

And this is why the HAMLIN HAWKS ARE ROCKIN'



# Impact Report

2022-2023



**AMERICA  
SCORES**  
Chicago

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# Our Story So Far

**Building the confidence and character to succeed —on the field, in the classroom and in life.**

Since 2000, we've accomplished that goal by delivering free after-school and summer programming that combines three equally fun, powerful activities: soccer, poetry and service-learning. Together they help us shape enthusiastic students into Poet-Athletes, who grow passionate about our program's activities—and grow actively engaged in our communities, city and world.

## Our Mission

The mission of America SCORES Chicago is to inspire youth to lead healthy lives, be engaged students, and have the confidence and character to make a difference in the world. We achieve this mission through daily after school and summer programming that combines soccer, poetry, and service-learning.

## Our Vision

America SCORES Chicago envisions a world where all youth find their voice, achieve their goals, and unleash their full potential.

# Our Objectives



1

**Improve Participants'  
Literacy Skills  
and Habits**



2

**Improve Students'  
Eating and Fitness  
Habits**



3

**Achieve Character  
and Social Emotional  
Development**



4

**Increase Students'  
Level of Civic  
Engagement**

# Our Community

America SCORES Chicago provided 66,150 LIA Participant Hours in 2022-2023 at 18 schools in 8 neighborhoods across West and Southwest Chicago.

## Chicago Lawn

-Catalyst Maria

## East Garfield Park

-LEARN 7 Elementary School  
-LEARN 8 Middle School  
-LEARN Excel

## Gage Park

-Tonti Elementary School

## Little Village

-McCormick Elementary School  
-Eli Whitney Elementary School  
-Cardenas Elementary School

## North Lawndale

-Sumner Math & Science  
Community Academy  
-Mason Elementary School  
-Plamondon Elementary School  
-Lawndale Elementary School

## Back of the Yards

-Hedges Fine  
& Performing Arts  
School  
-Hamline Elementary  
School

## Pilsen

-Orozco Community Academy  
-Whittier Dual Language  
Magnet School  
-Pilsen Community Academy

## Humboldt Park

-Cameron Public School

# Our Poet-Athletes



## Race & Ethnicity

- 67.5% Hispanic
- 28% Black/African-American
- 2.5% Multiracial
- 1% White
- 1% Other



## Gender

- 52.6% Male
- 47.3% Female
- 0.1% Gender Non Conforming or Prefer Not To Answer

88.7% of students qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch



47.7% of students are ESL



93% of students reported program satisfaction



# 86%

of students felt a sense of team or group identity

# 75%

of students increased the number of adult social capital in their lives



# 87%

of Parents and Families reported that, because of participation in SCORES, their child has more friends

# 100%

of Parents and Families reported that, because of participation in SCORES, their child is getting better at setting and reaching goals

# 99%

of Parents and Families reported that, because of participation in SCORES, their child is more confident making healthy choices

## Our Impact

The U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory on the Healing Effects of Social Connection and Community, published May 3, 2023, warns that the rate of loneliness among young adults has increased every year since 1976. Loneliness and social isolation negatively impacts physical and mental health, increasing the risk of depression, anxiety, dementia, cardiovascular disease and premature death. The U.S. Surgeon General's National Strategy to Advance Social Connection calls on philanthropists to "invest in existing successful programs that advance social connection among individuals and within communities."

For more than 20 years, America SCORES Chicago has provided youth with regular opportunities and spaces to develop social skills and strengthen relationships, while promoting quality adult support from family and school staff, through our flagship program Literacy in Action. Our nationally developed and refined curriculum, which combines soccer, poetry and service learning, along with our coach training, prioritizes peer-to-peer and peer-to-adult bonds that promote positive youth development outcomes and answers the urgent call of the U.S. Surgeon General.



## A Note From Our Executive Director

Reflecting on my first full program year as Executive Director of America SCORES Chicago fills me with gratitude, pride and purpose. It has been a remarkable joy working with an incredible staff, getting to know our partners in Chicago's sports-based youth development community, and, of course, celebrating our amazing poet-athletes.

The 2022-2023 academic year brought more sharply into focus the challenges our youth face in a post-quarantine world and the need for high quality out-of-school-time programs like America SCORES Chicago's Literacy in Action. Our poet-athletes build strong bonds with their peers and their coaches, feel a sense of belonging, understand how to contribute to their team, set and achieve goals, and use their voice to make an impact in their communities. The sum total of the thousands of hours that our poet-athletes spend with their coaches on the pitch and in the classroom is far greater than the number of poems written or games played - it is the positive youth development outcomes that chart them on a course for success in the classroom and beyond.

What we are able to accomplish depends on the generous contributions of time and talent from schools, families, coaches and supporters who believe in our mission. On behalf of the America SCORES Chicago Executive Board, Development Board and staff, thank you for your partnership and your enthusiasm to serve our poet-athletes. To our poet-athletes: you inspire me and the entire America SCORES Chicago team with your effort, your energy, your point of view and your desire to make our world better.

I am heartened and energized to extend the reach and deepen the impact of America SCORES Chicago through this upcoming school year and beyond.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in our critical mission.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Kevin Triskett". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kevin Triskett, Executive Director  
America SCORES Chicago



# Acknowledgements

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ZS



**We thank you for your  
continued support in  
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