

Project Impact Report

Project Title: Taboo Talkz

Project Leader(s): Andreanela Ordoñez & Marielena Mendoza

Numbers Reached From Our Project:

Direct Impact: 55

- An direct participant either actively participated in our program, received free materials or won The Expression Project Scholarship

Indirect Impact: 127

- An indirect participant either follows our social media account and is exposed to some of our content, submitted a project to our scholarship, or helped supervise lessons.

of Volunteers: 2 # of Lessons: 15 Total Instructional Hours: 20

Social Impact:

Within the Latinx community, the troubles we face as individuals and as a community is rarely openly talked about. There is a societal expectation to handle and internalize the struggles we face all on our own. In essence, there is a lack of dialog. We realized that in order to address the issues we face as individuals and as community, we must discuss them. This is why we created safe spaces where the youth can openly express themselves, learn about closeted topics, and simply have a place to talk. Our program provided participants with the knowledge and encouragement needed to break free from the cycle of struggling in silence. Moreover, the imitate group setting helped cultivate a positive support network inviting to all. In order to encourage the participants to continue practicing the skills taught in our program, we provided them with the materials necessary to do so. Our goal was to create a safe space for discussion, expression, and vulnerability - that is what we did.



Taboo Talkz Impact Report 2020

Project Leaders: Andreanela
Ordoñez & Marielena Mendoza



55

People Directly Impacted

An direct participant:

- Actively participated in our program
- Received free materials.
- Won the Expression Project Scholarship

127

People Indirectly Impacted

An indirect participant:

- Follows our social media account and is exposed to some of our content
- Submitted a project to our scholarship
- Helped supervise lessons

Social Impact

Within the Latinx community, the troubles we face as individuals and as a community is rarely openly talked about. There is a societal expectation to handle and internalize the struggles we face all on our own. In essence, there is a lack of dialog. We realized that in order to address the issues we face as individuals and as community, we must discuss them. This is why we created safe spaces where the youth can openly express themselves, learn about closeted topics, and simply have a place to talk. Our program provided participants with the knowledge and encouragement needed to break free from the cycle of struggling in silence. Moreover, the imitate group setting helped cultivate a positive support network inviting to all. In order to encourage the participants to continue practicing the skills taught in our program, we provided them with the materials necessary to do so. Our goal was to create a safe space for discussion, expression, and vulnerability - that is what we did.

2
Volunteers

20
Total Instructional
Hours

15
Lessons



Taboo Talkz

Spread Your Wings

Taboo Talkz was created to empower the youth with the knowledge and encouragement needed to understand topics that greatly impact their lives, but are often ignored. Our goal is to create safe spaces where Latinx youth in Santa Ana can themselves and overall promote vulnerability, self-expression, and discussion on stigmatized topic.

Taboo Talkz Program

We hosted online meetings focusing on four topics: stress and anxiety, relationships, emotional intelligence, and what it's like living in Santa Ana. At each lesson, we encouraged participants to be vulnerable and discuss the impact these topics had on their lives.



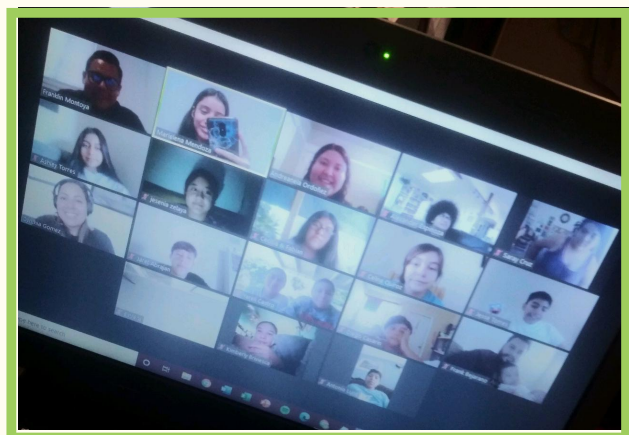
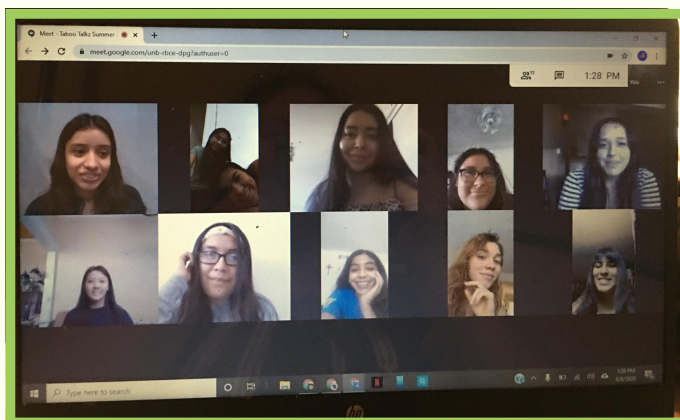
11 Meetings
1.5 hr meeting time



15 High Schoolers served
26 Middle Schoolers
served



41 Hand delivered
kits



Expression Project Scholarship

Most people, especially teens, have a tendency to keep things bottled up. So we launched the Expression Project Scholarship, as a way to encourage fellow teens to be vulnerable.



3 Winners

1st: 350 2nd: 250 3rd: 150
for school supplies

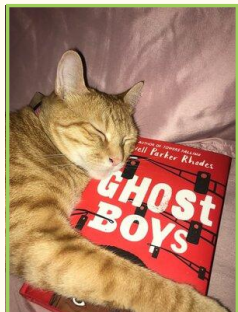
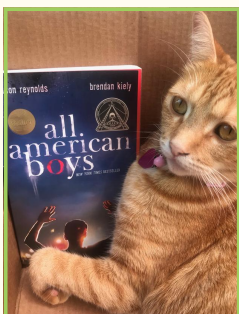


14 amazing submissions
from students all over
Santa Ana



Book Talkz

Its basically a book club for edgy teens. This summer's book choices surround the theme of racism and police brutality in American history. At each meeting, we'll talk about the contents of the book and how it is relevant today.



4 Meetings
1 hr meeting time



11 High Schoolers served



2 Books Read

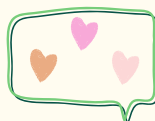
Teens cope better emotionally when they're with peers rather than with adults - International Journal of Behavioral Development

Words from our Participants ...

"I think after Taboo Talkz I have realized it is okay to be open with emotions and be vulnerable. Most of the time people will actually understand as well."



"I felt comfortable. I felt like anyone's ideas and opinions were able to be said without judgment."



"It was a very open space and the members were so nice to always give positive energy. I know it was meaningful and I am hold what I learned onto me and be able to teach others too."