



BUILDING BLOCKS FOR KIDS
— RICHMOND —

2019 IMPACT REPORT

Message from the Executive Director

Dear BBK Family and Friends,

In 2019, Building Blocks for Kids (BBK) realigned itself to propel community transformation for years to come. As such, we have a new mission, vision, organizational values and a strategic plan. We are focused on creating inclusive spaces for parents and caregivers throughout West Contra Costa County to advance quality educational experiences for all youth and wellness and well-being for all families.

We are proud to continue investing in the people that matter the most: the people that call Richmond and West County home. In 2019, we continued to make great strides in connecting Richmond youth to technology and innovation, parents and caregivers to knowledge and resources to become effective advocates for their children and all children, and spearheading the leadership of current and future policy decision-makers.

I'm very excited about 2020, as we deepen our impact and develop innovative programs with three core strategies: healing centered care, parent-led advocacy, and leadership development. Some of our existing programs will shift as we focus on fulfilling our new mission and vision however, we remain committed to investing in the strengths of families so that they flourish.

In Partnership,
Sheryl Lane



Building Blocks for Kids (BBK) amplifies the voices of parents/caregivers of color and partners with them to advance equitable access and opportunities for all youth to have quality education and all families to achieve emotional and physical well-being. We realize our goals through healing centered care, leadership development, and parent-led advocacy.

In 2019, Building Blocks for Kids - Richmond achieved successes for Richmond families in three areas:



2019 Highlights



A New Vision for West Contra Costa County

BBK launched itself into a new mission, vision and set of values as inspired by the input of community residents on the topics of health and education.



Elevate Youth Genius

Richmond youth participated in our free weekly after-school Coding and STEM club and our Minecraft summer camp.

Increase Community Decision Makers

The first cohort of Community Educational Leadership Institute (CELI) fellows prepared to lead local and regional boards, commissions and committees.



Create Spaces for Wellness and Self-Care

Black and Latinx women participated in peer support groups and learned easy and culturally sensitive ways of taking care of themselves and their families.



Host Fun and Educational Summer Experiences

Free lunches were distributed to youth under 18. Weekly parents, caregivers, and children participated in playgroups, accessed free produce and food, moved with Zumba, created art, and obtained skills to boost summer learning.





"I have learned to have patience with my daughter, respect her emotions, and I take my time to explain."

"It has helped me be more patient. It has changed my life completely!"

208 individuals served



BBK served an average of

80

lunches daily to children in our community over

5 weeks

of summer park programs

"I'm learning to listen and talk more to my children, and simply engage with them. I motivate them more and let them know they are capable of getting things done."

"I am more calm and I trust myself when it comes to correcting my daughter."

46 Sanctuary Group Sessions



112

parents/caregivers and children participated in and graduated from **Crianza con Cariño** (Nurturing Parents) in 2019





168
hours

56 students equipped with
basic coding & STEM skills

BBK hosted

2

Coding & STEM cohorts



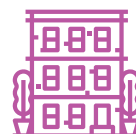
Provided youth with

96

hours of basic coding instruction,
using the popular online game
Minecraft as a tool



Lincoln Elementary



Monterey Pines



DIGITECH



"For the past 3 years, the City of Richmond in collaboration with Building Block for Kids (BBK) has hosted Summer of Minecraft training for community youth during the summer break, providing technical and citizenship skills to boys and girls ranging in age from 9 to 13 years. The camp helped to engender a love of computers as powerful tools of creativity and play for our campers. Campers would rush to the computers at the beginning of each day and it was often hard to tear them away at the end of the two hours. The City of Richmond is looking forward to continuing support of youth enrichment programs."

Sue Hartman, Information Technology Director

Community Engagement and Advocacy



120 parents & students

BBK hosted **Parent Power** meetings at 2 West Contra Costa Unified schools and an after school program site



as well as at our Center to equip parents/caregivers with the knowledge and skills to support the academic success and well-being of their children

4 hours weekly for **5** months
at Lincoln Elementary's kindergarten class

Launched the inaugural **Community Educational Leadership Institute (CELI)**



with **8 fellows**
including **one high school student**



"I loved the class. It is most benefiting to myself and others"

"So much good information"



BBK Supporters



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gabino Arredondo
Payal Patel
Angie Godinez
Jasmine Jones
Talia Rubin



STAFF

Sheryl E. Lane - *Executive Director*
Saray Rios-Hacegaba - *Deputy Director*
Evelyn Santos - *Administrative Coordinator*
Teresa Jenkins - *Data and Evaluations Coordinator II*
Brenda Romero - *Health & Wellness Coordinator*
Marisol Romero-Frias - *Health & Wellness Assistant Coordinator*
Maria Gabby Garcia - *ECLD Team Member*
LaFrieda Attaway - *ECLD Team Member*
Guadalupe Villalobos - *ECLD Team Member*
Natalie Villalobos - *ECLD Team Member*
Evelyn Villalobos - *ECLD Team Member*
Shakira Reynolds - *Community Engagement & Advocacy Coordinator*
Mariela Cuellar - *Community Engagement & Advocacy Assistant Coordinator*
Abadesa Rolon - *Parent Leader*






PARTNERS

Above Adequate
Bay Area PLAN
Bright Futures
Cali Calls
Care Parent Network
Chavez Elementary
Child Abuse Prevention Council
City of Richmond
Connected Camps
CoCo Kids
Contra Costa Health Services Dept.
East Bay Regional Park District
Fresh Approach
GO Public Schools

Healthy Richmond
Leadership Public Schools
Lincoln Elementary
Monterey Pines Apartments
Public Advocates
Public Health Solutions
Native American Health Center
Richmond Public Library
Tandem
The Practice Space
The Watershed Project
West Contra Costa Unified School District
White Pony Express
YES Nature to Neighborhoods

CONTACT

@BBK.Richmond 
@BBKRichmond 
@richmond_bbk 

bbk-richmond.org

310-312 9th Street Richmond, CA 94801

(510) 232-5812