

2007-2025

IMPACT REPORT

Perfecting the Art of
Giving Back



AASuccess Impact Report

NEARLY 20 YEARS OF Empowering Youth Through Leadership, Mentorship & Service



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In this Impact Report, we reflect on nearly two decades of empowering youth through life skills training, mentorship, and community service.

Guided by our vision—a world where every young person has equal access to personal and professional growth—AASuccess has equipped students with practical tools, leadership education, and meaningful opportunities to lead with purpose.

This report shares the journey we’ve taken together—students, mentors, and supporters—to build a community where collaboration, career success, and giving back go hand in hand. It is not just a summary of what we’ve done—it’s an invitation to be part of what comes next.

Our Mission & Vision

MISSION

- Empower and train underserved youth to reach their full potential through development of emotional intelligence and life skills.
- Cultivate ethical and humanitarian values through deliberate mentorship leveraging a network of community leaders and international partners.
- Transform students into the leaders of tomorrow through practical applications of projects directed towards healthcare, education, environmental sustainability, and finance.
- Develop a sustainable community-centric model that connects and empowers all students, volunteers, and professionals involved.

VISION

AASuccess envisions a world where every young person has equal access to opportunities for personal and professional growth through life skills, leadership education, mentoring with practical applications. Our goal is to create an environment in which everyone leverages their collective resources and thrive in their careers and businesses while making a positive impact on the communities.

VALUES

- Humility and Empathy
- Collaboration
- Honesty and Transparency
- Quality over Quantity
- Process over Perfection
- Value students' input and contribution
- Inspire and allow students to innovate as we perfect the act of giving back
- Create a safe environment where students can challenge themselves without the fear of failure

Our Model

Key Activities

Life Skills Academy (mentoring) & Student-led Community Projects



Areas of Operations

Fundraising
Marketing
Volunteer
Training staff



Leadership Board (2025)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dave Nguyen

(Former) USPTO Biotech Leader
/ Innovation Strategist



James Kelman

(Former) Program Officer
Meridian International Center



Wendy Yuan

Senior Production Manager
Hilton, Inc.

ADVISORS

SENIOR ADVISOR



Thanh Nguyen

Director, US-IBDC Vietnam

EXECUTIVE ADVISOR



Nguyen Nguyen

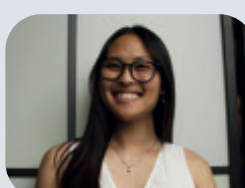
Marketing Lead, Elite Wines Imports

OPERATIONS TEAM



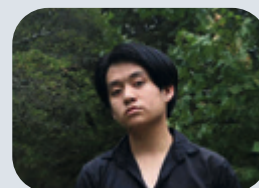
Angela Le

Operations Team Member
Student Project & Scholarship Head



Lara Tran

Operations Team Member
Life Skills Academy Head



Liem Nguyen

Operations Team Member
Marketing & Fundraising Head

SENIOR INTERN



Vivian Cao-Dao

B.S. in Neuroscience & Health and Wellbeing, University of Virginia (UVA)
Rising Medical Student, UVA School of Medicine, Class of 2029

AASuccess Support Community

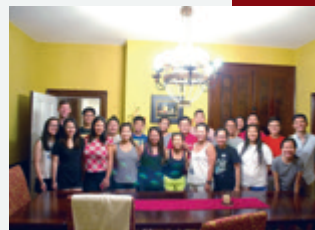
Empowering Student Leaders Through the Strength of Our Community Network

As the non-profit foundation of AASuccess, we leverage our network of community leaders and international partners to collectively build student leaders through their high-touch engagement in spearheading projects directed to healthcare, education, environmental sustainability, and finance. Our aim is to develop a sustainable community-centric model that connects and empowers all volunteers and professionals involved.



This network of support forms the foundation of our ecosystem—where students, mentors, community partners, and business leaders come together to turn ideas into action. At the heart of AASuccess is a collaborative “family” that includes young AASuccessors, dedicated volunteers, and service-minded partners who guide, uplift, and work alongside our students.

In support of this initiative, the AASuccess Business Leadership Council provides the financial and human resources needed to help students not only launch their initiatives but also sustain and grow them with real-world impact.



Family of young AASuccess members, volunteering mentors, service volunteers, and community partners



AASuccess business leadership council provides financial and human resources to AASuccessors

Program: Life Skills Academy



Character Building

Cultivate integrity, empathy, resilience, accountability, and a strong sense of purpose in every member



One-on-one mentoring

Weekly one-on-one session between mentor and mentee



Training on practical and/or community projects

Give students the chance to apply what they learn in real-world settings—where their ideas, skills, and actions directly serve others.



Our Life Skills Academy guides students on the following goals: 1) Character development for all members, 2) Student Empowerment for our students to grow, and 3) Cultivation of future leaders with compassion and courage. Ultimately, we want to empower children and young adults to achieve their true potential, while cultivating future leaders to spread ethical and humanitarian values in our communities.

Shaping the Next Generation of Changemakers

At AASuccess, we're not just preparing students for success—we're helping them find purpose in giving back. Our goal is to nurture young leaders who create impact through action, originality, and heart.

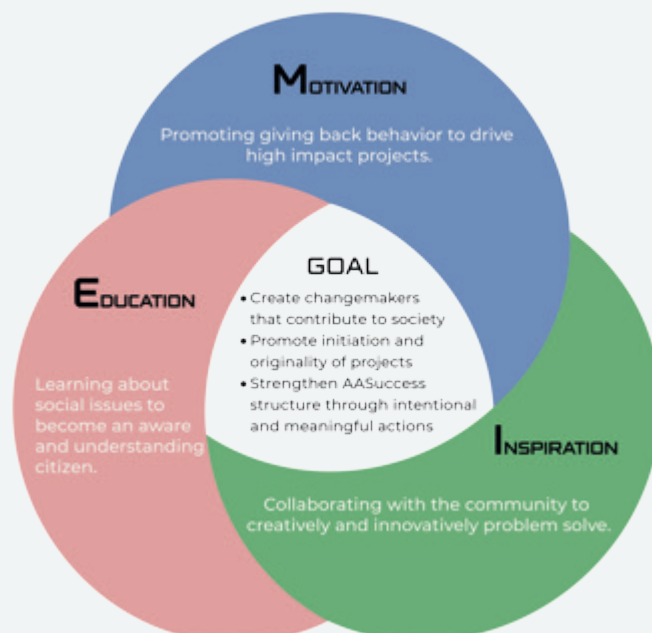


Together, these experiences build a structure of intentional, meaningful leadership—one that strengthens AASuccess and empowers every student to become a changemaker.

It starts with **Motivation**—encouraging students to use their time and talents to serve others. Through hands-on projects, they learn that real leadership begins with empathy and the desire to make a difference.

Then comes **Education**—gaining awareness of social issues and understanding their role as engaged citizens. We challenge students to think critically and act thoughtfully about the world around them.

And with **Inspiration**, ideas become action. Students collaborate with mentors and community members to creatively solve problems and bring their visions to life. Together, these experiences build a structure of intentional, meaningful leadership—one that strengthens AASuccess and empowers every student to become a changemaker.



Innovation Rooted in People, Growth, and Purpose

Our work is about **people**. We support young individuals during critical moments in their lives—not just through programs, but with genuine guidance, compassion, and care. After every project, we pause to reflect: What worked? What can improve? This ongoing habit of reflection helps us move from good to better.

We believe in the power of collaboration, especially **across generations**. Young people bring fresh perspectives, challenge our assumptions, and help us see blind spots we may miss. When we engage youth meaningfully, amazing things happen. Their ideas are bold, diverse, and deeply human—and they often lead us to breakthroughs we hadn't imagined.

At AASuccess, failure is welcomed as a teacher. We learn, adapt, and keep pushing forward—together. In an age of automation, we choose to innovate with purpose, guided by our shared commitment to growth, empathy, and community impact.



At AASuccess, innovation is more than a concept—it's a way of thinking, growing, and connecting.



In a world shaped by advancing technology and easy shortcuts, we resist mental complacency by nurturing a growth mindset—one that values curiosity, reflection, and learning from every experience.

Preparing Youth for the Real World Through Purposeful Work

At AASuccess, we go beyond teaching character, critical thinking, and soft skills—we actively prepare students for the workforce by equipping them with real-world experience and work-readiness skills. Our approach blends personal growth with professional development, ensuring students don't just learn how to lead, but how to work effectively in today's fast-paced world.

Each project at AASuccess is treated like a business. We guide students to think strategically—starting with the end in mind, identifying goals, optimizing resources, saving time, and creating win-win outcomes. Whether planning an event, designing marketing materials, or running a campaign, students are trained to operate with intention, efficiency, and impact.

As students advance through the program, we've embedded them into real-world projects that demand both skill and teamwork. Our website is designed and maintained by senior student leaders. Other students have collaborated with business partners to create professional wine labels, or co-hosted events with nonprofit and corporate organizations in our network. These projects expose students to real expectations, shifting circumstances, and professional standards they wouldn't encounter in a traditional classroom.

Through these experiences, students gain the confidence to adapt, communicate, and problem-solve under pressure. They learn to see the bigger picture, contribute meaningfully, and grow into professionals ready to meet the demands of any workplace.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

Over nearly two decades, AASuccess has built a vibrant ecosystem where student-driven initiatives fuel our mission. Every program we design begins with one central belief: students have the ideas, passion, and potential to lead when given the right environment. We provide that space—one where young people are not only encouraged to think critically, but also supported in taking bold steps toward execution. From developing project proposals to working with real stakeholders, students are placed at the center of innovation and decision-making.

To support students, we connect them with our **business and community partners**, offering mentorship and real-world exposure that extends beyond the classroom. Simultaneously, we prioritize their **personal growth and well-being**, ensuring that students are mentally and emotionally equipped to take on leadership roles. Our structure includes competitions, think tanks, open discussions, and hands-on workshops where students pitch, refine, and implement their ideas. Through this high-touch model, they don't just learn—they lead, with purpose and confidence.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

Over the years, students have led initiatives that span a wide range of community impact areas, including:

01. Healthcare and public health education
02. Humanitarian efforts and social equity projects
03. Environmental sustainability and awareness campaigns
04. Fundraising and community event planning
05. Technology and programming workshops
06. Peer education and tutoring programs
07. Mental health awareness and support retreats

Each project is a reflection of the student's voice, shaped by their experiences and passions—and strengthened by the AASuccess community that stands behind them.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2007



The Start of the Life Skills Academy

AASuccess was founded by Dave Nguyen, along with the many people who supported him on his mission of fostering future leaders and philanthropists.

2008



Bao Nguyen's VN Map Medical Mission Trip to Khanh Hoa, Vietnam

Bao Nguyen, a freshman at George Mason University, embarked on a 2-week internship with the Viet Nam Medical Assistance Program (VNMAP) where he traveled with them to Khanh Hoa, Vietnam.

2009



Our First AASuccess Wellness Event

In December 2009, an AASuccess student, Jackie Ta, hosted our first Community Wellness Event. This program raised awareness for health and well-being among underserved Asian American families in Northern Virginia and supported AASuccess' vision of encouraging better lifestyles within our community.

A Timeline of Growth and Service

2010



The First Sustaining Member Program Event

AASuccess held its very first sustaining member program event to welcome potential and long-lasting AASuccess donors and allies. The event additionally informed the members about the importance of community involvement and showcased the milestones of AASuccess.

2011



Students Promote First AASuccess Scholarship Open to the Public

AASuccess students organized a promotional event for an upcoming YouthCon Scholarship Program at a Tet Festival. It was the first time YouthCon engaged with the greater community by welcoming applicants from outside of AASuccess.

2012



AASuccess Public Health Fair Aids More than 400 Families

A team of AASuccess students coordinated a Public Health Fair with support from the Vietnamese Medical Society of North East America and the Fairfax County Health Department. During the event, free medical assistance and health education were provided to more than 400 Asian American families in NOVA.

A Timeline of Growth and Service

2012**AASuccess Public Health Fair Aids More than 400 Families****AASuccess Sponsors Student Elizabeth Do's Studies in the Philippines****2013**

A Timeline of Growth and Service

2013

AASuccess Sustaining Members Program Fundraising Event

The AASuccess Sustaining Members Program Fundraising Event was more than just a night of celebration—it was a testament to student leadership in action. From venue setup to greeting guests, delivering speeches, and following up after the event, our students led every step with heart and professionalism. The evening featured cultural performances, classical music, meaningful conversations, and shared moments of gratitude. This event beautifully reflected the spirit of AASuccess—where students don't just learn leadership, they live it.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2014



First Student-led YouthCon Scholarship Program

The 2014 YouthCon Scholarship Program was the first YouthCon event to be conducted as well as organized by the students of AASuccess. YouthCon's 2014 first-place winner, Tristan Tran, was awarded along with many other participants.



2014



2014 Fall Attitude Camp: Building Skills, Trust, and Teamwork

During the 3-day 2014 Fall Attitude Camp, AASuccess students and mentors bonded through activities focused on responsibility, teamwork, and self-awareness. From mindfulness exercises to group challenges, students strengthened their confidence while building lasting connections with peers and mentors.

A Timeline of Growth and Service

2014

Warrior Dash: Conquering Challenges Together



The Warrior Dash was more than just an obstacle race—it was the ultimate test of teamwork, endurance, and determination for the AASuccess community. After months of Spring and Summer training, our students and mentors came together to face the mud, hills, and hurdles head-on. With every climb, crawl, and leap, we strengthened not just our bodies, but our bond. Crossing the finish line wasn't just a goal—it was a shared victory that reflected our commitment to growth, resilience, and unity.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2015



Members Travel to Belize for Project Water Buffalo Program

AASuccess collaborated with the non-profit Project Water Buffalo, to initiate the “Backpacks to Belize” project. The project involved traveling to Toledo, Belize and collecting backpacks filled with school supplies to support underserved children there.



2015 YouthCon Scholarship

The 2015 YouthCon Scholarship marked a powerful first for AASuccess—inviting students to present their personal ideas for change in front of an audience of 150–200 people. Centered around the question, ***“If you had a magic wand, what single self-improvement would you do to improve a difficult situation?”***, the event challenged students to reflect deeply, speak boldly, and share their stories with purpose.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

Members Participate in the "Build A School - Leave a Legacy" 5K Fundraiser

On September 17, the founder of the "Build A School - Leave A Legacy" program, Jimmy Thai, organized a 5k run fundraiser in Washington D.C. to raise money for the construction of schools and bridges in Vietnam. Many donations were received from families and friends who were invited to participate in the 5K run and BBQ picnic. Through mutual connections, AASuccess partnered with Jimmy Thai and hosted the event.



2016

AASuccess Summer Retreat

The 2016 AASuccess Summer Retreat brought students and mentors together for a weekend of connection and fun. Through activities like hiking, cooking contests, game nights, swimming, and more, participants strengthened their relationships and built lasting memories. It was a perfect blend of relaxation, teamwork, and shared experiences that deepened the sense of community within AASuccess.

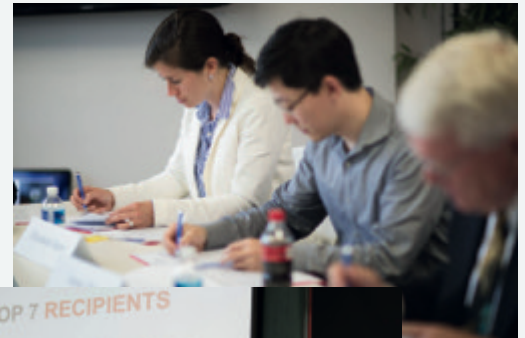
2016



A Timeline of Growth and Service

YouthCon Scholarship 2016: Reimagining What Schools Should Teach

YouthCon 2016 challenged students to think beyond textbooks with the prompt: ***“What essential subject should be taught in schools today—and why?”*** In front of a live audience, students shared bold ideas on the lessons missing from modern education. From self-advocacy and interpersonal communication to financial literacy and mindfulness, the finalists brought forward thoughtful solutions to prepare students for life beyond the classroom.



2017



Free Health Screening with HBI-DC

On July 23rd, HBI-DC (Health Betterment Initiative) collaborated with AASuccess to organize the Free Health Screening event to serve the people in our community. Through the event, we aimed to educate at-risk and under-served communities; empower impacted communities by partnering with civic, nonprofit, governmental and faith-based organizations; and eradicate viral hepatitis by providing screenings, vaccinations for hepatitis B, and referrals to treatment.

A Timeline of Growth and Service

2017

Launch of the DELTA Success Student-led English Program in Rural Vietnam



DELTA Vietnam is an English and life skills program that connects U.S. mentors with Vietnamese students. Nguyen Ngu Thuong, one of our first students in Vietnam, applied what he learned by teaching basic English to a group of ethnic minority children in Lam Dong. He also took part in charitable projects with fellow students in Vietnam, furthering the program's mission of learning, service, and community impact.

2017

AASuccess Summer Retreat



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2017

Celebrating 10 Years of Giving Back



2017 marks 10 years of nonprofit service and prepare to host our 8th Annual YouthCon Scholarship, we pause to reflect with gratitude on how far we've come—and the generous community that made it all possible. From our earliest days, this support has helped AASuccess grow from a small youth mentorship effort into a thriving organization that continues to uplift children, young adults, and communities across regions.

Though our programs have expanded and our impact has deepened, our mission remains unchanged: to empower young people to reach their full potential through life skills, mentorship, and leadership development. Over a decade, students have found a space to grow, think critically, take initiative, and become confident, community-minded professionals.

We honor not just our students, but every mentor, volunteer, and donor who has walked this journey with us. They are a part of our legacy—and the reason our vision continues to grow.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2018

First Trans-National Collaboration Between US and Vietnamese Students on Project Butterfly

AASuccess students in both the US and Vietnam had the opportunity to collaborate for a Summer community impact project. The US team successfully organized a bake sale and car wash fundraiser and raised \$500, and the Vietnam team utilized the money raised to visit, cook, and spend time with children in temples and orphanages in Vietnam.

US Team



Vietnam Team



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2018

YouthCon Scholarship 2018

Prompt: “If you could leverage \$1,000, what project(s) could or would you undertake to make improvements in your local neighborhood or community?”

Especially, this scholarship program opens doors for college and university students, awarding \$7,000 to five deserving high school and college students who demonstrate exceptional commitment to community service and excellence in both essay writing and presentation.



2018 YouthCon Winners



NEHA KRISHNAKUMAR

Sophomore, W.T. Woodson HS
Project Idea: Set up a classroom to teach IT to girls in school and the neighborhood.



KRISTINA NGUYEN

Junior, Virginia Commonwealth University
Project Idea: Invest in a local school from a low-income neighborhood, specifically in music class, mentorship program, and PTA.



KHIEM DOAN

Junior, Mount Hebron HS
Project Idea: Start a program to inspire underprivileged students to start a career in cyber security.

A Timeline of Growth and Service

2018

YouthCon Vietnam Ceremony Award

YouthCon Vietnam Scholarship runs in parallel with the U.S.-based YouthCon Program, offering financial assistance and personal development opportunities for Vietnamese students aged 15 to 20. The program looks for students who can think critically, express themselves both in writing and speaking, and show the qualities of responsible citizens and future changemakers.

More than just a scholarship, YouthCon Vietnam is a platform where students gain valuable skills in communication, leadership, and public engagement. As one local teacher and supporter shared:

"Three students from Di Linh were awarded in the YouthCon Vietnam Scholarship program. They learned a lot from the orientation meeting and AASuccess programs. I know that they are not top students, but their progress is really considerable. Thank you so much for organizing the scholarship program and helping the students build presentation skills. Thank you for your support and great enthusiasm."

This reflection captures the heart of YouthCon Vietnam: empowering youth through mentorship, skill-building, and the belief that every student has the potential to lead and give back.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2018

Gala 2018: The Center for Success

AASuccess' 2018 Gala, The Center for Success, marked a milestone in our journey from a small mentorship initiative to a structured nonprofit dedicated to empowering underserved minority students across the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area. Through free leadership training, career development, and one-on-one coaching, we've continued to guide students from middle school to college as they build the skills and confidence to thrive.

This year, we set bold goals—to expand our reach by 10% and lead impactful community outreach projects. Our growing circle of support includes business owners, professionals, and community leaders from industries such as finance, real estate, technology, healthcare, beauty, and food. Their commitment plays a crucial role in helping our students succeed.

The Gala brought this powerful network together for an evening of inspiration, entertainment, and purpose. More than just a celebration, The Center for Success offered a space for professionals, social activists, and supporters of the AAPI community to connect, collaborate, and reaffirm their shared investment in the next generation of changemakers.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2019

Mentor and Student-Organized Winter Gift Giving Event for the Local Community in Need



Volunteer at Earth Sangha's Native Plant Sale

AASuccess students and mentors volunteered with an organization called Earth Sangha, which is a local nonprofit that focuses on ecological restoration and environmental conservation.

We organized a plant sale fundraiser where we welcomed customers, provided them with a plant list upon arrival, and guided them to the check-out area. We also assisted with transporting their plants using carts and wheelbarrows, ensuring a smooth and friendly experience from arrival to departure.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2019



Running Toward Growth: Building Grit and Connection

The annual 10K Run, held on July 27 at the W&OD Trail, marked the end of a summer-long journey where AASuccess students and mentors trained together weekly—not just for physical fitness, but for personal growth.

Through each run, students learned the value of grit, commitment, and consistency. Mentors ran beside them, offering support and real conversations that strengthened bonds and encouraged resilience.

With 15 mentee and mentor runners, this year's race was our biggest yet. But more than the finish line, it was the shared effort and meaningful connections that made the experience unforgettable—training students not just for a race, but for life.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2019

YouthCon Scholarship 2019



Prompt: “Giving back is one major component of what makes AASuccess unique. We believe in not only dreaming of change, but also taking action to create that change. Share with us a local or community issue you are passionate about. What program or project would you carry out to work towards a solution with a budget of \$200?”

The goal of this scholarship prompt is to inspire youth to think deeply about issues in their community and take action through creative, practical solutions. Applicants are encouraged to design a project that reflects their passion, showcases leadership, and demonstrates AASuccess’s core value of giving back—turning ideas into real, positive change.

2019 YouthCon Winners



ETHAN NGUYEN

Senior, George C. Marshall HS
Project Idea: Collect electronic hardware → refurbish → donate to families in need.



TINA XIA

Senior, Walt Whitman HS
Project Idea: Create an art mural to raise awareness about mental health.



MADELINE KRISKO

Junior, George C. Marshall HS
Project Idea: Create a kids book drive and distribute those books to kids in other communities who don't have the same access to books.

A Timeline of Growth and Service

2020

DELTA Success's project “Do Good From Home”

As a part of the DELTA Success English & Life Skills Training Program, 10 DELTA students completed their summer projects, by creating their own giving-back projects.



Collect and recycle the garbage in the neighborhood



Make a video about trash classification to promote recycling



Make cards with pictures to send out to doctors and nurses

Make a video to raise awareness about different ways to recycle

A Timeline of Growth and Service



Art Gallery Fundraiser

Led by Linh Le, a Level 1 student, this initiative empowered youth to take charge of a meaningful cause by using their artistic talents to raise funds for underprivileged students. Through weekly art workshops, Linh fostered teamwork and self-expression while promoting access to arts education—demonstrating how personal passions can drive positive change in the community.

2020

“Read for Needs”: Empowering Young Learners Through Language

Deanna Morgan, a 16-year-old Girl Scout from Troop 5153 and AASuccess student, successfully completed her Girl Scout Gold Award Project. Inspired by her experience in a Spanish Immersion program, she created an online tutoring program to help Spanish-speaking children ages 10–12 improve their English skills. Over 3–4 weekends on Google Meets, volunteers and students worked together to read and translate a book. The program boosted participants' English comprehension and confidence, and Deanna's efforts made a meaningful impact on young learners in her community.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2020

Viet Technology Workshop

In Fall 2020, four Vietnamese college students—Dung Nguyen, Phuong Tong, Nguyen Tran, and Nam Truong—led a workshop through AASuccess to spark dialogue on the impact of modern technology. With over 30 peers, they explored topics like cybersecurity, education, and healthcare, encouraging participants to become tech creators, not just users. The event ended with actionable steps to inspire self-learning and innovation.

Fundraiser for Victims of Typhoon Molave in Vietnam

This project is a testament to youth leadership, compassion, and the power of community—values deeply rooted in AASuccess’s mission to inspire responsible and proactive global citizens.



A Timeline of Growth and Service

2020

Supporting Animal Welfare During COVID-19



During the pandemic, student Nancy Cu led a donation project for the Lost Dog and Cat Rescue Foundation in Falls Church, VA. With \$400 in funding from the Giving Back Committee, she purchased and delivered essential supplies. Her efforts supported rescued animals and inspired youth involvement in animal welfare.

Tram & Truc's Homemade Hand Sanitizer Helps Di Linh Community

During a COVID-19 outbreak in Vietnam, 9th graders Tram Nguyen and Truc Ta created and distributed 60 bottles of homemade hand sanitizer to underserved families in Di Linh, Lam Dong. Using an online recipe and funding from AASuccess, they produced the sanitizer and personally delivered it—raising awareness and showing care through small, impactful action.

