



SÍ SE PUEDE

Biannual Newsletter - 2017 Spring Edition

Why do you love SSP?

Jaime, age 4, has been attending SSP since he was a few months old. Each Thursday, his mom would attend our Mommy & Me class to help him become familiar with the place that would eventually become his *escuelita*. Diego, our St. Edward's University intern, has been at SSP for two years. These two dudes instantly hit it off and are great pals!

When they're not busy reading and learning in the classroom with Miss Marce, these two can be found on the playground tending to the garden boxes.

This year Diego has helped students learn even more about gardening by giving them

first-hand experience planting seeds, and monitoring progress. We asked Diego what he liked best about SSP: "Working with the kids is really cool. It reminds me of

when I was a kid, so I try to introduce new experiences. My mom introduced me to classical music at a young age and I believe it helped me learn better. So, I play classical music for the SSP students. And they really seem to like it!" We asked Jaime what he liked best about Diego and he said "Diego is really cool and funny!" **To read more: ssplearningcenter.org**



Improving Workforce Skills at SSP

In our ongoing effort to offer real-world skills and services, SSP has deepened our partnership with Austin Community College (ACC) to introduce a new and important opportunity - Career Pathways!

Every week, during the spring semester, SSP students develop skills and knowledge to further support workforce readiness. During this class, students learn how to write professional resumes, practice for job interviews and search for higher-paying jobs. Students also learn communication skills, as well as career related skills that will better prepare them for the Austin workforce!

Erin Taylor, our onsite Instructor and Coordinator shares: Recently, our SSP students went on a trip to the Hyatt Regency hotel with a beautiful view of Ladybird Lake. We visited the lobby and talked to an event planner, followed by a visit to their Human Resources office. There, students looked at current available positions to get a sense of what opportunities might exist once they're fully prepared to dive into the Austin workforce. They also learned about the benefits of hotel work, including health insurance, tuition reimbursement, free job training and sometimes free vacations, too.

Our students never fail to amaze us with their incredible work ethic and dedication. Their commitment to this class has been rewarding to see. All participants earned a Food Handler's Certificate which can be used to work in any hotel kitchen or restaurant in Central Texas.

Felicidades to all of our Career Pathways students on receiving your certificates and on taking steps towards better career opportunities!

Who's up for a game of Golf?!



We are excited to announce that in partnership with Juan in a Million, and BH4Kids, SSP will be participating in a Charity Golf Tournament at Onion Country Club on April 29, 2017. Cost per player is \$150. Hole Sponsorship is \$200. And Corporate Sponsorship begins at \$1,000. Food, drinks, and prizes available immediately after at the onsite post-party. Call us at (512) 788-7255 to sign up today!

Why Do I Support SSP?

"I can only imagine what my first day of school would've been like if I couldn't speak the language. How isolated and discouraged I'd feel. I support SSP because they set kids up for a wholly different school experience – a positive, exciting, and successful one." - April D., First time SSP Donor, Amplify Austin 2017

Interested in getting involved at SSP Learning Center?
Contact us at
info@ssplearningcenter.org



Because of you, we raised \$10,000!



Thank you to all who supported SSP Learning Center during Amplify Austin! With the support of SSP staff, board members, and friends, we were able to raise just over \$10,000 - more than two times the amount as last year! A special thank you to our friends at *Johnson & Sekin* in Dallas for their amazing pro-bono work of creating a unique and powerful marketing campaign.

To celebrate our success during Amplify Austin, we hosted a night of fun at CRAFT in East Austin. Friends, donors, and students came together for an evening of watercolor painting, treats, and drinks.

A really BIG thank you to community sponsors who made the night possible: Que Bueno Bakery; Salt & Time; Cielo Water; Hops & Grain; Whole Foods; and CRAFT! We are thankful for your commitment to building up families through education and improving the community of Central Texas!



Todos Juntos, Sí Se Puede!

Did You Know?

In an occupation where there is traditionally high turnover rates, SSP is proud to stand apart. Did you know that SSP boasts a staff retention rate of 100% in our Early Childhood Ed Program? We credit this to our holistic approach, which allows staff to be active contributors to program development. Staff is also given opportunities to grow both personally and professionally. The SSP culture of compassion and consideration extends well beyond our clients. By successfully retaining staff, our students will always find a familiar face at SSP. We often hear parents, say how reassuring it is to return with their next child years later and find the same maestra that taught their first little one. This brings great comfort to the families and helps to further promote a safe, trusting, and familiar community for all!

Día de los Niños Celebration
April 29, 2017
10:00am - 12:00pm
4900 Gonzales St
Austin, TX 78702



SSP Learning Center Class of 2017 Graduation
May 11, 2017
10:30am-12:00pm