



4700+

Math diagnostics administered identifying math learning needs



Middle School Readiness Diagnostic

Middle School Foundations Diagnostic

High School Readiness Diagnostic

High School Science Placement Assessments

College Math Readiness Diagnostic

Tutor Playbook (1881)

CONFIDENCE 85%

Improvement in students' math confidence



Up to

65%

Post-assessment score improvements from baseline for focus areas

# Ready.Set.Excel Impact Snapshot

**Empowering students to succeed** 

#### TO OUR COMMUNITY

Dear Friends,

Though the "end of the pandemic" and "return to normalcy" was declared in 2021, the harsh realities of COVID persist, particularly for underserved communities and the institutions serving them.

Numerous national studies have cataloged the severity of loss in math and reading especially for low-performing students. Staff burnout and turnover coupled with spotty in-person engagement at schools and academically-focused non-profits are hampering academic recovery.

During 2021, many schools and non-profits remained focused on basic needs - mental health issues, food/housing insecurity and were reluctant to start or fund new academic programs citing overwhelmed/lack of staff. Foundations and other granters also prioritized addressing basic needs over academics.

In-person intervention programs in 2021 that RSE participated in had significantly superior results - improved student attitude and math progress - when compared with remote or hybrid programs where attendance and attention span were significant issues. Starting mid-2022, there is more interest in a data-driven approach to addressing learning needs and granters are acting on the need to support remediation and catch-up efforts.

RSE launched an **initiative** to create a **Tutor Playbook** with curated alternative teaching strategies and resources for discrete skill gaps identified by our diagnostics. We **expanded** our diagnostics to support upper elementary student readiness for middle school and college-math readiness for those in high-school.

At RSE, we remain committed to supporting students in need. We are hopeful that efforts to make up for lost ground will gain momentum. With your continued support, we will strive to serve.

With deep gratitude,

Co-Founder Board Chair

Maya Szirivasan Asavari UKidve
Co-Founder Co-Founder



## ABOUT READY.SET.EXCEL

#### **Empowering students to succeed**

We envision a world where there is math equity in education: all students have the math skills and self-confidence needed to consider a STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) career or to pursue any life path they may choose.

#### **Our Mission**

Our mission is to empower every student to become confident and successful in math and science. We accomplish by:

- Providing diagnostic services to accurately identify gaps in a student's foundational math skills.
- Supporting educators with real-time data and resources to effectively address student needs and improve math confidence.

- We believe that math is an essential life skill.
- We believe that all students can learn math.
- We believe in a nonjudgmental and affirming approach to learning.
- We believe partnering with educators is essential to the success of our work.
- We believe in diversity in STEM classrooms and workplaces.



### PARTNER SPOTLIGHT







**Tel HI Neighborhood Center** serves people in the Telegraph Hill neighborhood in San Francisco meeting the needs of a culturally, linguistically, and economically diverse community. Its mission is to enhance the lives of the people in its community.

Recognizing the growing math learning needs of many students in the community worsened by COVID and 2+ years of remote/hybrid schooling, Tel HI partnered with Ready.Set.Excel in a **in-person summer program** for upper elementary students - rising 4th, 5th and 6th graders - for **Middle School Math Readiness**. Students attended the program for 4 or 8 weeks.

Using RSE's **newly designed math diagnostic** for upper elementary grades, baselines were established for each student and class-wide learning needs were identified. Guided by this data, the teacher was able to prioritize areas of most need as well as provide **differentiated instruction** to support students who needed extra attention.

To promote **experiential learning**, the teacher included many hands-on activities, games and projects while making use of Tel HI's new Maker Space.

RSE's Post-assessment measured **significant progress** especially in areas of focus. Not surprisingly, students with **consistent attendance** benefitted the most from the summer program.

With the success of the summer program, the **Tel HI-RSE partnership** is continuing through the **school year** to help students with middle school math readiness.

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RSE helped us integrate a data-driven approach to how we teach our students with their diagnostic tools and provided extremely valuable guidance and suggestions along the way. RSE is now a foundational piece of our math curriculum.

**Nestor Fernandez, Tel HI Executive Director** 

65% improvement Decimals

Average across all grades % change based on pre-test

87%
improved
Confidence

35% improvement Graphs

### PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



## College Bound & College Success Programs

High school students in Foundation for a College Education's **College Bound & College Success** programs are committed to obtaining a 4-year college degree. FCE helps underserved students develop the academic skills and self-confidence to succeed in college and beyond.

All students need math competency. Ready.Set.Excel assessed college bound juniors and seniors to evaluate preparedness for college math. Using our proprietary math diagnostics relevant to each student's intended major, we identified the specific pre-requisite math concepts where students would benefit from additional review/instruction to be ready for college math.



As a result of the strong, independent learning approach constructed by RSE, our students entered college with a solid understanding of key resources to access, math classes to enroll in, and strategies to strengthen fundamentals for their respective institutions and majors.

-- Terry Gutirrez, FCE College-Bound Program Manager

Each student received a **customized diagnostic report** containing a recommended **learning plan** and relevant **self-paced resources** including curated instructional videos, practice worksheets and miniquizzes.

Working with their FCE college-counsellor, the students created a plan of action and timeline to address the discrete skill gap identified - either through self-study or working with a tutor/teacher.

For students who started college in Fall 2022, **FCE and RSE** are continuing to support the students by identifying relevant on-campus resources and tracking their progress. We will continue to track and help the students through their college journey.

## DIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS & CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

Cooking or calculating interest payments on a loan or reading a map all require a good understanding of critical middle school arithmetic and algebra concepts. High school science also applies these foundational concepts widely - for example, solving a chemical equation, calculating the speed of a train or the rate of bacteria growth. **Establishing a strong connection of math to real-life and to science is essential.** 

RSE partnered with summer programs which included hands-on projects to promote **experiential learning** by applying math concepts in different contexts.









In the **Academic Edge Math for Chemistry Summer program** rising high school sophomores at Sacred Heart School baked chocolate chip cookies using their knowledge of ratios, fractions and measurement. Students applied dimensional analysis to halve, double or triple a given recipe.

**Dimensional Analysis** in science includes **unit conversions** - for example, converting inches to meters or seconds to hours. Unit conversion is a math skill taught in middle school.

Students were required to perform dimensional analysis on the recipe ingredients **converting** from cups to grams for the flour and sugar and pints to milliliters for the milk. They also had to use ratios and fractions to calculate the appropriate amount of each ingredient according to the recipe. If each of their calculations were correct, each cookie should taste identical.



After the cookies were baked, the students did a thorough taste test to prove that the cookies indeed tasted the same no matter who had baked them **thanks to the magic of math!** 

loved this class, and I absolutely loved conversion factors! It helped me solidify my math skills that I missed from last year.

Math for Chemistry Summer Student

## **OUR SUPPORTERS**





#### THE STANLEY S. LANGENDORF FOUNDATION









Valerie Anderson
Vivek Dhayagude
Rashmi Garg
Mike Krigel
Maya Srinivasan & Tim Misner
Archana Modi
Sue & Lou Pelosi
Mindy Rogers
Ajit Subramaniam
Janice & Brian Sutphin
Asavari Ukidve & Vishy Swaminathan
Renu & Scott Weiss

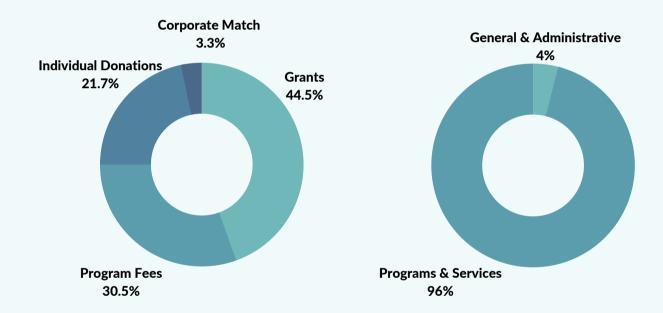
## **OUR FINANCES**

#### **OPERATING REVENUE**

FYE June 30, 2022 \$68,325

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

\$100,484



Due to the pandemic-induced stresses, many non-profits prioritized and could only afford to pay for basic needs. So to offset costs, we had to draw from our reserves to continue providing academic services. In addition, to contain costs, the founders did not take a salary for most of the year.



## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAMS!

#### A SPECIAL THANK YOU! TO THESE INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR ORGANIZATIONS

Mindy Rogers - Long time RSE supporter

Nestor Fernandez - Executive Director, Tel HI Community Center

Diane Sweeney - Science Head, Sacred Heart Preparatory

Seth Linden - Advisor, Gather Consulting

#### **OUR TEAM**

Maya Srinivasan - Co-Founder & President
Asavari Ukidve - Co-Founder & Chief Technology Officer
Sheila Beuerlein - Business Development
Karla Hannah Molina - Content Expert
Kathleen Leo - Content Expert

Ready.Set.Excel
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