

BREAKTHROUGH OPPORTUNITY: THE LEADER IN ME



The Need

The West Side of Manchester has one of the highest rates of poverty in New Hampshire, which profoundly affects children both inside and outside of school. Kindergarten readiness assessments show that these children lack the skills needed to begin school on-track. By late elementary school, most perform well below average in math and reading, a trend that continues throughout middle and high school. Students also face significant challenges outside of school, such as exposure to drugs and violent crimes. Further, access to social services and environmental supports that are critical to academic performance and resiliency are not readily accessible on the West Side of Manchester.

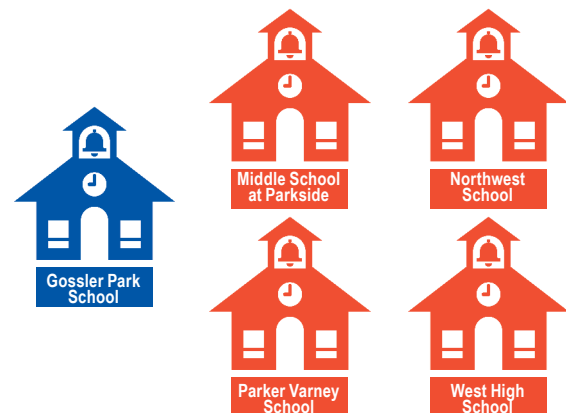
Return on Investment

Granite United Way brought The Leader in Me to Gossler Park School in 2015. Since that time, the school has experienced remarkable results, including:

- Steady improvements in academic performance
- Marked improvement in attendance rates among students and faculty
- Reduced office referrals and improved behaviors
- Increased school spirit and sense of pride that can be felt when entering the building

Our Vision

Granite United Way has a bold vision to bring The Leader in Me to every single school on the West Side and to youth-serving organizations in Manchester. This will create a seamless transition in the leadership strategies students learn from grade to grade, as well as after-school and summer programming. This strategy will empower the West Side's 3,200 students by building the skills to transform their lives and, in turn, their community.



The Leader in Me Program

"The Leader in Me" is a transformational school-based program based on Steven Covey's *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. The program integrates leadership development into the classroom curriculum, activities, faculty/staff development, and physical space, building resiliency and a cultural transformation in children that need it most. Students as young as age five learn how to track their own attendance and academic performance, complete applications and interviews for classroom jobs, and develop and implement service projects to address school and community needs. The Leader in Me is not a class; it's a way of life. It creates healthy habits in students and staff that encourages them to set goals, positively influence others, and share their talents with their community.

Help us Meet The Leader in Me Match Offered by the Stebbins Family

Initiative expansion opportunity
After a tour of Gossler Park School, the Stebbins Family was so inspired by the results of The Leader in Me program that they committed to a **two-year \$225,000 Challenge Match** to help bring The Leader in Me to every school on Manchester's West Side.



"This program is the most impactful for every dollar spent of all the programs we have supported over the years."

- Mark Stebbins

Double the Impact

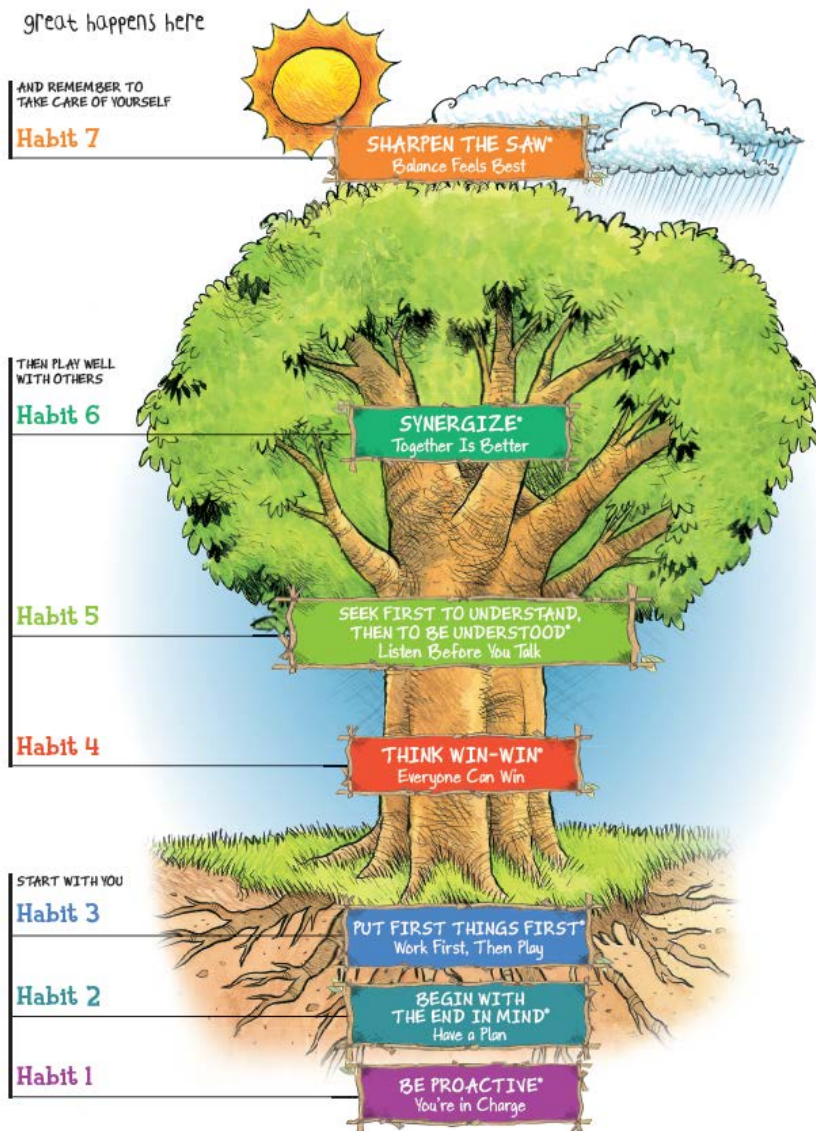
Your investment will be matched by the Stebbins' gift to bring **The Leader in Me** to more than 3,200 students!

Thank you to our early supporters for this match, including:



The Leader in Me™
great happens here

The 7 Habits™ Tree



“The Leader In Me program hasn’t just helped me,

it has helped a lot of other families and students as well. My experience with The Leader In Me Program has helped me improve at school using the 7 habits of Happy Kids.”

~ Josselyn, fifth grader at Gossler Park School during her Keynote speech at Granite United Way’s Celebration event

“My students and I have a different dialogue now...

Instead of, ‘here’s your list of work to complete’ it’s ‘what big rocks do you need to accomplish first so that you avoid stress and have success?’ They are significantly more excited to show me what they’ve accomplished so that I can share their excitement. They have a greater understanding of where they are and what they need to accomplish. They are taking an active role in their learning and that is what every teacher wants.

It takes time invested into the habits, but the dividends are becoming more evident each day.”

*~ Jonathan Carpenter
Fourth Grader Teacher
Gossler Park School*

For more information on The Leader in Me program contact Meredith Young, Vice President of Community Impact 603.625.6939 x122 or email Meredith.Young@graniteuw.org

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