

After-School Programs

Through our Nashville After Zone Alliance (NAZA) after-school program, middle school students receive tutoring, homework help, and fun hands-on activities throughout the school year.



Service Learning

Aware of the damaging effects of the pandemic, our middle school students decided to take a deep dive into the issue of evictions and homelessness. During a service learning project as part of the UnidosUS CASA (Cultura, Aprendizaje, Servicio, Acción) program, the students organized information sessions with elected officials and other experts to learn more about the issue and become better social

justice advocates in their community. The students met with Council Member Sandra Sepúlveda, Judge Ana Escobar, attorney David Esquivel, and moderated a panel with Diego Eguiarte—Mayor Cooper’s Director of Performance Management—and several Conexión Américas staff members. The students also organized a fundraiser for Safe Haven Family Shelter, a shelter that houses family units together.

223

recent arrival and English Learner high school students received educational support, mentoring, and referrals

52

middle school students participated in our NAZA virtual after-school program

99

middle school students and their families in our GEAR UP program

21

middle school GEAR UP students participated in a 2020 virtual summer camp

GEAR UP

Through a partnership with Metro Schools, Conexión Américas works with a cohort of future first generation college students from middle school until the class enters post-secondary education. GEAR UP, which stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. Through GEAR UP, we

supported Spanish-speaking families as schools transitioned to virtual learning, and connected families to our food distribution events and rental assistance program. In a virtual summer camp, students learned how to prepare for a successful high school career.