



# greater than

At Greater Than, we strive to demonstrate that there is a different way to approach the longstanding inequities in our education system. We believe that the broader community as a whole needs to come together to meet the needs of students and families and allow schools and teachers to focus on what they do best: facilitate learning. When a community-based organization can coordinate programs, partners, and help families meet their basic household needs, it enables a school environment to focus on the core purpose of teaching.

We view every aspect of our work through the **lens of racial justice** which guides our decision-making, relationships, policies, and practices. The disparities in education fall most profoundly along racial lines and placing racial equity at the center of our work is the best and most effective way to pursue change.



This lens leads us to hold **parents and primary caregivers** as the central stakeholders of our work.



In order to best serve the changing needs of students and families, we must prioritize **responsiveness and adaptability**, changing our approach as quickly and frequently as is needed.



This can only be accomplished through a combination of **partnerships and direct service**, leveraging the expertise and resources of other organizations alongside our own.



## Education

Our programs aim to support racially-just learning environments because equitable education is a right.



## Community

We are intent on moving from a system of holding power over community to holding power with community.



## Equity

We are committed to racial equity and the restructuring of systems that create inequities for people with marginalized identities.

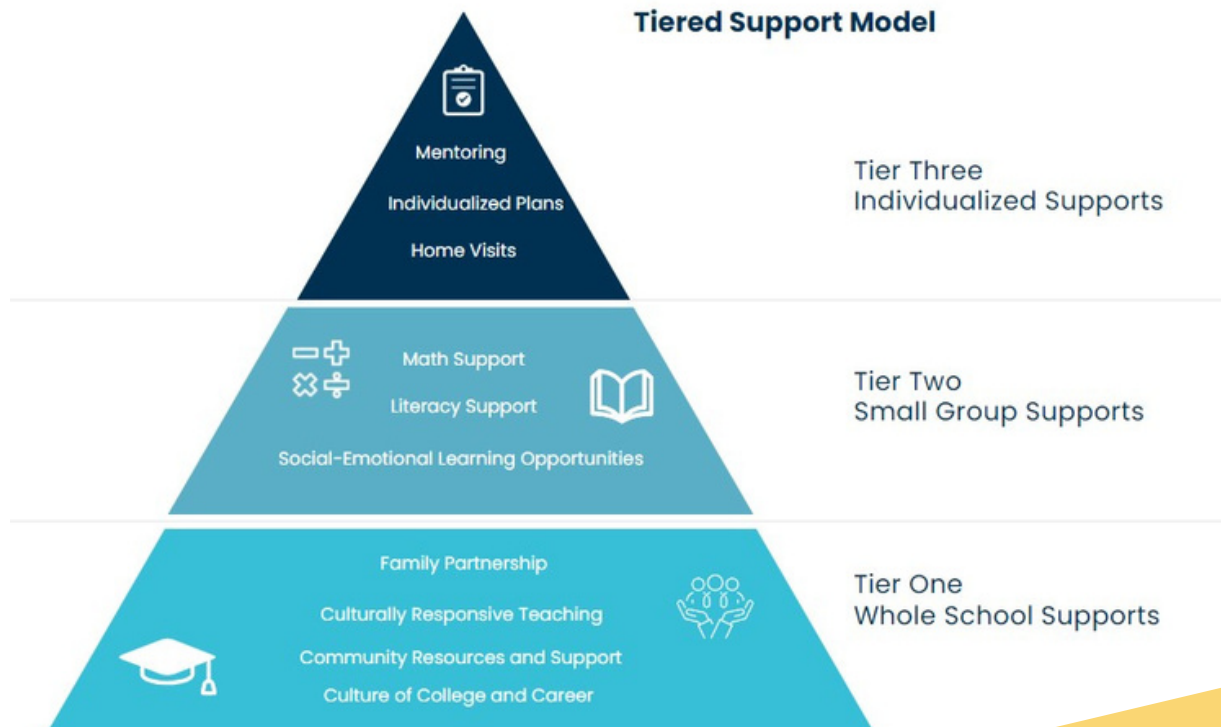
## Our Approach

We are flexible problem solvers committed to pursuing racially just learning environments.

The scope of our work includes programmatic supports for early learning, K-12 academics, post-secondary success, and entry into career.

We continuously work to expand our partnerships and relationships to provide robust support services across all points of the education continuum.

We strive to support students through **culturally responsive** and affirming methods based on their stated and observed needs. Our approach is **healing-centered**, putting community first, and prioritizes the **overall well-being** in addition to academic success of every student.



## Our Impact

### We serve schools in two distinct communities



#### Rockwood

Alder Elementary serves 370 students through 5th grade, among whom over 27 languages are spoken at home. This community is disproportionately impacted by a lack of stable housing, poor internet service, and gun violence. Alder students continue to receive support as they progress to Reynolds & HB Lee Middle Schools and Reynolds High School. We have been working to support Alder Track students since 2010.



#### Downtown Hillsboro

Lincoln Street Elementary serves 400 students through 6th grade. Over 62% are emerging bilingual students, most of whom speak Spanish as a first language. Lincoln Street students have persistently had the lowest academic success rates in the district. We began working with Lincoln Street students in 2021 and are currently growing our program to Evergreen Middle School to serve 7th and 8th graders and their families.

## The Power of Partnership

We work collaboratively with partners because we know that **together we are greater than** when we operate on our own. We can provide more robust, holistic supports to students without duplicating services by harnessing the power of partnership.

#### Active Collaboration Partners

like HOLLA Mentors and AEME (Alliance for Equity in Montessori Education) help us meet key needs voiced by the community and regularly engage with our team in a mutually supportive model.

#### Facilitated Partners

like Girls on the Run are programs coordinated by GT staff and implement the established program model of the partner organization with their support and guidance.

#### Legacy Partners

like Campfire Columbia continue to operate serving GT students in a sustained way without GT staff coordination since being initially recruited as a partner many years ago.



## Directly Meeting the Needs of Families, Students, and Schools

During the 2021-22 school year, Greater Than provided:

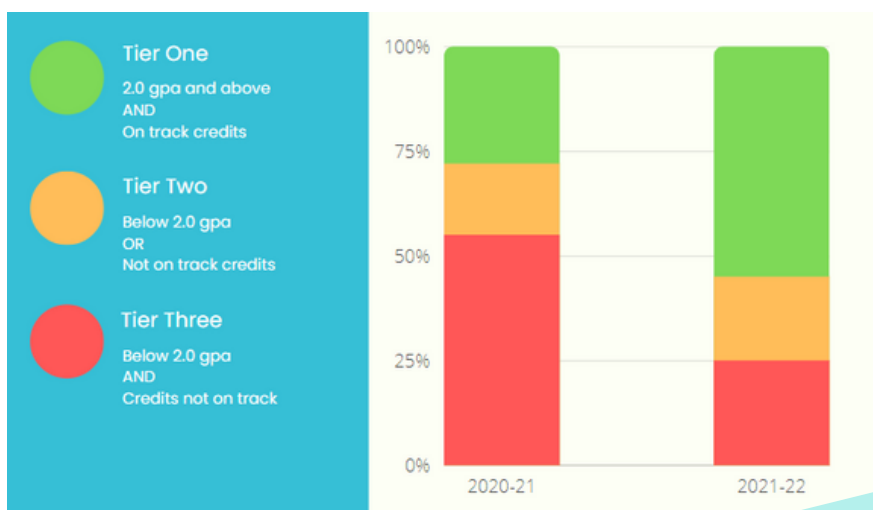
**110** families with bi-monthly food deliveries to their homes, regularly feeding 181 kids

**\$10k** financial assistance to families for expenses like utilities, winter clothing, food, and other necessities

Through our Math Stars program, students saw an average growth of 0.7 grade levels of additional math skills proficiency over the 6 weeks of after school instruction. Some students saw as much as two years of growth and all students saw some growth.

- ▶ Coordinated summer school programs and activities like "Bookmobile"
- ▶ Conducted outreach to recruit students for summer and school-year programs
- ▶ Worked directly with teachers to develop support plans for individual students
- ▶ Supported kindergarten readiness programs and conducted home visits for incoming kindergarteners

For the class of 2021, only 39% of students had been on track to graduate as of 9th grade yet 73% graduated on time with our support.



Our Reynolds High School cohort had a 30% decrease in the number of students in need of Tier Three interventions