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|  | **RELATIONSHIPS GROW.** **LEADERS EMERGE.** **COMMUNITIES CHANGE.**  |

**WHO WE ARE**

Project Transformation Rio Texas (PT) is a triple bottom line organization focused on transforming communities by engaging Children, College-age students, and Churches in purposeful relationships. PT envisions a world that is rooted in love, pursues the equity of all people, and amplifies God’s call on every life.

**Our team**

* 4-full-time permanent staff
* 5-summer camp site churches
* School Year Weekly Virtual Reading Buddies
* 30+ summer and after-school college staff
* 200+ summer volunteers

**Our approach to community transformation: The 3 Cs**

* **Children** from overburdened neighborhoods improve their literacy, social-emotional, and spiritual development through participating in out-of-school time programs.
* **College** students invest in the lives of underserved children while being equitably compensated and living in community, exploring their calling, and developing as servant leaders.
* **Churches** in underserved communities host PT’s out-of-school time programs, reconnecting and building relationships with their neighbors.

**Our programs**

PT's community-oriented summer day camp programming for children is led by young adult collegiates seeking leadership development and professional experience. Our programs are designed to target systemic challenges in the children and families served by forming deep relationships that build trust in a restorative process. It is through these relationships that a lasting impact is made, and lives are transformed.

**THE ISSUE: Children living in poverty need individualized intervention to improve their chance for academic success**

* 75% of participating children were behind in grade-level reading.
* Students who have lived in poverty are three times more likely to drop out or fail to graduate on time than their more affluent peers.
* Students who do not read proficiently by the end of third grade are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma than proficient readers.
* Mounting evidence documents how the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in substantial learning loss and increased education inequity.

**THE SOLUTION: A snapshot of our differentiators**

* Passionate college students who need equitable compensation and professional experience implement our programs and serve as role models
* Children participate in literacy focused summer and out of school time programs
* 1:8 intern to child ratio
* Holistic programming centered around Social Emotional Learning
* Daily one-on-one Reading Buddy time (weekly during the school year)
* Restorative practices

**THE IMPACT: Proof that children succeed, leaders emerge, and communities change**

* 98% of the children served in summer 2023 maintained or improved their reading level
* 99% of parents felt welcomed and safe
* 100% of young adult alumni say that PT prepared them for future leadership in the church or community

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| **OUR HISTORY**  |
| 2015 | **Founded in San Antonio** Opened summer camps at three sites under the Rio Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. |
| 2018 | **Expanded to the Rio Grande Valley** |
| January 2020 | **Became an independent 501(c)3** |
| 2020 | **Expanded to Austin and pivoted to safely meet Pandemic needs** |
| 2021 | **Year 2 of the pandemic** Smaller programming with an even more profound impact meeting academic and social emotional challenges for both college students and children. |
| 2022 | **Meeting the summer and pandemic slide**Demonstrated mental health and academic structure challenges were prominent. Our commitment to restorative justice, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), and trauma-informed care positively impacted all 3 Cs. |
| 2023 | **Transition of Leadership and Staff**While academic and social emotional challenges continue to be prominent and a new staff took the helm, our committed leadership and practices ensured a successful summer for all 3 C’s. |

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| **OUR FUTURE****EMERGING INTO A NEW LANDSCAPE, FILLING THE CURENT NEED**Each year, **children** come to PT with their academic bucket, and sometimes life buckets, less than full. Pandemic emptied buckets even further. PT fills life buckets by improving literacy levels and providing staples like food and emotional support for **children** and families. PT also acknowledges that **college** students struggle to make ends meet and find professional experience, so PT is committed to an equitable salary and benefits for the college students it hires as PT builds professional skills and provides space for growth and discernment.**PROJECT TRANSFORMATION IS READY****Our Finances are in Order**9 years of serving Central and South Texas with data driven results has led to vital funders, individual, corporate, and private, supporting this work. This has allowed us to meet our budget goals and grow impactful programming, sustaining building and operational costs. **A Dedicated and Committed Board of Directors**Our board of directors and staff are committed to the mission and have the passion and expertise to ensure that children thrive, college students are ready, and churches are anchored. |

**CONTRIBUTE TO OUR CAUSE**

A gift to Project Transformation is a gift to children and college students — more than 90% of PT's budget is invested directly in people. Here are some ways your gift will make a difference for our people.

* $45 Supports summer day camp for one day for a child
* $200 Supports one child for two weeks of programming
* $350 Supports an intern living in community
* $1,500 Support one child for a holistic summer experience
* $4,500 Allows one intern to experience a life-changing summer of service and ministry

**Give today at www.PTRioTexas.org**

