



United Way for Greater Austin



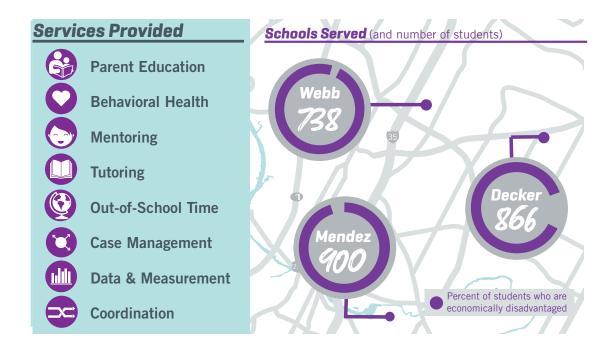
Jose, Webb Middle School Student

TARGET GRADUATION Keeping middle school students on the path to high school graduation

Overview

Helping middle school students graduate

United Way for Greater Austin's (UWATX) Target Graduation program ensures high-risk youth are on the path to high school graduation by implementing broad, system-wide interventions to positively impact individual student performance and the culture of learning. Through deep and broad partnerships with nonprofits and schools, Middle School Matters strives to ensure students have a wide range of academic, health and social services. Target Graduation supports student resilience, strengthens families and engages students with the surrounding community through high-quality programming.



The Need for Services

UWATX selected these three middle schools based on the percentage of students identified as being at-risk for dropping out, standardized test passing rates, percentage of youth eligible for free/reduced lunch and campus accountability ratings.

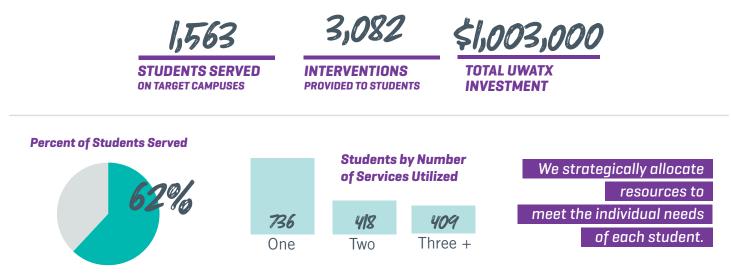
Youth Program Quality Initiative/ Out-of-School Time

The Youth Program Quality initiative provides research-based assessments and trainings, giving out-of-school time youth workers the tools they need to create dynamic and positive experiences for students. By coordinating assessments and method trainings open to everyone in the community, UWATX ensures that students across Austin receive the full benefits of high-quality programming led by skilled professionals. This past year, more than 250 out-of-school time professionals received training through the Youth Program Quality initiative!

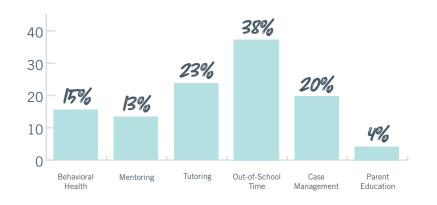
The Future

Our goal is to continue to work closely with community leaders and nonprofit agencies to increase local access to high quality out-of-school programs. We will also continue to work with campus administration and partners to fund coordination of high quality services to meet individual student needs.

Overall Impact



Percent of Students by Service 2013-14



What teachers say about Middle School Matters

70% Saw a positive change in an individual student who was receiving support from UWATX

90% Think these support services enhance academic performance

70% Observed improvement in an individual student's behavior or performance as a result of Middle School Matters

Target Graduation Summer Learning Camp

More than 100 students from Decker Middle School made the most of their summer by attending the UWATX Decker Summer program. While at camp, students engaged in STEM skill-building and learned everything from outdoor skills to filmmaking and volunteer leadership. Summer camp provided access to new experiences and new friends, but it also kept students engaged in learning so that they returned to school prepared for success.





Pogramming Delivered



Decker Middle School

Decker Middle School is located in the rapidly growing Manor region. Students are predominately Latino and African American. Prior to UWATX Middle School Matters, the school had a limited number of service providers supporting students. Over this past year we served 383 students and provided 768 interventions!



FCONOMICALLY

DISADVANTAGED

STUDEN



FOR DROPPING OUT

\$303,000

ANNUAL UWATX INVESTMENT

Services Provided		
		Percent of teachers who
Behavioral Health	123	agree that these types of
		services impact a studen
Mentoring	99	academic performance.
Tutoring	114	Percent of Students Served
Out-of-School Time	222	1/10/
Case Management	125	7470
Parent Education	45	

MEETING THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS

"Middle School Matters has been **a huge asset to the Decker campus** and families. We are located in an area where there are few, if any resources...having a well-rounded group of **skilled professionals** has been vital to providing **effective interventions for students**." MSM Decker Provider

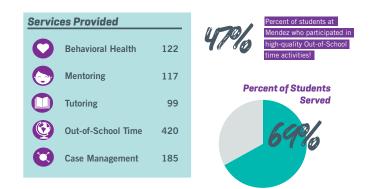
Mendez Middle School

Mendez Middle School, which is located in the Dove Springs neighborhood, serves a predominantly Latino population. All 900 students on the campus have access to the Family Resource Center, a hub for family and student support services. This year, we served close to 70% of the total student population.





ANNUAL UWATX INVESTMENT



IMPROVEMENT OF ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

"UWATX's Middle School Matters is very crucial to our campus. **It provides the services that our students need to be successful.**" Mendez Middle School Teacher

More than 60% of students who received UWATX-funded **behavioral support** services **passed one or more of their STARR exams.** Family Resource Survey 2014

Webb Middle School

Webb Middle School is a predominantly Latino school in the St. John's neighborhood where 60% of all children in the community live in poverty. Prior to Middle School Matters, the school did not have a coordinated system to support students receiving services. This past year we provided more than 1,000 interventions and the campus is now on an upward academic path.

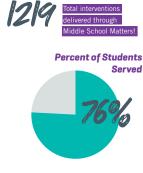






ANNUAL UWATX INVESTMENT





IMPROVEMENT OF CAMPUS CULTURE

"Middle School Matters plays an integral role in educating our children, **supporting our families** and helping to **keep the instructional focus at school**. They are literally the crutch **we depend on to better serve the social and emotional needs of our kids.** Our school is so fortunate to be able to lean on them during critical times." Webb Middle School Principal

2014 Middle School Matters Funded Partners

The Arc of the Capital Area | Austin Child Guidance Center | Austin Partners in Education | Camp Fire | Big Brothers Big Sisters Boys and Girls Club of the Austin Area | Center for Child Protection | Communities in Schools of Central Texas | Creative Action GENaustin LifeWorks | SafePlace | The Austin Project