



ALAQUEST

COLLABORATIVE for EDUCATION

2019-2020 Year Review

2019/20 Impact

Mission

ACE is dedicated to making Social and Emotional Learning an integral part of education in Alabama.

Vision

We envision a self-sustainable culture of peace, productivity, and prosperity in the schools and communities with which we interact.

Our Story

Born out of a desire to turn a horrible tragedy into productive action, ACE was created in 2015 as a response to the senseless murder of twenty-two-year-old Joshua Smith. He was son, brother, and friend to the co-founders.

Why SEL?

Research shows that social and emotional skills are important keys to success and violence reduction. We are proud to honor Joshua's legacy through the work we do at ACE. Join us in increasing access to Social and Emotional Learning. Together we can promote success and prevent future acts of violence.



230 educators served by in-school programming



416 educators served through Professional Development



608 served by Community Outreach initiatives

3,643 students served by in-school programming



I learned (that) my concerns are shared by others and I will activate that learning by being more proactive in reaching out to others...



Indian Springs School Teacher
Professional Development, Aug. 2020

Thank you! In the 2019/20 year there were...



16 volunteers & service members



Over **4,418** hours of service



More than **4,913** individuals engaged ACE's mission

COVID-19 Response

ACE recognizes the importance of social and emotional needs that arise during this challenging time. Starting in 2020, ACE has worked to provide resources to the community both on why SEL can be helpful during this health crisis and how to apply SEL during times of crisis and social distancing. Our ACE team works and serves virtually and continues our programming through digital resources and remote video lessons.



New Social Justice Programs

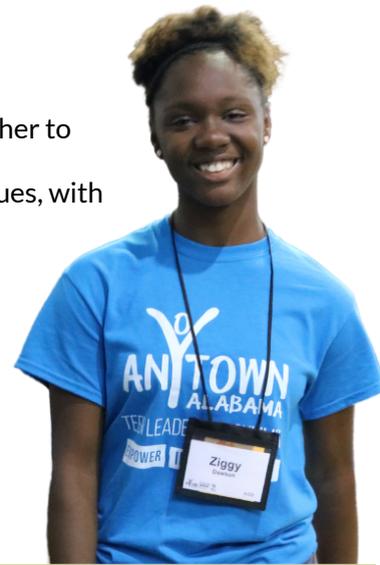
We're thrilled to announce that we're the new home of **PEACE Birmingham** and **Anytown Alabama!**



Founded in 1996, PEACE (People Engaged in A Cultural Exchange) Birmingham is a safe space for high school students to come together to talk about real situations that may affect them or others in life. Participants discuss important issues as well as action on those issues, with an eye toward institutional change and civic or social action.



Anytown Alabama is a residential leadership summit that brings together a group of high school students from across the Birmingham metro area and surrounding counties. Anytown Alabama was started by the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) in 1989.



Programs

Life Skills Education

We provide Tier 1 mental health services to students through in-class Social and Emotional Learning programming. Tier 1 is classified as a strategy to promote positive mental health in all students, including those with and without mental health challenges.

Professional Development

We provide evidence-based learning opportunities for educators focused on Social and Emotional Learning. Professional Development opportunities are tailored to fit the specific needs of partner institutions.

Culture Coaching

The ACE Culture Coach program is an innovative initiative that addresses the need for long-term cultural change by placing SEL professionals (Culture Coaches) in partnering schools. Culture Coaches are trained to analyze data from student, teacher, and parent surveys to identify areas in need of social, emotional, and mental health intervention and to then coach school personnel on how to address these areas with evidence-based strategies. School and student outcomes are evaluated with repeated student, teacher, and parent surveys.

Community Outreach

We recognize that education happens not only in the schoolhouse but out in our communities as well. That is why we work with partner organizations to provide SEL programming to LGBTQ youth, youth experiencing homelessness, and others. Also within the channel of Community Outreach is the CommuniSafe program, focused on building positive relationships between law enforcement and community members, as well as two youth-focused social justice programs, Anytown Alabama and PEACE Birmingham.

