

**Thank you to all of our amazing donors!  
We would not be here without YOU!!**

**Special thanks to our year-round staff:**

Lisa Carter, Executive Director  
Camille Ridge, Program Director  
Tim Pearson, Facilities Manager  
Susannah Benn, Development Coordinator

**Thank you to our Board of Directors:**

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Sean Toland



**"Agassiz is an amazing community of encouraging people and endless opportunity."**



**"I'm going to miss this place. It's my second home."**

**We thank you for your continued support. Look out for our full annual report in January**

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**Impact Report**

**2021**



# About Agassiz Village

## OUR MISSION

Agassiz Village is a nonprofit youth development organization whose mission is to “prepare youth for life’s journey.” Through our exceptional summer camp experience and year-long programming, youth develop and practice critical leadership and life-shaping skills that positively impact their futures. For 86 years, children from under-resourced communities in Maine and Massachusetts have come to our 330-acre lakefront overnight camp in Poland, Maine to experience unique learning opportunities, be challenged to discover interests, uncover new skills, make lifetime friendships, and connect with inspiring mentors. In addition, teens in our year-round program, are supported to graduate high-school and prepare to be career/college ready.

## DIVERSITY OF KIDS SERVED

African-American/Black – 61%  
Latinx/Hispanic – 16%  
Caucasian/White – 16%  
Asian – 1%  
Other – 6%

## Naveah’s Story

For the last five years, Neveah has called Agassiz Village her summer home. “I’m from Brockton and I don’t live in a bad part of Brockton per se but there’s just a lot of things that happen there and when I get off the bus at Agassiz no one knows any of it and it’s like a fresh start for me and I get to let everything go,” said Neveah.

Neveah participated in Agassiz Teen Advancement program this year. “In the TAP program we have been setting goals. My goal is to get my anger issues under control and to better myself. I learned to take a few breaths or take a break when I get frustrated or upset and I have been writing in my Agassiz journal at night and it helps me to get my feelings out without other people knowing about it,” said Neveah.

“Kids need camp because a few days before camp I went through a lot of stuff at home with my mental health and coming to camp you unplug and there is nothing to worry about...”

**...Camp has always been my little getaway and keeps me out of Brockton and off the street and because when kids have time on their hands they do dumb things. I don’t know what I would do with out Agassiz.”**



# 2021 By the Numbers

352

Youth enrolled  
in the summer  
of 2021

864

Hours of summer  
programming

44

Campers  
remained  
on the  
waitlist

94%

of youth  
explored  
new  
activities  
and  
stepped  
out of  
their  
comfort  
zone

19

Teens enrolled  
in the Leaders  
in Training  
Program

92%

of youth qualify  
for free or  
reduced lunch  
program/live at  
185% of poverty or  
below

95%

of youth reported they had  
positive and supportive adult  
role models

0

Cases of  
Covid-19

87%

of Staff report that camp  
helped them to grow  
personally and  
professionally

100%

of families receive financial aid and  
pay \$144 on average for two weeks  
of summer camp

# Social & Emotional (SEL) Outcomes

97%

of youth demonstrated gains in at least one SEL capacity

55%

Grew their self-management skills: the ability to regulate their emotions and behavior, take positive risks, and persist through life's challenges.

56%

Grew their social skills: the ability to take others' perspectives into account, and to develop a sense of caring and empathy

61%

Grew their Academic Self-Efficacy: A young person's motivation and perceived mastery over their own learning, school performance, and potential to attain academic success.

Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) is imbedded into all of our programs and activities and has an immediate, positive impact on youth experiences. We measure growth in five areas: academic self-efficacy, social skills, contribution, self-management and positive identity. According to CASEL, "SEL is the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions." These "capacities" are critical to young people's development and promote long-term academic gains, college and career success and overall thriving.

Many studies shows SELs positive outcomes, such as higher graduation rates, lower drug use, and lower incarceration rates.

Data shows that our campers:

- (1) Increase their ability to reflect and understand themselves.
- (2) Identify positives about themselves and show personal improvement. And
- (3) Set tangible goals to build more positive relationships.

## OUR VISION AND PROGRAMS

**Our vision** is that children from Maine to Massachusetts, regardless of economic opportunity, experience Agassiz Village's joyful, welcoming, and diverse community that inspires and enables them to explore new experiences and create the futures they envision.

**We provide three summer and year-round programs:**

### Summer Camp Program, Coed, ages 8-13

Kids experience a two-week program that provides experiential learning activities including hiking, swimming, canoeing, ropes course, climbing wall, sports, creative arts, and archery. Kids learn to ACT: ACHIEVE goals, CONNECT with others and THRIVE as individuals.

### Teen Advancement Program (TAP), coed, ages 14-15

Teens experience a two-week program that focuses on goal setting, positive decision-making, teamwork, tolerance, compromise, integrity, role modeling & community service. Teens also enjoy traditional camp activities like swimming, canoeing, and dance.

### Leaders in Training (LIT), coed, ages 16-17

This year-round program starts in the summer with opportunities to learn various jobs on camp and continues with monthly workshops focused on leadership, social change, financial education, college readiness, career pathways, and high school completion.