of these enriching experiences!

Summary of Activities

- Character discussions
- Foreign language and culture
- Beautification and city planning projects
- Career exploration
- Team building exercises
- Field trips to US Federal Courthouse and the Columbia Restaurant





FITNESS

The Summer Services grants encourage a vibrant and active lifestyle by providing engaging and physically challenging daily activities! A total of 191 youth took part in fitness activities, which included team sports, competitions, and nutrition classes. Throughout the summer, they discovered the significance of healthy eating and created healthy-food preparation instruction to apply what they learned in their daily routines



Summary of Activities

- Group fitness classes
- Conditioning and agility exercises
- Soccer Training
- Football Training
- Teamwork drills
- Group nutrition
- Food preparation classes





LITERACY



The summer programs aimed to strengthen literacy skills, equipping youth for the upcoming school year. Each program provided access to both digital and physical books, enhancing opportunities tailored to each child's individual interests.



1,572
Books read



4,992
Hours reading

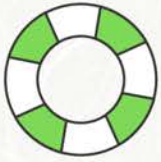


355
Journaling hours

Summary of Activities

- Creative writing classes
- Reading and writing challenges
- Read alouds with Bess the Book Bus
- Plays
- Poetry
- Journaling





SAFETY

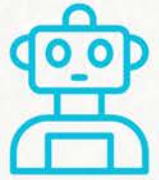
As a component of the Summer Services program, a range of safety activities is offered to youth participants to improve their understanding of safety practices. This year, the program included a blend of water and fire safety lessons and activities, which featured instruction on using swim safety gear like life jackets and the importance of swimming with a buddy.

The goal of water safety education is to elevate the youth's awareness of safe practices in and around water. This year's program resulted in 84% of participants enhancing their knowledge of safety measures.



Summary of Activities

- Fire safety classes
- Water safety education
- Swimming lessons
- Field trip to the Tampa Fire Fighters Museum



STEM

This year, the Summer Services programs offered more 100 hours of STEM-related activities. Young participants learned to code robots, bringing them to life. The hands-on experiments were particularly popular, with youth engaging in a range of activities, from constructing volcanoes and solar systems to performing egg or water balloon drops. They applied the skills acquired throughout the summer to enhance their experience in these interactive experiments.



Summary of STEM Activities

- Gardening
- Robotics
- Coding
- Experimental labs
- Science classes and labs
- Computer coding and programming
- Field trips to Florida Aquarium, Zoo Tampa, Glazer Children's Museum, Busch Gardens and MOSI



SUMMARY

The Summer Services grants enabled over 200 young people living in Hillsborough County to participate in high-quality summer programs. This improved programming opened doors to a variety of new activities, such as Art, STEM, Character Development, Fitness, Literacy, and Safety. The positive outcomes from these grants reinforce our dedication to further enriching the lives of all children and families in Hillsborough County.

