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Hello Insight Celebrates Youth-Serving Programs That Are Making the Greatest Impact

Hello Insight is an innovative, online platform that leverages AI and research-based tools to evaluate social and emotional learning (SEL) skills in young people across the country. Hello Insight is growing the largest data set of youth outcomes in the nation, capturing data on the development of social and emotional learning from more than 60,000 young people and 560 organizations in 34 states.

Each year, Hello Insight conducts in-depth research on the impact of programs using the platform in order to identify the highest-performing, data-driven youth development organizations across the country. These programs have earned the prestigious HI Impact Award, having achieved exceptional statistical growth in SEL. They are far above the Hello Insight national baseline.

459 programs serving more than 27,000 young people during the 2018/19 school year were included in this year's analysis to determine award recipients. HI Impact Awardees for 2019 had programs that generated extraordinary results—in the top 4% of programs analyzed—and are using positive youth development practices to support young people in developing significantly more SEL capacities than their peers.

The development of SEL is now more important than ever, with growing evidence showing that SEL qualities rival academic or technical skills in their ability to predict employment and earnings, among other outcomes. While the demand for such skills has increased over the past 20 years, many employers around the world have reported that job candidates lack the soft skills needed to fill available positions. In the face of current societal economic, environmental, and social challenges, the promotion of these nonacademic skills is seen as critical. Business and political leaders are urging schools to pay more attention to equipping students with soft skills such as a positive identity, social skills, self-management, social capital, academic self-efficacy, and a sense of contribution.

We are thrilled to announce this year's 2019 Hello Insight Awardees, representing top performers in nine different states and 17 organizations who are commended for their high-impact results:

Abbott Leadership Institute, Newark, NJ • Bronx Lacrosse, Bronx, NY • Californians for Justice Education, San Jose, CA • Chess in the Schools, New York, NY • Chicago Scholars, Chicago, IL • Christodora, New York, NY • Empower Montana, Missoula, MT • Girls Write Now, New York, NY • Hands In 4 Youth, West Milford, NJ • Neutral Zone, Ann Arbor, MI • Oakland Park, Recreation and Youth Development, Oakland, CA • Opening Act, New York, NY • Queens Community House, Queens, NY • Toms River School District, Toms River, NJ • YMCA of Northwest North Carolina, Winston-Salem, NC • YMCA of Greater Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH • YMCA of Greater Richmond, Richmond, VA

Visit www.helloinsight.org to learn more about Hello Insight, an online platform that helps youth-serving organizations continually evaluate and respond to young people's social and emotional learning needs.

