



**SD REFUGEE
TUTORING**



**San Diego
Refugee Tutoring**

Impact Report
2022-2023

Message from the Executive Director

This year has been one chock full of growth. Not only did we return to in-person tutoring, we did so as a team of five! This felt remarkably different. We could implement ideas that were mere pipe dreams in the past. We assessed students' English and Math levels, built curriculum for tutors to use, ran a large fundraising campaign and even applied for and got a new, substantial grant!

While it has been both an invigorating and hopeful time, the learning curve was extraordinarily high. From onboarding 3 new employees to vetting accounting companies, I have had to learn a whole new jargon: nonprofit insurance, IRS Form 990, building a board matrix, the list goes on. While I have always been an eager learner, I have been drinking from a fire hose this year with a new challenge at every corner. However, challenges provide opportunities for growth. It has been a joy to watch TEAM SDRT expand, see dreams realized before my eyes and *watch this organization grow up*.

It has also been a joy to watch our kids grow up. The crying Syrian toddler who refused to go to preschool just completed fifth grade, receiving multiple honor awards in addition to her promotion certificate. Our easily frustrated new student from the Central African Republic didn't come close to shutting down on the stage at his promotion as he so often used to years ago. Instead, he got the award for "Making the Most Growth" and wore the most gratifying smile. A large group of first grade

boys arrived in our country several years ago with uncontainable energy and a palpable desire to learn. They required extra snacks, sensory chairs, extra motivating rewards and even mid-tutoring sprints up and down the hallways. Those boys are becoming men as they head into their eighth grade year, with several attending The Preuss School at UCSD. They recently had the privilege of *showcasing their work to tutors, who still support them all these years later*.

SDRT is here for the long haul and it matters. This year marks our fourteenth year of showing up for kids on a regular basis. We are headed into our sixth anniversary as a formal non-profit. We are transitioning our employee formalities, board principles, and organizational procedures to stand the test of time so that *SDRT will be around for our kids as they continue to grow up*.

Thank you for being with us and supporting us as we grow. We couldn't do this without you.

With gratitude,



Melissa Phillips
SDRT Executive Director

Our Mission and Vision

Our mission

SDRT provides holistic academic support through one-on-one tutoring and enrichment activities to students of refugee background in City Heights.

Our vision

The vision of San Diego Refugee Tutoring is to achieve social justice through educational access for students of refugee background in City Heights.

Our staff

In order to help SDRT become more sustainable and continue to provide long-term support to our students and their families, SDRT achieved one of its major goals of 2022-2023 by expanding to five part-time staff members.

Melissa Phillips | Executive Director

Andrea Zeidell | Manager of Volunteer Services

Kristin McGraw | Elementary Director

Andrew Younger | Middle/High School Director

Jessica Kraus | Executive Assistant



SDRT's 2023-24 Board of Directors:

Brian Becker | Board President

Rob Lee | Treasurer

Art Shingler | Board Secretary

David Naugle

Rohit Ahuja

Christine Friedman

Masooma Esmaelzada

Laura Requena

Patrick Goddard

Donations



\$161,000

Monetary



\$20,000

In-kind

Our Impact

Educational support

SDRT provides educational support twice weekly to address the gaps in foundational knowledge that are the building blocks of success for our students.

During the 2022-2023 school year:



150 Students

received tutoring with SDRT



4,000 Hours

of tutoring were provided



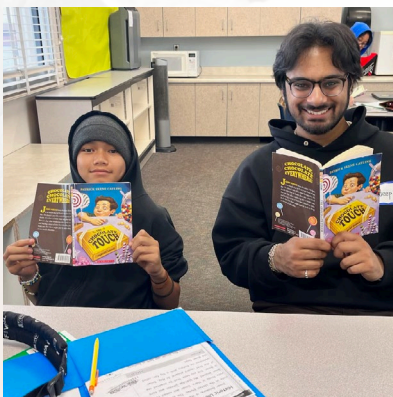
250 Volunteers

supported our students



\$150,000

worth of free tutoring provided



Our Impact

Holistic support

For students to be successful with academics, they need other items such as school supplies, access to books, basic hygiene supplies and more. SDRT provides this holistic support throughout the year.

During the 2022-2023 school year, SDRT was able to support our students with:



200 Pairs of shoes

given to students



2.5 Tons of food

given to students and their families



800 Books

given to students



130 Backpacks

given to students at our Back to School event



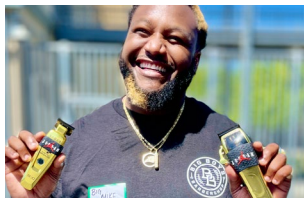
Events

Why events are important to us

Events are important to SDRT because they help build community, give us an opportunity to connect with students outside of tutoring, allow us to get to know the families of our students, and create experiences that our students often only read or hear about.

With our community partners, we organized six key events in 2022-23:

July Field Day & Picnic

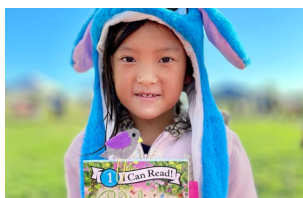


Back to School Bash

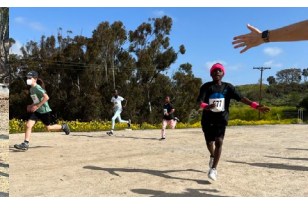
Thanksgiving Feast



December Cookies & Cocoa



City Heights 5K Fun Run



Bike Day



Student and Volunteer Feedback

Volunteer Feedback

In 2023, **SDRT volunteers** completed our feedback form in which they were asked questions on a scale from 1 (Not Positive) to 5 (Very Positive).

98%

reported a 4+ positive experience volunteering for SDRT

95%

of volunteers reported they felt supported as a tutor with SDRT (4+)

96%

of volunteers would recommend volunteering with SDRT to a friend (4+)

"No matter what my day or week has been like, I always feel better about life in general when I go home on Tuesday evenings after tutoring."

- Jody | Volunteer

"I love being involved in an organization with a hyper-local focus, that at the same time has impact that will be felt all around the world."

- Kathryn | Volunteer

Student Feedback

In 2023, **SDRT students** completed our feedback form in which they were asked questions on a scale from 1 (Not Positive) to 5 (Very Positive).

80%

stated their grades improved because of tutoring (4+)

93%

stated it was easy to ask their tutors for help (4+)

80%

stated it was easier to understand assignments because of tutoring (4+)

83%

stated tutoring gave them greater confidence (4+)

86%

stated their English was improving because of tutoring (4+)

SDRT is kicking off our 15th year!

Your contributions make it possible for students to receive the support they need!

Ready to make an impact?



Scan QR code to give now!

Or go to SDRefugeeTutoring.com/Give

Checks can be sent to:

PO Box 153773
San Diego, CA 92195

Connect with us

SDRefugeeTutoring.com

 @SDRefugeeTutoring



**SD REFUGEE
TUTORING**