



Lunch Pals 2018-2019 End of Year Report

Vision – 100% student success

Mission – Every child has someone who cares

Goals:

- Continue to increase the number of students with a Lunch Pal.
- Provide an exceptional experience for Lunch Pals and students

Lunch Pals Program

Lunch Pals is Pinellas County Schools’ lunch time mentoring program where businesses, community organizations and individuals are paired with a school to provide students with the additional presence of caring adults. The students of Lunch Pals are often facing social, emotional or academic challenges, who could most benefit from a mentoring relationship.

The priority is to place each Lunch Pal at a school location, lunch time and with a student age level that works best for them. They meet one-to-one with the same student each week at school during lunch for 30 minutes. With the opportunity to be a Lunch Pal at any nearby school, the experience is convenient for all volunteers.

Lunch Pals is serving students in its fourth school year as a part of the overall Pinellas County Schools mission to provide an exceptional school experience for students.

As a community, we are making a lasting and impactful contribution to our youth who need us most. The school district recognizes that these positive relationship outcomes benefit not only the students but also, their families, the mentors and the community.

In addition, businesses and community organizational partners find that Lunch Pals serves as a way to bring employees together towards accomplishing a shared purpose, enhancing morale and motivation as they make a timely and encouraging contribution within Pinellas County Schools.



“I feel that I was able to get my mentee to think before she acts. I feel her self-esteem has increased, and overall she’s trying harder to focus on her school work.” ~ Lunch Pal, Ridgecrest Elementary

The initial focus of Lunch Pals was elementary and a few middle schools, with students exhibiting the greatest need. As knowledge and appeal of the Lunch Pals brand expanded, the reach of schools and number of students served expanded as well. No matter what their level of need, any and all students can benefit from having an additional positive adult in their lives.

Lunch Pals’ Growth

	2015-16 School Year	2016-17 School Year	2017-18 School Year	2018-19 School Year
# of Business & Org. Participants	33	51	61	130
# of Schools	51	81	99	99
# of Students	284	707	1,002	1,509

How has Lunch Pals been able to grow quickly?

- Lunch Pals is making a significant impact on students and this is recognized by participants.
- Lunch Pals is making a significant impact on the mentors.
- The Lunch Pals commitment is only 30 minutes, once a week.
- Lunch Pals are partnered with a convenient school.
- There is no cost to participate.
- Training is provided; including conversation starters and other resource materials to assure the experience is easy and fun.
- Businesses and community organizations are benefiting from their staff participation
 - Enhanced interpersonal, communication, and leadership skills
 - More engaged staff as a result of an appreciation for employers providing the opportunity to participate and give back

“Getting to make a new friend and enjoy making new memories together. We enjoyed learning from each other and just being our true selves together.” ~Student, Mt. Vernon Elementary

Impact Data

Participants and integral school personnel are surveyed each year to help measure the impact of Lunch Pals.

The 2018-19 school year survey results from survey responses:

- 100% of students like having a Lunch Pals mentor.
- 100% of students want to continue meeting with their Lunch Pals mentor.
- 90% of mentors feel they had a positive impact on their student.
- 90% of mentors feel their experience was very good or excellent.
- 100% of principals feel the Lunch Pals mentoring program has benefited the students who have participated.

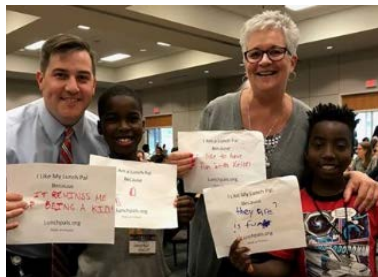
- 100% of teachers feel the Lunch Pals mentoring program has benefited the students who have participated.
- 100% of school liaisons said that Lunch Pals made a positive difference at their schools.

“Students paired with a “lunch pal” light up when they see their mentor arrive for lunch. They get very excited and often share that they are their “best friend”, “I want to do what they do when I grow up”! The positive reaction from the students is overwhelming. In addition to the students, all the mentors have noted what a joy the program has been for them. Only 30 minutes a week can make you feel so good! This year ALL of our mentors have agreed to return to see their students next year. Some have even showed interest in taking on an additional student.” ~ Principal, Safety Harbor Elementary School



Business and Organizational Participants

Lunch Pals community support continues to grow as the impact of Lunch Pals gains momentum throughout Pinellas County Schools. Each organization plays a vital role in supporting students through Lunch Pals. This investment by the community will pay dividends for generations.



“Mentoring has opened my eyes to the needs in my community and helped me see that I do have something to give.” ~ Lunch Pal Mentor

“This has been the most humbling experience of my life. I am honored to be so trusted by my mentee and committed to her continued growth.” ~ Lunch Pal Mentor

Lunch Pals Participants

360 United Anona Multi-site

AAR Composites

Ajax Building Corp

Alliance for a Healthier Generation

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity

American Strategic Insurance (ASI/Progressive)

Anona United Methodist Church

Anthem

Bay Area Legal Services, INC

Bayfront Health St. Petersburg

Berkshire Hathaway Realty

BigSea

Blessed Trinity

Blue Ticket Consulting

BMC Software, Inc

Boys and Girls Club of the Suncoast

Cale America INC

Calvary Chapel Clearwater

Calvary Chapel St Petersburg (Calvary Chapel Pinellas Park)

Calvary Church Clearwater (Calvary Baptist McMullen Booth

Catalina Marketing Corp.

Ceridian

Chase
City of Clearwater
City of Gulfport
City of Largo
City of Madeira Beach
City of Oldsmar
City of Pinellas Park
City of Safety Harbor
City of St. Petersburg
Community United Methodist
Cox Media Group
Cross Bridge Church
Digital Marcom, LLC
Domingos Law
Eckerd College
Eckerd Youth Alternatives
Friends of Woodlawn Elementary
First Presbyterian Church
First United Methodist
First United Methodist Church
FIS Global
Friends of North Shore Elementary School
GTE Financial
Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services
Heels of Success
Highland Lakes Community Association
Home Point Financial Corporation
Innisbrook
James B. Sanderlin Family Center
Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital
Johnson, Pope, Bokor, Ruppel & Burns, LLP
Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County
Keller Williams Realty, Seminole
Kiwanis Club of Dunedin
KnowBe4
Kobie Marketing
L-3 Technologies
Lampert's Therapy Group
Law Office of Bobby L. Reynolds P.A.
Leaven Law
Lipply Real Estate
Masterson, Hoag & Smith, P.A.
Men or Yesterday, Today and the Future
Morgan Stanley
Mount Olive AME Church

MUFG Union Bank
Naomi Titus 2 Covenant Alliance (NT2CA)
National Aviation Academy
Nielsen
NOAA
North Western Mutual
Oakhurst United Methodist Church
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Palm Harbor Fire and Rescue
Palm Harbor Rotary
Palm Harbor United Methodist Church (Palm Harbor UMC)
PARC
Pinellas County Administrator Office
Pinellas County Government
Pinellas County Health Dept.
Pinellas County Schools
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Pinellas County Urban League
Pinellas Park Fire Department
Pinellas Sheriff's Police Athletic League
Public Defender 6th Judicial Court
Raymond James
RCS Pinellas
Reinforced Structures, Inc.
Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P.)
Retired Pinellas County Teachers Assoc.
Sanderlin Family Center
Sembler
Seniors in Service
Signature Flight Support
Silver Airways
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
St. Nicholas Cathedral
St. Pauls United Methodist Church
St. Pete Seminole Campus
St. Petersburg Bar Association
St. Petersburg College
St. Petersburg Police Dept.
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
State Attorney 6th Judicial Court
Stetson University College of Law
Sunshine State Economic Dev. Corp.
Tampa Bay Rays
Tampa Bay Times
Tarpon Methodist Church

Tarpon Springs Police
Tech Data
The Poynter Institute
Thomas Kirszenstein Licensed Florida Realtor
Town of Kenneth City
Transamerica
Ultimate Medical Academy
Unity Church St. Petersburg
University of South Florida - St. Petersburg

University of Tampa
US Air Force
US Army
US Marines
US Navy
USAA
USCG Air Station
Word of Life Church

"She has been introduced to things I cannot show her. She has fallen in love with sewing, all because of her Lunch Pal. I believe all youth need a mentor in their life. This relationship will last a lifetime." ~ Parent, Ridgecrest Elementary

2019-2020 Goals

Our goal for the 2018-19 school year was to aggressively increase the number of students with mentors to 1,500. Having achieved that objective, the 2019-2020 goals are to expand the total number of students with a Lunch Pal to 2,000, and to continue to enhance the Lunch Pals experience for mentors and students.

2019/2020 plan to achieve goals:

- Build expanded awareness and understanding with a new Lunch Pals campaign theme "***Change your lunch plans. Change a child's life.***"
- Continue recruiting additional individuals, organizations and corporations to become partners.
- Enhanced recruitment through social media.
- Motivating partners to encourage additional employees to become Lunch Pals.
- Provide convenient trainings to new mentors, connecting them to a nearby school and matching them with a student in a timely manner.
- Retaining existing mentors through proactive communications and additional resources.

With the increasing list of challenges facing students in today's world, it's more important than ever to articulate to the community that their involvement is needed to assure student success. With continued efforts and partnerships, Lunch Pals will continue to grow.



"They listen to me, they talk to me and also they are so nice to me and they care for me. Mentors are the best!" ~ Student, Mount Vernon

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RAYMOND JAMES

A partnership between Pinellas County Schools and Raymond James, with participation from more than 130 businesses and community organizations