

EMPOWERING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC WEALTH

# **2023 IMPACT REPORT**





### Why SMARTNet, Youth IT Career Readiness Program is Needed!

In 2023, The Ohio Department of Education mandated that high school students must attain educational credentials in Technology, Economics and Financial Literacy to graduate.

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Over 276,600 7-8 grade students in Ohio can now receive Career and Technical Education Credits.



Pyramid CDC – SMARTNet Program, for the past eight years has researched the best Computer Technology – Career-based curriculums for students from diversity background and education levels. In 2023, Pyramid CDC's curriculums has proven successful amongst our demographic by providing students with:

- Digital Empowerment
- Access to Opportunities
- Digital Literacy
- Digital Healthcare
- Civic Engagement
- Technological Inclusion

### Linden-McKinley STEM Academy is one of seven STEM schools in the Linden Community.

Linden-McKinley STEM Academy serves 828 students in Grades 7-12.

Linden-McKinley STEM Academy placed in the bottom 50% of all schools in Ohio for overall test scores (math proficiency is bottom 50% and reading proficiency is bottom 50%) for the 2020-2021 school year.

The percentage of students achieving proficiency in math is 4% (which is lower than the Ohio State average of 50%) for the 2020-2021 school year. The percentage of students achieving proficiency in reading/language arts is 13% (which is lower than the Ohio State average of 57%) for the 2020-2021 school year.

(https://www.publicschoolreview.com/linden-mckinley-stem-academy-profile)

### **SMARTNet Youth Career Readiness Program Impact Highlights**



A Teacher at The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University became so intrigued with the SMARTNet STEM Lesson, he asked the student to assist him with gaining access to the training modules.

### **Key Program Components:**

- Soft skills development
- Professional credential acquisition
- Structured time schedule adherence
- Enhanced Digital Literacy
- Facilitated transportation solutions

#### **Impressive Outcomes:**

- Youth obtained 5 to 12 Digital Literacy Certificates of Completion.
- Diverse participation, including former Kia Boys/Girls Group members and at-risk individuals.
- Proficiency demonstrated in Digital Literacy, STEM, Coding and Technology.
- Students motivated themselves, increasing attendance and assessment scores.
- Home-based efforts exceeded daily requirements.









### **SMARTNet - Adult IT & Career Readiness Program Impact Highlights**

### **2023 SMARTNet Training Participants:**

- ☐ AARP Senior Employment Participants (55 years and older) 32
- ☐ Black History STEM Month (8–13 years old) 30
- ☐ W3School Front-End Development Software Bootcamp (16 years and older) 14
- ☐ eSports Tournaments (15–18 years old) 21
- ☐ Teen Workforce IT Training (14–18 years old) 33
- ☐ Certiport Digital Literacy (14 years old and Adults) 52
- ☐ Google IT Support Specialist (16 years old and Adults) 9
- ☐ SMARTNet STEM Week (14–17 years old) 165

**Total Number of Students = 356** 



### Pyramid CDC - The Point. Entrepreneurship Readiness Program

### Biz & Tech Networking Breakfasts (April - September 2023):

- Hosted 9 Networking Breakfasts
- Engaged with over 70 small businesses

### **Biz & Tech Networking Event (October 2023):**

- Showcased products and services of over 35 small businesses
- Attorney-led discussion on best small business practices

### <u>The Op! Marketplace (November - December 2023):</u>

- Provided a Retail Venue for 30+ small businesses to showcase products
- Venue utilized by small business owners, Internet influencers, artists and realtors for hosting Events













### CRTL (CONTROL) – R STEM APP

Pyramid CDC has emerged as one of the finalists for the JPMorgan Chase Tech - Social Good Grant, which entails eight months of Technology assistance provided by their IT Staff. This support is crucial for our endeavor to develop a CRM App.

SMARTNet Force for Good Winning Team

## JPMorgan Chase - Force for Good

The Pyramid CDC - SMARTNet Program actively took part in the JPMorgan Chase Tech for Social Good Programs' High School and College Hackathons. During these Events, students were tasked with developing innovative Technology tools to support Pyramid CDC in creating a mobile Customer Resource Management (CRM) App.



### **Pyramid CDC's – SMARTech E-Waste Program**

Pyramid CDC's – SMARTech Program refurbish and repair computer and electronic equipment is to reduce both E-Waste and cost of computer repairs to our community. The program provide students interested in an IT support career with real-work experience.

### **Laptop and Chromebook Holiday Give-Away**

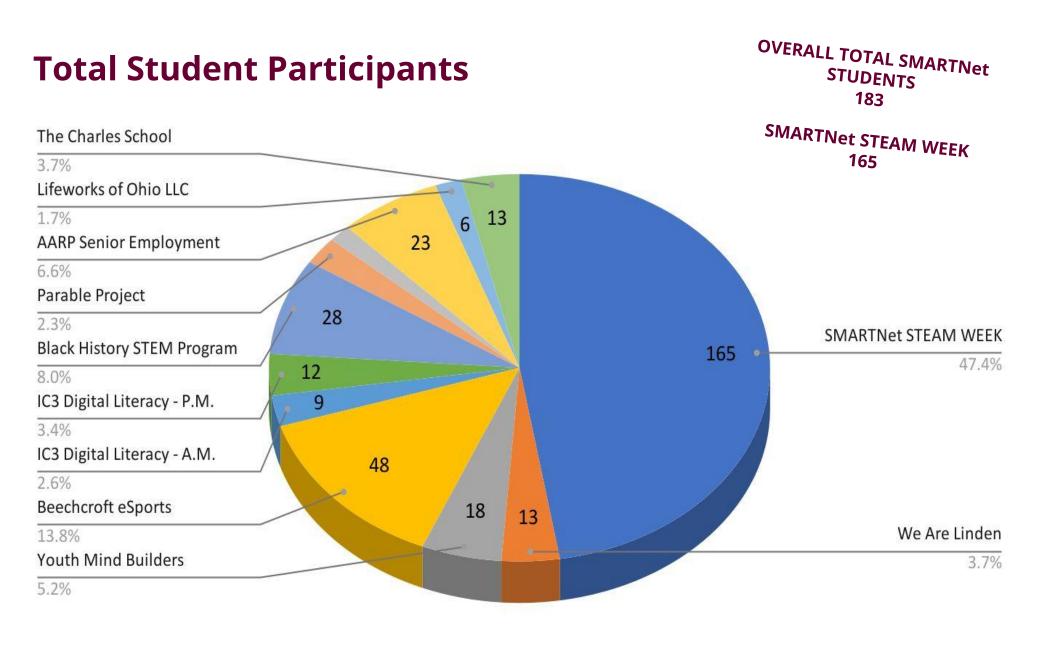
Pyramid CDC refurbished more than 116 Dell Chromebooks for students at **Hamilton Elementary STEM Academy, Youth Mind Builders** and **We Are Linden** this past 2023 Holiday Season.





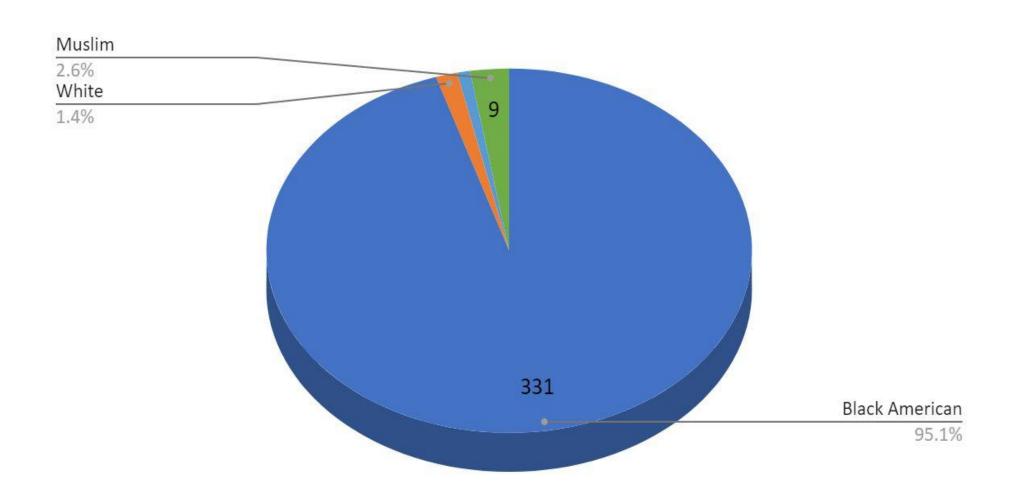
Over 450 refurbished Computer Laptops and Tablets have been donated or sold through our SMARTech Program.

### **SMARTNet Career Readiness Program Impact Highlights**



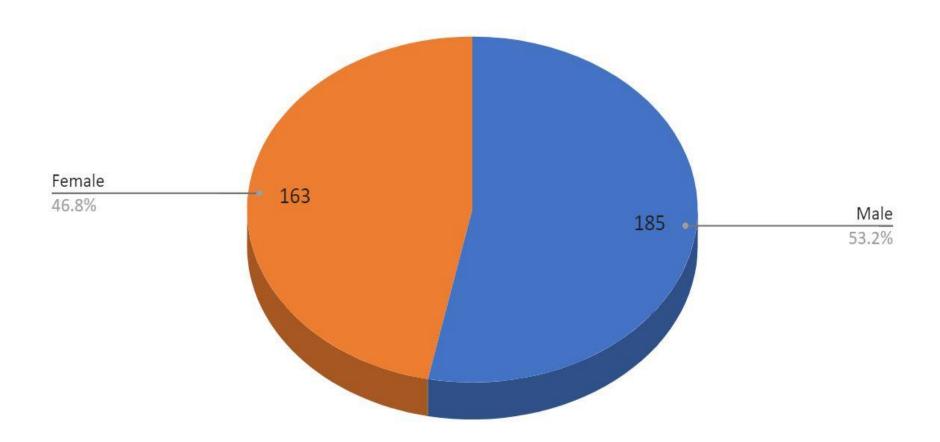
## SMARTNet Readiness Program Impact Highlights

## **MARTNe Total Student Demographics**



### **SMARTNet Career Readiness Program Impact Highlights**

## **MARTNet Total Female vs. Male Participants**



## GOALS/PRO GRAMS



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Pyramid CDC gathered valuable research data from 11 nonprofits leading to the development of skill-based curriculum for 2024, resulting in IT credentials. In alignment with Ohio Graduation requirements and youth requests, implementing the CTRL - R App, will give students more control over registering and attending courses, benefiting both our program and their educational growth.





Building our CTRL - R App will provide the students, parents and teachers access to our curriculum, along with student data and announcements to avoid the delays and disruption in training.



## **Expand Outreach and Provide IT Resources**

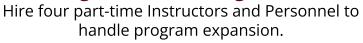
SMARTNet aims to expand its outreach to more middle and high schools.



#### **Empowerment**

Empower students through the CTRL - R App to register and attend skill-based courses, aligning with Ohio Graduation requirements and IT Credential Development for 2024.









#### **SMARTNet IT Career Summer Camp:**

Students will participate in a five-day, sixweek IT Career Summer Camp that provides them both a clearer understanding of the Technology World, and a skilled-based training for their careers.

Ages 11-14 will compete weekly in games and prizes, while coding and designing their own eSports Video Games. This year we seek to include Film Production as a curriculum selection.

### **SMARTNET**

#### **First Quarter Classes:**

Pyramid CDC is gearing up to offer new Computer, Technology and Entrepreneur classes starting on January 20, 2024. These classes meet the Ohio Graduation Requirements for CTE Credits. We're excited to announce various training classes, including:

- Digital Literacy
- Customer Service and Retail Certification
- CompTIA IT Fundamentals
- CTRL-R Code Training

#### **Annual Black History STEM Program:**

For the month of February, in collaboration with We Are Linden, Pyramid CDC will be hosting a STEM Segment for our young talents aged 8-14 at the Douglas Community Center.





#### **Biz & Tech Website:**

In 2024, we are launching a new web page dedicated to "Biz & Tech," with the goal of facilitating continuous communication amongst Small Business Owners.

This page will feature Vendor Shows and Pop-up locations designed to support Vendors from The Op! Marketplace in collaborating on collective vending efforts. Through this multifaceted approach, we aim to boost outreach, enrollment and retention. Our objective is not only to attract a diverse range of participants, but also to support them in their entrepreneurial journey, ultimately contributing to their long-term success.











JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.















Our mission is to provide Computer Technology Training,

Small Business Training and Technical Assistance for diverse individuals
to utilize Computer Technology and Entrepreneurship Opportunities
to overcome economic barriers.