



**"I'm going to
miss this place.
It's my second
home."**

Impact Report

2021



About Agassiz Village

OUR MISSION

Agassiz Village is a nonprofit youth development organization whose mission is to “prepare youth for life’s journey.” Through our exceptional summer camp experience and year-long programming, youth develop and practice critical leadership and life-shaping skills that positively impact their futures. For 86 years, children from under-resourced communities in Maine and Massachusetts have come to our 330-acre lakefront overnight camp in Poland, Maine to experience unique learning opportunities, be challenged to discover interests, uncover new skills, make lifetime friendships, and connect with inspiring mentors. In addition, teens in our year-round program, are supported to graduate high-school and prepare to be career/college ready.

Diversity of Kids served:

African-American/Black – 61%

Latinx/Hispanic– 16%

Caucasian/White – 16%

Asian – 1%

Other—6%

OUR VISION AND PROGRAMS

Our vision is that children from Maine to Massachusetts, regardless of economic opportunity, experience Agassiz Village’s joyful, welcoming, and diverse community that inspires and enables them to explore new experiences and create the futures they envision.

We provide three programs:

Summer Camp Program, Coed, ages 8-13

Kids experience a two-week program that provides experiential learning activities including hiking, swimming, canoeing, ropes course, climbing wall, sports, creative arts, and archery. Kids learn to ACT: ACHIEVE goals, CONNECT with others and THRIVE as individuals.

Teen Advancement Program (TAP), coed, ages 14-15

Teens experience a two-week program that focuses on goal setting, positive decision-making, teamwork, tolerance, compromise, integrity, role modeling & community service. Teens also enjoy traditional camp activities like swimming, canoeing, and dance.

Leaders in Training (LIT), coed, ages 16-17

This year-round program starts in the summer with opportunities to learn various jobs on camp and continues with monthly workshops focused on leadership, social change, financial education, college readiness, career pathways, and high school completion.

By the Numbers

44

campers
remained on
the waitlist

864

Hours of summer
programming

352

Youth
enrolled
in the
summer
of 2021

92%

of campers qualify
for free or reduced
lunch program/live
at 185% of poverty or
below

94%

of youth
explored new
activities and
stepped out of
their comfort
zone

95%

of youth reported they
had positive and
supportive adult role
models

100%

of families receive
financial aid and
pay \$144 on average
for two weeks of
summer camp

0

Cases of
Covid-19

97%

of youth demonstrated gains in at least one SEL capacity

55%

Grew their self-management skills: the ability to regulate their emotions and behavior, take positive risks, and persist through life's challenges.

56%

Grew their social skills: the ability to take others' perspectives into account, and to develop a sense of caring and empathy

61%

Grew their Academic Self-Efficacy: A young person's motivation and perceived mastery over their own learning, school performance, and potential to attain academic success.

Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) is imbedded into all of our programs and activities and has an immediate, positive impact on youth experiences. We measure growth in five areas: academic self-efficacy, social skills, contribution, self-management and positive identity. According to CASEL, "SEL is the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions." These "capacities" are critical to young people's development and promote long-term academic gains, college and career success and overall thriving.

Many studies shows SELs positive outcomes, such as higher graduation rates, lower drug use, and lower incarceration rates.

Data shows that our campers:

- (1) Increase their ability to reflect and understand themselves.
- (2) Identify positives about themselves and show personal improvement. And
- (3) Set tangible goals to build more positive relationships.

By the Numbers

Neveah's Story

For the last five years, Neveah has called Agassiz Village her summer home. "I'm from Brockton and I don't live in a bad part of Brockton per se but there's just a lot of things that happen there and when I get off the bus at Agassiz no one knows any of it and it's like a fresh start for me and I get to let everything go," said Neveah.

Neveah participated in Agassiz Teen Advancement program this year. "In the TAP program we have been setting goals. My goal is to get my anger issues under control and to better myself. I learned to take a few breaths or take a break when I get frustrated or upset and I have been writing in my Agassiz journal at night and it helps me to get my feelings out without other people knowing about it," said Neveah.

"Kids need camp because a few days before camp I went through a lot of stuff at home with my mental health and coming to camp you unplug and there is nothing to worry about...

...Camp has always been my little getaway and keeps me out of Brockton and off the street and because when kids have time on their hands they do dumb things. I don't know what I would do without Agassiz."



Thank you to all of our amazing donors! We would not be here without YOU!!

Special thanks to our year-round staff:

Lisa Carter, Executive Director
Camille Ridge, Program Director
Tim Pearson, Facilities Manager
Susannah Benn, Development Coordinator

Thank you to our Board of Directors:

Leslie Hoyt, President
Theresa O'Bryant, Vice President
Jonathan Gillim, Treasurer
Ellen Corbett, Clerk
Allison Burroughs
Cheryl Dalrymple
Che Elwell
Wendy Horn
Amanda Karomba
Ben Kern
Jon Levy
Nimish Shah
Arnie Stewart
Kelly Swaney
Thomas Thrasher
Sean Toland

"Agassiz is an amazing community of encouraging people and endless opportunity."



We thank you for your continued support. Look out for our full annual report in January

Agassiz Village

185 Dean Street Suite 206
Norwood, MA 02062
781-860-0200
www.agassizvillage.org
sbenn@agassizvillage.org