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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am thrilled to present our annual report for 2022-2023, a year that has been nothing short of remarkable for our organization. As we reflect on the past 12 months, it continues to be abundantly clear that our work and our mission resonate with many. It has been our growth over the past year that has been most remarkable and notable.

Our organizational capacity has grown significantly. We have expanded our team with dedicated individuals who share our passion and commitment to our mission. This growth has allowed us to not only reach more youth but also to deepen our impact and raise the quality of our work. With more staff, we have been able to provide more personalized support to our student-athletes, ensuring that they receive the guidance and mentorship they need to thrive.

In particular, our academic and enrichment programs have flourished. We have broadened both our academic and enrichment activities, ensuring that our participants have access to quality resources and experiences that empower them to succeed. From tutoring to career exploration, our expanded offerings have opened up new horizons for our youth. The results have been inspiring, as we witness the impact of our programs and the doors they open. Many of them are not only excelling in their studies but also setting ambitious goals for their futures.

Financially, we are at our strongest footing to date, thanks to the unwavering support of our community and generous donors. This financial stability allows us to dream bigger, reach farther, and make a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve. It has enabled us to invest in our capacity, provide more scholarships, and expand our outreach efforts to under-resourced communities.

As we move forward, we remain deeply committed to nurturing the relationships that have been at the core of our success. Our culture of collaboration, inclusivity, and empowerment will continue to drive us toward excellence. We are actively fostering new partnerships with likeminded organizations and supporters, further amplifying our impact. We are also finding new and exciting ways to engage with our growing alumni base, a particular group of our family that we know will continue to help forge our pathway.

I invite each of you to delve into this annual report, witness the strides we have made, and join us in our vision for the future. Together, we are poised to close the opportunity gap for kids across Dallas and beyond. Thank you for your unwavering support.

DAVID HIGBEE david@bridgelacrosse.org 918.808.4450



## ABOUT **BRIDGE LACROSSE**

In the early 2000s, as the sport of lacrosse began to grow in Texas, our founder, Edie Lycke, harbored a deep commitment to ensuring its accessibility for all. With a longstanding advocacy for under-resourced communities, Edie saw a burgeoning opportunity. In 2004, she, along with a handful of volunteers, hosted a small lacrosse clinic at St. Philip's School & Community Center. Over the following years, as interest continued to grow, Edie played a pivotal role in establishing boys' and girls' lacrosse programs for youth in southern Dallas. These early efforts and growing momentum would eventually coalesce into the formation of Bridge Lacrosse Dallas in 2008.

Quickly, Edie began to realize that lacrosse could serve as a powerful tool and vehicle for offering opportunities and experiences that differed from what was prevalent in the neighborhoods of southern Dallas. It was from these early realizations and collective efforts that Bridge Lacrosse emerged, shaping our mission of broadening horizons and contributing to closing the opportunity gap.

Our legacy in the lacrosse community and the broader philanthropic circles of Dallas fills us with immense pride. Our year-round programs have introduced the sport of lacrosse to thousands of student-athletes, and our enduring culture has enabled us to play a significant, positive, and influential role in their lives. As a sports-based youth development nonprofit, our mission aligns with various initiatives aimed at supporting children, including education, physical health, wellness, and community development. With nearly two decades of impact, we deeply cherish the enduring relationships we have cultviated with our surrounding community.









# WHO WE SERVE

Bridge Lacrosse serves Kindergarten through 12th grade students with a focus on majority lowincome, majority Black and brown communities in southern Dallas county. Specifically, we work within the neighborhoods of Oak Cliff, Fair Park, South Dallas, Pleasant Grove, West Dallas, and Cedar Crest, spanning ZIP codes such as 75216, 75217, 75208, 75232, and 75227. However, our programs are open to all regardless of geographic area. Southern Dallas is 42% Black, 38% Hispanic/Latinx, 18% White and 2% other races, and much of our programs are similarly represented by these demographics.

For almost 20 years, we have worked in these communities, while also attracting kids and families from many of the outlying suburban and rural areas as well. Through our positive outcomes and reputation, we have been able to enroll youth and families from a growing and larger geographic area, while always focusing on expanding to comparable neighborhoods who have never been exposed to the Indigenous sport of lacrosse.

In 2022-2023, our programs worked with more than 800 student-athletes from 100 different schools, including those from Dallas ISD, Cedar Hill, Lancaster, DeSoto, Irving as well as Uplift and other small charter schools, and home-schooled students. This network has allowed us to work with a wide range of kids.

- 2022-2023 Program Numbers
  - 830 Total Unique & Non-Duplicated Student-Athletes
  - 19,945 Total Accumulated Program Hours
  - 49% Black
  - 36% Hispanic/Latinx
  - 8% White
  - 7% Multi-Racial or Other
  - 82% Free & Reduced Lunch
  - 46% Female





### OUR PROGRAMS

### FALL | SEPT - NOV

### Our focus of fall is recruitment and development of student-athletes.

- 8-Week Fall Ball Season
  - Kindergarten through 12th grade
  - Twice a week practices operated by volunteer coaches and our Leadership Board
- Bridge Select HS Boys & Girls Teams
  - 40 student-athletes competing in 1 fall tournament
- The Playbook
  - College readiness workshops and mentoring
  - HS rock climbing trips with Roam Wild Adventure
  - Park cleanup with Dallas Park & Recreation
- 251 Total Fall Student-Athletes
- 2,006 Total Accumulated Hours of Programming

### **SPRING | JAN - MAY**

### Our focus for spring programming is around both recreation and competition.

- 14-Week Spring Competitive Season
  - 12 Teams competing in local & state leagues
  - Boys & Girls, Kindergarten through 12th grade
  - 2-3 weekly practices, and 8-12 games per team
- 223 Total Spring Student-Athletes
- 10,318 Total Accumulated Hours of Programming

### SUMMER | JUNE - JULY

### During summer, our focus shifts toward outreach and advancement.

- 7-Week Summer League
  - In-house league for 8th graders to adults
  - More than 100 participants
- 11 Outreach Summer Sites
  - More than 550 site student-athletes
- 7-Week Open & Advanced Sessions
  - 30 student-athletes participating in drop-in & free play lacrosse
- Summer Academy
  - Overnight camp for 8th-10th graders
  - Focus on lacrosse skill development & college readiness
  - 67 Student-Athletes from Dallas, Houston, Austin & Chicago
- The Playbook
  - Enrichment trips including Perot Museum & rock climbing
  - Career exploration experiences with Sixth Street Partners, Richemont & Amegy Bank
- 644 Total Summer Student-Athletes
- 7,621 Total Accumulated Hours of Programming









## OUR **SUCCESS**

### **SUMMARY**

Our ultimate success is that every student-athlete maximizes the opportunities and relationships that Bridge has provided them. We believe that every student-athlete that picks up a lacrosse stick with us has the ability to develop the skillsets needed to navigate the opportunities that stem from their commitment to us. While long-term success and our definition for success is traditionally harder to measure and quantify, we believe in our system of assessing how our programs impact kids over a lifetime. Beginning with short-term outcomes related to social and emotional development, we can see just how valuable our learning and playing environment is for youth. As we continue to process our short-term outcomes, we are working on ways to connect them with obvious long-term outcomes.

### WHY SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

In an era increasingly focused on academic outcomes, programs for young people need an alternative – a short-term outcome we can measure that is tied to real long-term goals. Social and emotional learning is the process of developing the "soft skills" young people need to thrive: to manage themselves as they engage with the world; build and maintain relationships; and treat setbacks and challenges as learning experiences to prompt growth. As they grow, young people with strong SEL skills are more college- and career-ready, experience better mental health and social functioning, and report a greater sense of overall well-being.

#### SHORT-TERM SUCCESS

Each year, we use the amazing tools and analysis of Hello Insight to measure a wide range of short-term outcomes. Hello Insight is an evaluation company working to help organizations use data to empower youth-centric programs. Ultimately, we ask "How does Bridge programs positively affect the lives of our kids?" We know that sports can teach and reinforce a variety of non-cognitive skills, and Hello Insight allows us to see that growth over time. Using social and emotional learning as the primary metric, Hello Insight is able to give us incredible data and feedback on how our youth grow in a large number of SEL capacities for grades 3rd through 12th. This data also allows us to adjust our programs to the specific needs of our kids.

#### 2022-2023 DATA

In 2023, we saw phenomenal growth in many capacities, such as self-management, goal orientation and academic self-efficacy. The data collected from both pre- and post-surveys allows us to manage and adjust our programs to better address any noted gaps or enhance upon any potential.

- 91% | demonstrated gains in at least one college readiness SEL capacity • 90% in 2021-2022
- 51% | participants who increased adult support • 72% in 2021-2022
- 98% | demonstrated gains in at least one core SEL capacity for HS • 100% in 2021-0222
- 90% | demonstrated gains in at least 1 sports SEL capacity for MS • 86% in 2021-2022
- 92% | demonstrated gains in at least one core SEL capacity for MS • 95% in 2021-2022
- 67% in 2021-2022
- 95% | overall program satisfaction • 93% in 2021-2022

### **NOTABLE 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Secured largest donation from Dick's Sporting Goods, total grant amount of \$75,000.
- Texas HS Lacrosse League Class C State Final Four
- Texas HS Lacrosse League North District Champion
- Eight THSLL & TGHSLL League Awards
- Detweiler Family Scholarship | \$10,000 Awarded
- Edie Lycke Scholarship | \$4,000 Awarded

### **CLASS OF 2023 COLLEGE MATRICULATION**

University, Dallas College

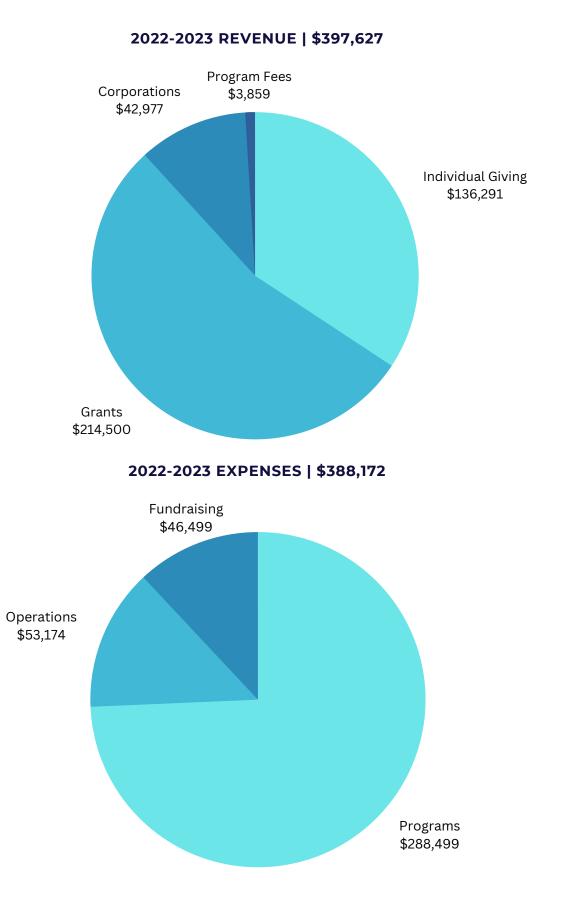
• 88% | demonstrated gains in at least one core SEL capacity for elementary student-athletes

• Babson College, U of North Texas, Prairie View A&M, Texas Tech, Centenary College, Emory





### **OUR FINANCIAL SUMMARY**









### GROWTH TRENDS

#### **PROGRAM GROWTH**

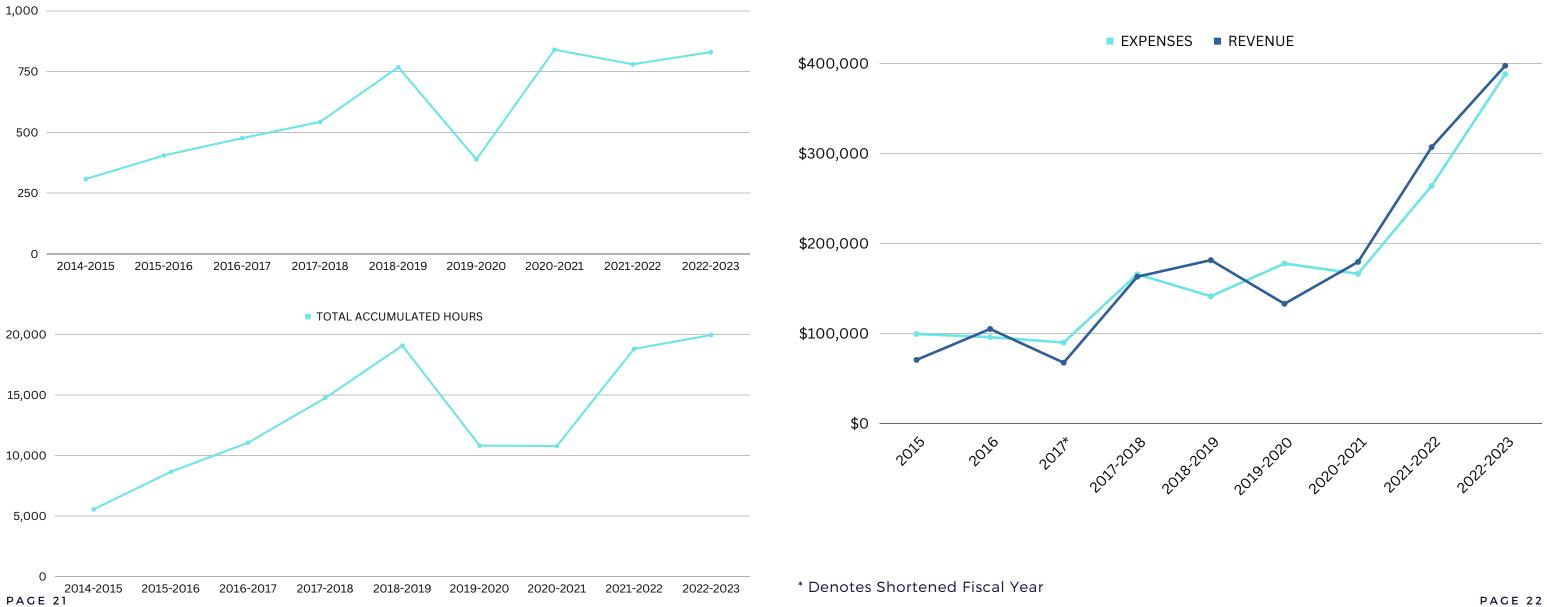
For almost a decade, we have maintained growth in our programs in both participation and in total engagement. We believe that the continued increase in enrollment and new activities that our kids engage in, is a sign of a healthy and high-achieving organization. Below is a look at the last nine years of program engagement and growth, with the notable exception of 2020 due to COVID-19.

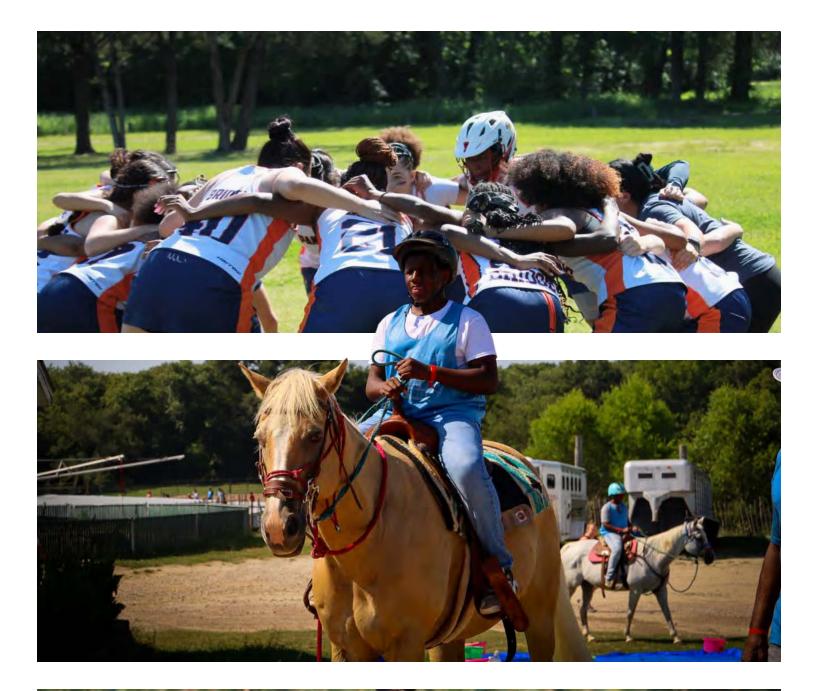
We measure total participants as all unique student-athletes that participate in at least one of our three program seasons. No student-athlete is duplicated. Hours are measured by the total sum of hours of programming that are student-athletes attend throughout the year.

UNIQUE PARTICIPANTS

#### **FINANCIAL GROWTH**

Along with our program growth, we believe that our budget growth is part of our maturation and success. Since 2020, we have doubled our budget and have made significant advancements in our funding. The growth in our revenue comes in large part due to increases in foundation and grant support, as well as increased success in our annual giving day campaign. One notation in our revenue chart is in 2017, where we shortened our fiscal year to move our overall fiscal year to new dates. In addition, there is a notable revenue drop in 2020 due to COVID-19. Our expenses have matched similarly to our revenue and we our proud of our sustainability in our financials.







### OUR LEADERSHIP

**Sean Duffy | Board President** 7-Eleven

Lee Burton | Board Treasurer Sammons Enterprises

**Sean Browne** Xtant Medical Holdings

**Chris Creedon** Calumet

Jason Detweiler Cardinal Health

**Shari Hicks** JP Morgan Chase

**Channie Hopkins** General Atomics

**Karla Garcia** The Commit Partnership Bridge Alumna - Class of 2014

**Robert Jones** Holland & Knight

**Robert Landin** The Milestone Group

Pam Pluss Community Volunteer

**Lottie Taylor** Lincoln Harris

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### David Higbee | Executive Director

### Megan Haggard | Program Director

**Jennifer Lopez | Senior Program Manager** Bridge Alumna - Class of 2021

**Elijah Berryman | Program Coordinator** Bridge Alumnus - Class of 2023

### **OUR VOLUNTEERS**

#### **SPRING 2023 COACHES**

Alessia Fitzpatrick Alex Huerta\* Andrew Gibson\* Ava Corcoran Bailey Ogle\* Bridget Haby Byron Bailey **Daniel Spomer** Dom Colbert\* Emily Lazor **Emily Ricketts** Greg Henderson Henry Pluss Jacob Gonzalez\* Jason Detweiler Jaylon Hunter\* Jennifer Sand Joe Mocera

#### **CLASS 12 LEADERSHIP BOARD**

Abby Woodberry Ava Tribolet Billy Robertson Charlotte Schultz Dominic Campiti Elijah Berryman\* Henry Boykin Jack Gordy Jadon Lee Jett Kipness John Charest Katie Stone Lexie Stone Lily Gum Luke Baldwin Mae Flanagan Mateo Lanzillotta Max Fernandes

Johnny Santos Josh Daniels Karla Garcia\* Katherine Larios\* Kathryn Olivier Katie Pham-Hua\* Manuel Suchil\* Marie Appel Nick Ortiz Terry Williams Tucker Szybala Tyler Thompson\*

Mercer Fernandes Milena "Aynalie" Charron Thomas Jordan\* Tripp Black Tyler Doyle Tyler Robertson Wynnie Roach





### OUR DONORS & SUPPORTERS

DICK'S SPORTING GOODS | \$75,000

75for75 Sports Matter Grant

### HALL OF FAME SUPPORTER | \$25,000+

Drew McKnight Dekelboum Family Foundation The Heisman Trophy Trust

### **TEWAARATON SUPPORTER | \$10,000+**

Laureus Sport for Good The Kate Risley Foundation Sixth Street Partners Edie & Bo Lycke Landin Family Foundation Jay Jerrier - Cane Rosso

### ALL-AMERICAN SUPPORTER | \$5,000+

The Pluss Family Ann & Chris Mahowald Megan & Casey McManemin Panther City Lacrosse Club Jennifer & Rob Black

### ALL-STATE | \$2,500+

HLax Sammons Enterprises Mark Frears The Moderi Family The Duffy Family The Browne Family The Creedon Family David Walker TeamLax

### ALL-DISTRICT | \$1,000+

Laureus & Richemont - Summer of Sport Cricket & Lee Burton Patricia & Brian Morris Richard Moses OpenDoor Nancy & Stephen Rogers Anonymous PAGE 27

### Bond Olivo Dean Henigsman Fran & Mark Berg Kent Jaggers - **In Memory of Macy Jaggers** The Vlasimsky Family Lincoln Property Company Sheila & Meade Detweiler

### HONORABLE MENTION | \$500+

Hackees Lacrosse Anonymous Lori & Bob Jones Daryl & Kquinta Jackson Denita & LaCarlton Oby Ellen Fernandes Esmeralda Martinez Jenna & Seth Woodberry Tori & Joe Mannes Lynn Robertson Robin Stone Sondra Puorro Women's Sports Foundation Jason Detweiler

### ALL REMAINING DONORS

Aaron Drazin Alessia Fitzpatrick Alex Perry Allison Ramirez Amazon Smile Andrew Dickerson Anonymous x18 Anthony Campiti April & Steve Doyle Ashley Hunt Athena Hinkhouse Bianca Cruz **Brad Beutel Brenda Bliss Channie Hopkins** Charie Price Charlotte Schultz

Chastity Jackson Chelcie & Everett Smith Chris Roberts Chris Thompson Christina & Kendall Cotten Cindy & Kerry North Courtney Flanagan Crystal Acevedo Crystal Jordan Cylan Terrelonge Dana Pickard David Wren Dawne Tribolet Denise & David Pollack **Diane Scalley Diane & Brad Barnes** Elizabeth Bennett Emily Lazor Erika Crayton Esmeralda Martinez Facebook Giving **Gunnar Rawlings** Heather Potts Itzel Torres Jack Tierney Jackson Marvel Jacqueline Lomeli Janae Dye Janell Miank **Robbie & Jason Kipness** Jennifer & Kyle Gordy Jennifer Gunnin JJ Ponce Joanna Swislowska Joe Hearne Jon Killen Joshua Berryman Joshua Glubiak Joy & Steven Glover Juan Amaya Julie Lee Katherine Crow

Kathleen Doherty Thomas Kay Wood Keva Munson Kim & Tim Kelley Kimberly Ballard-Madison Kquinta & Daryl Jackson Krvstal & Robert Baldwin Larry Lundy Lindsay Duncan Lizbeth Alvarez Luisanna Hernandez Maria Esteves Maribeth Peters Marissa Castro Mark Pollack Mary Ann Climer Matthew Blades Maya Budhrani Megan Haggard Melanie Charest Meredith Oshrain Michelle & Roby Mize Michelle Geslani Monica Berry Morena De Larios Nic Climer Nicole Anderson Nolan Knight **Omar Martinez** Pat Gum Paula Miltenberger Paxton Marks **Racine Reid** Rebecca Shankar **Renee Jones** Renee Rubin Robbie Esteban **Robert DeHaas** Roxanna Serritos-Gonzalez Sarah Pena Sarah Tilotta Sofia Gonzalez

### OUR DONORS & SUPPORTERS

### ALL REMAINING DONORS (CONT)

Stephanie Williamson Susan Piot Tamara Sakuda Taylor Smiley Tekisha Scott Teresa Alexandrou Thomas Hay Tina Garst Todd Nelson Tommie Taylor Tracey Roach Tully Minoski US Lacrosse TX Wells Fargo Giving - Arthur Hunt Wendi Ryland Wylaia & Kevin Mondy

### **IN-KIND SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS**

Cane Rosso Cutler Customs GRIT Lacrosse Hackees Lacrosse HLax Holland & Knight Indoor Soccer Zone Just Play Lax Mercy Street Sports Panther City Lacrosse Club Premiere Lacrosse League Roam Wild Adventure TeamLax USA Lacrosse







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