

2023

Annual Report



AnytownLeadershipCamp.org

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A WORD FROM OUR LEADERS

As we at Anytown reflect upon the last year, we also want to point our focus toward the future.

We strive each day to create a brighter future for the next generation – one of acceptance and one without fear of those different from ourselves. We envision a just and equitable society that celebrates, appreciates and affirms all people.

These systemic changes don't come easily, and we certainly can't do it alone.

- **Anytown Leadership Camp** this year challenged 65 students to confront their own personal biases and take what they learned back to their schools to inspire other teens to do the same.
- **Anytown-at-School** programs opened up dialogue with over 300 students to start community conversations around diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- The launch of our **Anytown Youth Council** is empowering Anytown Alum to continue their learning and create immediate change in their local communities.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our Board, volunteers, community partners, and donors in 2023, we believe a world without hate is, indeed, possible.

Partners in Peace,



AMBER CHECKY
PRESIDENT



HEATHER CHECKY
VICE-PRESIDENT



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Inclusion Counts, LLC



Mission



Anytown is a human relations organization dedicated to embracing, educating and empowering leaders to **cultivate inclusive communities.**

Vision

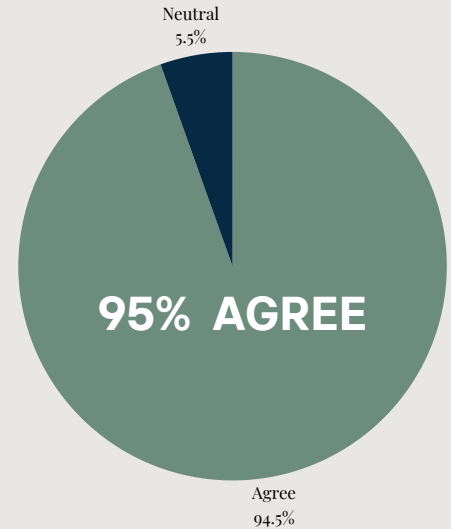
We envision a **just and equitable society** that celebrates, appreciates and affirms all people.



ANYTOWN LEADERSHIP CAMP



2023 Impact



The Anytown Program has **increased my acceptance and tolerance** of people who are different than me.

In June 2023, we convened 65 students from 43 schools across Arizona for our annual leadership camp. Through interactive workshops, simulations and discussions, participants explored topics like prejudice, discrimination and bias.

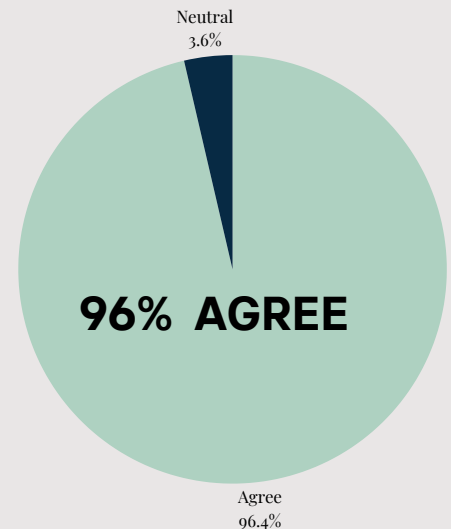
Anytown addresses widespread cultural competence gaps by educating young leaders about the value of diversity and inclusion and teaching participants to recognize and counter stereotypes and bullying.

Teens who experienced Anytown Leadership Camp left the program equipped with the tools to increase their ability to foster inclusion and respect among all members of society and received a certificate for **50 hours of leadership and diversity training!**



"The work being done at Anytown is exactly what the world needs and I'm so happy to have experienced it. I genuinely believe that if every person was to participate in Anytown, the world would be a better place."

Jaden, Catalina Foothills High School



Since Anytown, I now **understand how to be a leader in my school** around issues of diversity and inclusion.



ANYTOWN LEADERSHIP CAMP



Schools Represented

- Arizona Agribusiness & Equine Center High School
- Acadia High School
- Arizona State University
- ASU Prep Academy
- ASU Prep Digital
- Barry Goldwater High School
- Bioscience High School
- Blackstone Academy
- Bogle Junior High School
- Cactus Elementary School
- Catalina Foothills High School
- Chandler-Gilbert Community College
- Chaparral High School
- Cheatham High School
- City Middle High School
- Coolidge High School
- Damien High School
- Desert Mountain High School
- Esperero Canyon Middle School
- Estrella Foothills High School
- Gilbert High School
- Highland High School
- Home School
- Ironwood High School
- Madison Park
- Maricopa High School
- Maricopa Wells Middle School
- Maryvale High School
- Metro Tech High School
- Mountain Ridge High School
- Mountain View High School
- North Canyon High School
- Phoenix College Preparatory Academy
- Phoenix Country Day School
- Queen creek High School
- Red Mountain High School
- River Valley High School
- Saint Albert High School
- Skyline Prep High School
- Sunnyslope High School
- Valley Lutheran High School
- Washington high school
- Xavier College Preparatory



Arizona's growing diversity calls for strategies to overcome the prejudice and discrimination that comes from a lack of understanding of different cultures and social identities.



With increased attacks against women and LGBTQ+ peoples' rights this year, students at Anytown spent much time discussing ways to support and uplift these communities.



ANYTOWN LEADERSHIP CAMP

Since Anytown, I feel more confident expressing my opinions, ideas and feelings about:

RACISM

96%

98%

SEXISM

HOMOPHOBIA

98% *Kris*

93%

ABLEISM



ANYTOWN AT SCHOOL



2023

Schools-Based Programs

Anytown in-school programs (collectively called ANYTOWN at School) foster respectful, inclusive and safe school environments.

By creating community and introducing youth to diversity-related topics, Anytown helps local schools ensure that all students live the "Golden Rule."

- Apollo High School
- Maricopa High School
- Scotts Valley High School
- Scotts Valley Middle School
- Cortez Park Charter School
- Emerson Elementary

Interested in bringing Anytown to your school? [Learn more!](#)



ANYTOWN YOUTH COUNCIL

The Anytown Youth Council (AYC) is a working youth board who support the Anytown program after attending Anytown Leadership Camp. This group provides feedback and strategic direction to Anytown, participates in community events and organizes youth-led initiatives for our alumni. [Learn more!](#)

Youth Council

Jorge, President
Grand Canyon University

April, Vice-President
Xavier High School

Abby, Secretary
Sunnyslope High School

Breezy, Historian
Xavier High School

Marty, Historian
Maryvale High School

Members

Makayla	Jordan
Jenna	Eli
Sayora	Bre'Una
Taylor	Jada
Samm	Karyleni
Ivan	



HIGHLIGHTS



WE WON \$100,000

IN THE COMMON GOOD CHALLENGE

Oh, hooray! We did it! We were honored to have been selected as one of three winners for Common Good Challenge! This gift of \$100,000 will increase our operational capacity and help grow and sustain Anytown Leadership Camp and our Anytown-at-School programs!

Missed the finalist event? Watch [our live pitch](#) (starts at 43:00) or view our [submission video](#) and [alumni video](#)!



WE TRAVELED TO BUFFALO, NY FOR THE NFJC NATIONAL CONFERENCE

In September, we had the pleasure of attending the National Federation For Just Communities (NFJC) Annual Conference where we got to connect, learn and share best-practices with other Anytown affiliates,

Our hearts and minds were inspired as our colleagues from across the country joined us to examine themes around promoting diversity, inclusion and justice for all. We also learned about Buffalo's rich, diverse history by touring the Underground Railroad Museum, African Heritage Corridor and more!





FINANCIALS

Our 2023 Supporters

We partner with change-makers across our community and our state. These partnerships allow us to collaborate with and deliver programs to diverse groups, helping to move our mission forward. Here are some of the businesses and grant-makers who have helped make our work possible this year.

WORLD WITHOUT HATE \$100,000+

- Arizona Community Foundation

LEADER FOR CHANGE \$7,500+

- Arizona Coyotes Foundation
- Kellenberger + Tollefson Center for LGBTQ Philanthropy
- Tempe Diablos Charities

HUMANITARIAN PARTNER \$5,000+

- Cardinals Charities
- Phoenix Pride
- Jewish Community Foundation

COMMUNITY ALLY \$1,000+

- Peoria Diamond Club
- Cox Charities
- Salt River Project (SRP)
- ALDI
- Arizona Humanities

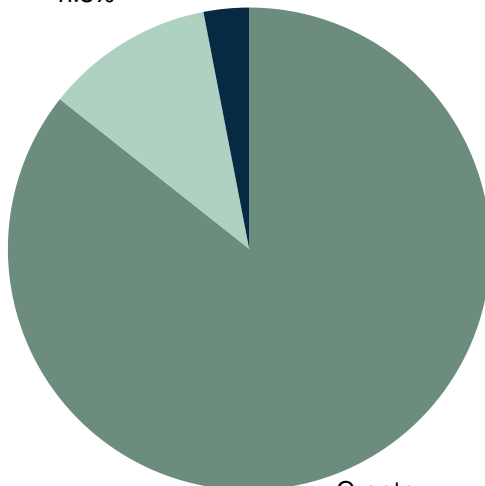
Friends of Anytown \$150+

- Walt Disney Co.
- CVS Health
- Smart & Final

Income

Total: \$191,138.00

Program Income
11.3%

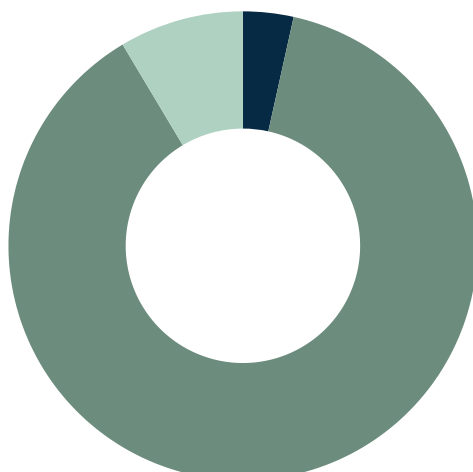


Grants
85.6%

Expenses

Total: \$102,444.34

General Operating
8.6%



Programs
87.9%

Net Surplus: \$88,693.66



FUTURE PLANS & MILESTONES

As Arizona's oldest human relations organization, Anytown Leadership Camp was born out of the belief that respectful dialogue between people from different backgrounds can bring about positive changes in our communities. **Though it's been over 65 years now, our goals remain the same:** educate, liberate and empower youth to become accountable, confident & equipped leaders who use their unique abilities to advocate for inclusive and just communities.



Expand School Programs

We're making it our goal to DOUBLE our school-based programs in 2024!
[REQUEST A WORKSHOP](#)

Hire Volunteer Camp Staff

Recruitment has started for summer volunteer camp staff. Be a part of the program that has been developing leaders & embracing diversity since 1957!
[APPLY TODAY!](#)

Anytown Leadership Camp 2023

We're continuing to enhance our curriculum to meet the needs of today's youth and can't wait for our next session! Anytown will be held June 9th-15th, 2024. Don't miss out!
[REGISTER TODAY!](#)



The Anytown experience has provided me with a new perspective in regards to how I see and understand others. I've learned how to connect and be an ally.

I plan to quit making assumptions in general and plan to take more initiative to educate myself on certain topics.

Liv
Sunnyslope High School



The world is very judgmental and it taught me to be like that too so that I could fit in. Anytown has given me many points of view from different types of people. I have learned to be more understanding of others and to not assume anyone's identity.

I won't say racist 'jokes' anymore and I'm going to stop assuming based on someones appearance.

Mimi
Kellis S Raymond High School



Contact Us



602-529-5101



Apply@AnytownLeadershipCamp.org



www.AnytownLeadershipCamp.org

Youth growing up in today's society face challenges unlike any other. Incidences of racial, ethnic, and religious intolerance and the rise in school bullying indicate that the need is greater than ever for organizations with the capacity to bring various people together.

Help us realize our vision of a more just and equitable society for all people!

DONATE TO
ANYTOWN

