



## Tis the Season!

Dear AES Friends and Family,

As we enter a season of hot chocolate, Christmas trees and mistletoe, we want to pause and hold space for all those who may struggle in silence during the holidays and are feeling a deep sense of grief for a multitude of reasons. We know that the holidays can be just as heavy as it is lighthearted and we want those folks out there to know that we see you and you are not alone.



From working with homeless youth to young people living in extremely toxic family situations, AES continues to find ways we can bring a sense of belonging to the youth who find themselves on the outside. AES has found that our best ability to do this is removing funding barriers for Sacramento based nonprofits and working alongside organizations to illuminate youth voice. We look forward to continuing this important work with our current AES Impact Grant grantees and those who will join our grant family in 2023. Watch for our January newsletter for more information on the next AES Impact Grant funding cycle.

Additionally, we are beyond thankful for the funding raised through our AES Thanks & Giving campaign, which will provide scholarships to vulnerable youth and continue our effort to let youth in Sacramento know that they are not alone - our AES Family believes in and supports them.

As the year comes to a close, from our heart to yours, thank you for being a part of our AES Family. No matter how you are connected with AES, you are an important part of the work we do and are making a huge difference in the lives of young people!

**AES Thanks & Giving Campaign =  
Investing in Young People's Dreams**



For the month of November, AES showcased our AES Family and all that we are #Thankful4AES. From the young people we work with, to volunteers, donors, nonprofit partners, and more, we could not do the work we do without the village of support that makes up our AES family.



In case you missed some of our social media posts highlighting our amazing young people like Lavine, [click here to see some of the videos](#).

Additionally, we raised almost \$4000 to provide scholarships to vulnerable youth! Thank you to everyone who donated and shared about this campaign with your connections. Our goal is to provide \$10,000 in scholarships to vulnerable youth in April of 2023. You can still give to support this campaign - [just click here](#) - we will continue to grow this fund to invest in the educational dreams of young people.

---

## MEASURE L (ALMOST) PASSED!

Measure L has not officially been announced as a passed measure however the chances of it passing are very high. As of right now, the percentage of yes votes stands at 62%. In terms of what's next, Council member Vang and the team as well as members of the Sacramento Kids First Coalition are already gearing up to discuss the implementation processes to put in place once the official results come in from Measure L. Following the implementation of Measure L, AES is also currently planning a retreat for the Sac Kids First



Coalition members as we all gear up to see how the City responds to the new 10 million dollars that will be added to the city's budget for youth funding. The SKFC retreat will take place in April 2023 and will create transformative relationships among coalition members and youth-serving organizations. Our hope for this retreat is to continue supporting youth leaders and youth-serving organizations in Sacramento by building trust and meaningful relationships both cross-culturally, cross-generationally, and across different organizations.

## The Results are In - Noel for the Win!

### Congratulations Noel for being elected to the Natomas Unified School District Board!

Our AES Family is beyond excited to announce that our very own Noel Mora was elected to serve as Trustee of the Natomas Unified School District. Noel joined our AES Family as a youth Board member and helped launch our SYA-CAT. He has always shown passion for uplifting Sacramento youth and their voices and engaging youth in civic engagement and voting initiatives.

As shared by Noel in his official announcement, "It is the most meaningful honor of my lifetime to be the Trustee for the school district I grew up in. I will be the first graduate, first openly LGBT, School Board member of Natomas Unified. The immense importance of both is not lost on me. I understand that being trusted with the educational and life outcomes of the youngest among us is something very sacred. I intend to work hard and diligently to represent the students, educators, parents, and residents of Natomas."



We are so proud of you Noel and have no doubt that you will continue to improve the lives of young people in your newly elected position!

## Introducing Board Member Breanna

Breanna Pierce is currently a youth program manager for a youth clinic in Oakland, California. She was born and raised in Sacramento, California and moved to the Bay Area for college in 2014 and decided to stay. She is passionate about amplifying youth voices and providing them with a safe space. Breanna's entire life has been committed to community service and improving her community. She has





been on the receiving side as well as providing services for others. She is happy to be in another space within AES that supports today's youth.

## State of Young California

The Young Invisibles west coast team put together the 5th annual State of Young California event on November 3rd, 2022 at California State University, Dominguez Hills.



At this event we heard updates on AB 132, a presentation on the Basic Needs Center implementation across junior colleges, learned about the Cradle 2 Career data collection project launching soon, and heard from young aspiring politicians running campaigns in both local and statewide campaigns.



The students that showed up also learned about the different ways to be part of statewide efforts to cancel student debt. As shared by AES' Director of Youth Programs Ana, "This event was such a powerful experience being around young leaders pushing for policy change around equity and diversity. It's inspiring to know that there are strong young leaders out in different communities throughout California who are pushing for initiatives towards a more equitable future!"



## Thank You AES Interns!



## Farewell to 2022 AES Interns

On Sunday November 13th, Voices of Change Youth Interns came together to celebrate their outstanding completion of the AES internship at John's Incredible Pizza. Huge thank you to Lavin, Talon, Grace, Ariana, and Thao for joining in on the fun and for completing their time in the Voices of Change internship from June 2022 - November 2022. It was such a fun experience getting to break bread and mingle at the arcade! We even got to see their best bumper car moves in action! These Voices of Change youth interns plan to join other internships, continue their passion projects, and apply for college/scholarships in these next coming months. We are beyond proud of each of them and look forward to continuing to support them in their big bright futures!



## Celebrating our Partner in Youth Advocacy - Youth Forward!

### Celebrating Youth Forward

A wide variety of Community Based Organizations that serve youth in Sacramento got together in November to celebrate the amazing accomplishments of [Youth Forward](#), a Sacramento public health and youth nonprofit organization that focuses on empowering marginalized young people to create policy change.

The celebration was filled with laughter, good vibes, and information on Youth Forward's past, present, and future. AES is excited to continue working with Youth Forward as we plan a Sac Kids First Retreat to build



transformative relationships among youth servicing organizations in Sacramento!



## Connect With AES

### Forward

Know someone who would be interested in this email? Forward this email to your friends and connections.

### Subscribe

Not currently getting our email newsletter? [Subscribe here](#) and stay up to date on AES' events and news.

### Follow

Follow AES' social media for current updates and event information. Click the icons and get connected.



## Share Your SMILE With AES!

**amazon**smile



**Getting those holiday gifts ordered?** Did you know that when you shop, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to AES? Click on the AmazonSmile logo above, select Alliance for Education Solutions, and start shopping! **Shop and support AES without spending additional money!**

