



Your Support Is Making a BIG Difference

Since ACE opened its doors in 2008, your generosity has made it possible for 1,100 previously struggling students to transform their lives and thrive in school. ACE recruits the most disengaged middle school students in East San Jose, and by the time those students graduate from high school, 98% meet the requirements to attend a four-year university and the vast majority successfully enroll in college.



In the midst of this crisis, your support is helping us provide even more to our families. In the last few weeks, we have been able to:

- Support 400 families with laptops and internet hot spots in their homes
- Provide online classes—including counseling and services for Special Needs students—to 1,100 middle and high school students in Downtown and East San Jose
- Serve 800 meals per day to San Jose families in need

None of this would have been possible without you. On behalf of all of the families we serve, and the staff whose work you support—thank you.

Our commitment to our mission and our communities is even stronger now, and the challenges our students face even greater. For ways you can help ACE students continue to learn and grow during the pandemic and beyond, please [click here](#).

College Dreams Coming True for ACE High School Seniors

COVID-19 has changed much, but at ACE, our focus is always the same: helping previously struggling students reach their goals and become the first in their family to attend college. 60 seniors from the ACE Class of 2020 have applied to college and 100% have completed the FAFSA/Dream Application—please see this [Class of 2020 College Update](#) to see the schools where our seniors have been accepted. Congratulations to them and their families!



“Coming from East San Jose, I didn’t have any friends or family that went to a university, so I didn’t see the possibilities. ACE made me realize that no matter where you come from, you’re capable if you just work hard enough.”

—Wendy Solis, ACE Class of 2017, UC Merced Class of 2021

ACE Annual #IChooseCollege Event Is Postponed

Unfortunately, ACE's 2nd Annual **#IChooseCollege** Event scheduled for Sunday, April 26th will be postponed; we will share the new date as soon as plans are finalized. Registered attendees, speakers, and sponsors will receive a separate email regarding next steps.

ACE Awarded Digital Inclusion Grant

As part of Mayor Liccardo's Smart City Vision, ACE was awarded \$50,000 as part of the **Digital Inclusion** project to bring online learning to some of the highest-need families in San Jose. Right now, this grant is helping ACE provide laptops and internet hotspots to 400 students so they can keep working toward college success from home.



Remembering ACE Founder Susan Hammer (1938-2020)

ACE joins the entire San Jose community in mourning the passing of one of its founders, Mayor Susan Hammer. ACE's success in helping young people transform their lives is thanks in large part to the leadership and dedication of Mayor Hammer, who served as ACE's founding Board Chair.

Whether she was talking to elected officials, funders or an ACE parent, Susan's genuine passion for the people she served was the guiding light for our whole organization. Former ACE Board Chair Tamara Alvarado remembers:

“Susan opened the doors for me and mentored me. She was a role model for younger people, women and people of color, giving us an opportunity to bring our skills and perspective to important conversations, policy development and decision-making. While I grieve her loss to our community, I celebrate her spirit, her decisiveness and generosity.”

For more about Susan, and the incredible impact she had on our city and community, please see tributes in [San Jose Spotlight](#) and [The Mercury News](#).

Thank You To All Our Supporters

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our sponsors who have already committed to supporting our event, as well as all of the donors and funders who make ACE's work possible.

Please visit our website to stay updated at www.acecharter.org.



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