

# IMPACT AREA PROGRAM OUTCOMES YOUTH SUCCESS



United Way Suncoast provides pathways to education and financial stability that give everyone in our community the freedom to rise. Our community impact strategy leads us to invest funds and resources into specific communities where our ALICE families live. By identifying zones of focus for our investments, we ensure that our partnerships are best positioned to maximize and multiply impact.

## 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.

High risk students are less likely to graduate than their peers. Although the average graduation rate in Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties sits at approximately 88% for each, low-income students graduate at lower rates than their peers as shown in the table below:

County		% Graduated
Hillsborough County	Economically Disadvantaged Students	82.3%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged Students	95.3%
Pinellas County	Economically Disadvantaged Students	82%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged Students	93.6%

## 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

The Operation Graduate program has ended as of June, 2023.

*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**

*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**