

## **The Learner's Potential Ambassador Program**

By Srisahiti Maddipatla

After COVID-19 hit the United States, getting a proper education was almost impossible, especially for underprivileged students. Many public school students in the U.S. live in poverty-stricken households (Layton). Finding qualified teachers who could create a beautiful relationship with their students was challenging. An effective program that can accommodate different regions and provide resources for students and teachers is required.

The Learner's Potential Ambassador Program addresses the current educational needs of students in the U.S. Many students are behind in their academics due to COVID-19 and are processing difficulties faced during the pandemic (Bombardieri). Human contact became riskier; technology was the primary vehicle for learning. What better way to improve educational inequality than to use technology to accomplish our goals?

In the Learner's Potential Ambassador Program, the North South Foundation will select middle and high school students as representatives or ambassadors for improving educational inequality. I realized that the Learner's Potential Ambassador Program would effectively connect students and teachers with qualified and passionate representatives. The underprivileged areas in the United States are in diverse locations. Education is a source of empowerment, and regardless of the knowledge or qualifications an education provides, the learning process helps people become the best version of themselves. Eventually, all students must be equipped to the learner's potential; they learn more about the world, and in the process, learn about themselves and what they can accomplish.

The Learner's Potential Ambassador Program is a practical and effective solution to improve educational inequality. The selected ambassadors will work individually and together to

create a curriculum for specific subjects, such as mathematics, science, social studies, and English. These ambassadors will also work with local schools and teachers to adapt the curriculum to the school's needs and offered courses. Ambassadors can send the curriculum to ambassadors living in other cities and states. This curriculum can also be adapted virtually and in person in case of unforeseen circumstances.

The ambassador program will also include a philanthropic component through monthly donation drives. Ambassadors will organize donation drives in their community and collect donations for materials, including stationery, notebooks, calculators, rulers, and computers. Afterward, ambassadors will partner with underprivileged local schools and donate supplies. Providing schools with adequate resources and materials to thrive is the most effective solution to combatting education inequality. Eventually, students will be more interested in pursuing their primary and secondary education as they will have the required information to study. Their learning will become more systematic with a fun and organized curriculum. Teachers will also become more involved in the learning process as they do not need to worry about their schools' lack of resources. Teachers will feel more fulfilled and confident in their abilities.

The Learner's Potential Ambassador Program can work very well for certain schools in Austin, Texas. For example, Manor High School, Navarro Early College High School, Travis Early College High School, and Crocket Early College High School have the majority of disadvantaged students. Without the proper supplies or guidance, these students will have more difficulties becoming the best versions of themselves. They will be behind in academics and eventually lose interest in their studies. Providing supplies and resources to these schools promotes the power of education.

The Learner's Potential Ambassador Program is a work in progress. Still, it has the primary goal of motivating students from underprivileged areas to work hard, be diligent, and become passionate about learning and pursuing their education. In the future, the program can expand internationally. Ambassadors from the United States can work with international ambassadors to create curriculums according to regional requirements. Fundraisers can also work internationally and raise money to buy supplies. Mirroring the same intentions of The Learner's Potential Ambassador Program in the United States in other countries gives better opportunities to underprivileged students worldwide.

The program can work with non-profit organizations that serve underprivileged students and schools. These non-profit organizations can also help partner with international schools that most ambassadors would not have access to or know much about. Having proper representatives who are involved and passionate about serving humanity creates an effective ambassador program that can work on solving education inequality in the U.S. and the world.

## Works Cited

“Covid-19 Changed Education in America - Permanently.” *POLITICO*,  
<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/04/15/covid-changed-education-permanently-479317>.

*Coe - Concentration of Public School Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch*,  
<https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator/clb/free-or-reduced-price-lunch>.