THE NEED FOR ON-TIME HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION:
- Full-time workers with a high school diploma earn approximately 21% more than their peers, which is an average of $6,082 more per year.
- Programs that encourage high school completion can improve the graduation rates of high-risk students and communities.

Increased educational attainment can lead to:
- access to better living conditions
- healthier foods
- better health care services
- potential to improve population health

Current graduation rates:
- Hillsborough County - 88% (13,475 out of 15,326)
- Pinellas County - 88% (6,684 out of 7,583)
- While students from financially stable households are graduating at the same rates, fewer economically disadvantaged students are graduating on time.

WHAT IS UWS DOING TO FILL THE GAPS?
Investment: $1,081,695 in 24 Youth Success programs. Of those served, 3,500 reside in UWS zip codes of focus.
- Within this year our partners helped over 400 youth gain work experience via jobs or internships.
- Our partners helped over 3,000 youth gain essential skills related to career readiness and trajectory.

OPERATION GRADUATE
United Way Suncoast leads the Operation Graduate Program, which addresses the need for increased High School Graduation rates by providing ongoing mentoring, tutoring, credit recovery, and college enrollment programs. This year the program directly connected with 60 students to help advance their academic success.

Operation Graduate is a partnership between:
- United Way Suncoast
- Clearwater Police Department
- Pinellas County School District
- St. Petersburg College

For the first time, our students were able to earn 3 college credits as a result of completing our STEM camp. We would not have formed this partnership, but through this grant.

- Gentlemen’s Quest of Tampa

100% of our seniors graduated high school on time, received acceptance to post-secondary educational goals, earned scholarships/financial aid, opened a checking and savings account with secured funds, demonstrated improved mental/emotional health and acquired life-skills through GRAD!

- Starting Right, Now