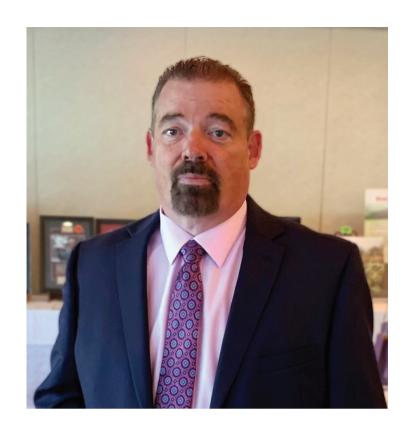




ANNUAL | 2022

#### Dear friends,

As we come together to reflect upon another impactful year, I am filled with profound gratitude and unwavering pride for the collective achievements of Children Across America (CAA). Inspired by the cherished values instilled in me by my beloved grandparents and armed with a humble twenty-five thousand dollars of seed money from my grandmother, I embarked on a heartfelt journey in 2007 to create CAA.



We have always been resolute in our vision— to make a tangible and lasting difference in the lives of children from underserved immigrant families in America. The knowledge that one in every four kids in these communities never graduates from high school troubles us deeply. Since our inception, we have dedicated ourselves to challenging this statistic and tirelessly working to provide brighter prospects for these childrens' futures.

At Children Across America, we believe in nurturing not only academic excellence but also igniting the flame of curiosity and passion within every child who enters our doors. Whether it's coding, engineering, the arts, or any other field they may be interested in, we wholeheartedly encourage exploration, learning, and growth in our after–school, Saturday, and summer programs in STEM, reading, and the arts. Our mission is to provide a robust educational foundation for underserved children in grades K–5, where they can learn, have fun, and bond with classmates from diverse backgrounds. Through these shared experiences, they discover the beauty of equality and embrace the richness of their peers' customs.

Over the years, we have borne witness to the transformative power of our programs, as our children have embraced learning with unparalleled enthusiasm and passion. It warms my heart to know that CAA has been able to serve over a thousand children annually, leaving an indelible impact on their lives.

Our commitment extends beyond the confines of the classroom; we firmly believe in a holistic approach to empower these young minds fully. Our kids' safety program, led by the lovable Bucky, imparts essential lessons on fire, water, boating, and bike safety – ensuring their wellbeing in every aspect of life.



I am incredibly proud to share that Children Across America remains an organization where your support translates directly into transforming the lives of these children and their families. With an all-volunteer staff and minimal expenses, at least 85 percent of every dollar donated goes directly towards assisting the kids and acquiring the necessary resources for their growth and development.

The joy and warmth that radiate from these children, the countless hugs, and the infectious smiles they share with us are the true rewards of our work. Knowing that our efforts contribute to building a better and stronger community fills us with a profound sense of purpose.

We are immensely grateful for the unwavering support of local and national companies, whose dedication has bolstered the list of our loyal supporters. Together, we are nurturing the next generation of employees, citizens, and leaders in our communities, and your participation and contributions play a vital role in shaping a brighter tomorrow.

As we embark on another year of purposeful endeavors, I wholeheartedly invite you to join hands with these generous companies and explore how you too can make a significant difference. Your support will undoubtedly pave the way for these young children to embrace a lifetime of learning and success.

In closing, let us always remember that a child who reads today becomes an adult who thinks tomorrow. Together, let us empower these young minds and collectively build a brighter future for all.

With heartfelt appreciation and warm regards,

#### Ray Fellows

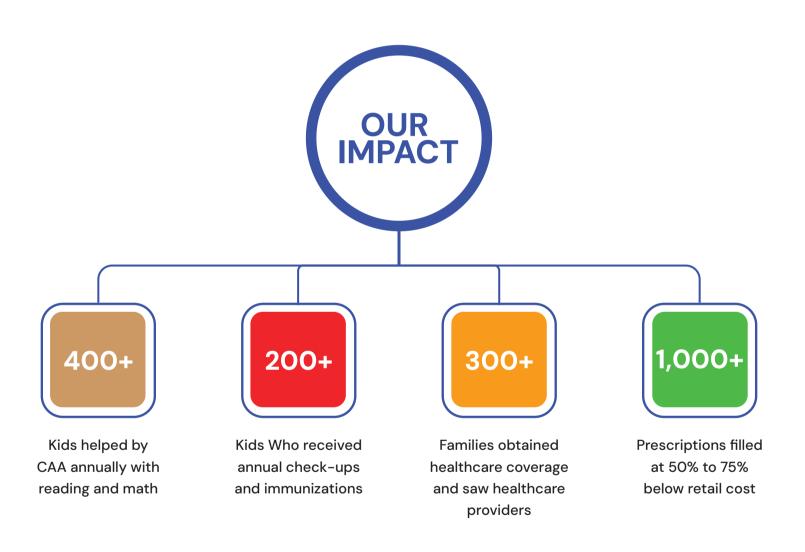
Founder and Executive Director, Children Across America

### **OUR MISSION**

Our mission at Children Across America is to provide educational equity to underserved children across the nation, empowering families and children in low-income communities through literacy support and access to preventative healthcare.

#### **OUR VISION**

Guided by an unwavering commitment, we inspire and uplift children and families within underserved communities, providing them with access to essential resources and fundamental skills vital for their lasting success, educational journey, and personal growth.



We also collaborated with other nonprofit organizations and helped provide hot meals to children during book clubs.

## **PROGRAMS**

Children Across America was founded over a decade ago to provide programs and activities to support children's growing education and preventative healthcare. For educational programs, we focus on using the STREAM program which advances students' skills in Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts and Math. Our educational programs are effective, fun, and free! Students end the programs equipped with a motivated and positive mindset. We are also committed to supporting access to healthcare by connecting families to the right resources. Discover and explore our programs as described below.



# **GREEN INITIATIVES**

Children Across America believes in educating children about the benefits of going green. We partner with local nonprofit organizations and businesses to explore the topics of organic gardening, sustainability, renewable energy, and clean water and air programs. We are committed to educating the next generation about current and emerging practices and technologies that can better our planet and improve our way of life for generations to come.





#### SUMMER STREAM CLUB

All students experience learning loss over summer vacation, but did you know that underserved children lose more than two months in reading achievement compared to their middle-class peers? Limited access to educational activities over summer break is one cause of the achievement gap. The Summer STREAM Club fills this gap with fun, educational activities so kids enjoy learning over the summer.

Themes include Earth, Space, Water Adventures, Animal Exploration, Superheroes, and Fantasy (unicorns, dragons, mermaids).

#### SATURDAY STREAM CLUB

STREAM stands for Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math.

The Saturday STREAM Club meets on Saturdays during the school year and offers fun activities for kids focused on science, robotics, coding, and math.







#### GIRLS LOVE TO CODE

Girls Love to Code is a STEM program for girls in grades K-5 to learn more about coding. The program takes place on Saturdays during the school year at the same time as the Saturday STREAM Club.

In the United States, the gender gap in STEM appears early in life and continues persistently showing up along education and career pathways, diminishing the likelihood with each step that a woman will work and thrive in a STEM field.

Despite comparable levels of achievement between the genders in K-12 science and mathematics, by middle school, boys are already twice as likely to show interest in a science or engineering-related job; by college they are five times more likely to choose a STEM career path. In the STEM workplace, male-dominated company cultures, lack of women's representation at leadership levels, and gender biases hinder the successful retention and progression of women in STEM careers.

# HEALTH PROMOTION IN MOTION

Children Across America educates families on preventative health care.

We partner with healthcare facilities and local organizations, such as libraries to spread the word about Mass Health and assist with obtaining coverage. We also become these families' health advocates, following up on all correspondence with the state to assure they receive the coverage they need. Once coverage has been approved, we connect them with a local pediatrician.



## KIDS SAFETY PROGRAMS



When kids have good self-esteem, they learn better and are more productive members of society. Furthermore, a strong sense of self-wroth can serve as a powerful deterrent against bullying, contributing to breaking the cycle of such behavior. Children Across America's anti-bullying program teaches kids that bullying is NOT about the victim, it's about the bully. Through anti-bullying and "in their shoes" classes, in partnership with local police departments and school districts, children are educated about bullying and the impact that it has on others, helping them to understand the importance of empathy and respect.



Children Across America's bike safety program teaches kids how to be safe and avoid injuries while riding a bike. Guests from the local police department join us to talk to kids about bike safety. CAA is also delighted to give away free helmets and bikes during special giveaway days with support from our sponsors!



Children Across America's Fire Safety Program teaches kids and their families how to recognize a fire and stay safe during fire emergencies. With the help of our lovable baby elephant called "911" and the support of local police and fire departments, we educate families about how to be prepared for fire emergencies.



Nationwide, vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death for children aged 12 and under. Size-appropriate car seats installed and used correctly significantly reduce the risk of death and injury to children involved in car accidents. Children Across America is dedicated to ensuring kids' safety in any vehicle. Learn more by attending one of CAA's safety seminars held throughout the year.



Children Across America's water safety program teaches kids and their families how to be safe when swimming or playing in water. Guests from the local fire department join us to talk to families about the essentials of water safety.

#### **BOARD OF FINANCIAL DIRECTORS STATEMENT**

**RAY FELLOWS** 

MAUREEN OSBORNE

**VANESSA HOBSON** 

MICHAEL HOPKINSON

**SUDARSHAN BASAPPA** 

**TAYLOR MCCLAFFERTY** 

TINA KARUNARATNE

TRAVIS GUILLETTE

**ZANE ALDOORY** 

**GUSTAVO MONTOYA** 

**DANIELLA SUSSMAN** 

JOSEPH POTTACKAL

**MONICA VIDELA** 

**ALEX FARONE** 

FINANCIAL SUPPORT HIGHLIGHTS	2022
GRANTS	\$63,718.00
Amelia Peabody	\$25,000
Hopkinton Country Club Charitable Foundation	\$10,000
The MathWorks	\$2000
Town Fair Tire	\$1000
Walmart	\$1000
Dollar general	\$1000
Southland Corp/7-11	\$1500
Fidelity Investments	\$1000
CAA FUNDRAISING ( COMEDY SHOWS)	\$6120.52
DONATIONS	\$6582.70
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION (Non-Monetary Contributions Such as Goods, Services, or Resources)	\$68,542.50
School Supply Kits from Staples	\$47,000
Technology Equipment from Neoxam (11 Laptops, 7 ThinkPads, and 2 iPads)	\$12,000
Bicycle Donations from TeamBonding	\$3000
Miscellaneous Donations	\$6542.50

#### **COMMUNITIES WE SERVE**

- Metrowest and Suffolk, MA
- Burrillville, RI
- · Putnam, CT
- · South Shore, MA
- Silicon Valley, CA



**MAKE A DONATION** 

When you give, 100% of every dollar goes straight to our mission. Thank you for your donations!



**SPONSOR A CHILD** 

You can help a child attend our Summer STREAM Club and Saturday STREAM Clubs.



**DONATE A VEHICLE** 

We have partnered with CARS, a non-profit which helps charities by making vehicle donations easy.



**VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME** 

Volunteers are integral to our organization. Learn about different ways your time can be of value.

For information, please contact: info@childrenacrossamerica.org

www.childrenacrossamerica.org







