



Reality Changers

Social Value Statement

Over the next generation, donors will transfer an unprecedented amount of wealth. Greater attention to gift utility can leverage the impact of those transfers and thereby enhance the satisfaction of donors, the benefits to fundraising institutions, and the payoff for the larger society. Indeed, the most valuable gifts - those with the greatest utility - help both the nonprofit and the society in which the nonprofit is embedded." [1]

As described in our Need Statement, Reality Changers students live predominantly in the toughest parts of town where homicides are most prevalent. A recent study estimated society's cost at over \$17 million per murder victim and approaching \$24 million per murderer.^[2] Much of this cost is based on loss of productivity, as most homicide victims are under the age of 30.^[3] While it is unimaginable for us to think that one of our students would have otherwise grown up without the program and found himself or herself on either side of a gun, preventing the fall of a murder victim or the rise of a homicide perpetrator saves society untold millions of dollars in monetary and social costs

Meanwhile, at Reality Changers, transforming just one of our lowest-performing students into a high-achieving academic performer produces untold millions of dollars in monetary and social benefits. By sending students living in our locality to UC San Diego's Academic Connections for just one summer, their chances of graduating from college increase from 3% to 81%. And when such Reality Changers students attend Academic Connections three times (after 9th, 10th, and 11th grade), they don't just beat the odds or change the odds... they reverse the odds by going from having just a 3% chance of graduating from college to a 97% chance of graduating from college.

So as you deduce for yourself the social value of Reality Changers, ask yourself this question: what other organization has a bigger impact on living, breathing human beings who might not be living, breathing human beings otherwise?

[1] Riggs, Henry E. "The Mouths of Gift Horses: Nonprofits should court contributions that help both themselves and society." Stanford Social Innovation Review. Summer 2010, Volume 8, Number 3, Page 21-22.

[2] Delisi, Matt, et al. Murder by numbers: monetary costs imposed by a sample of homicide offenders. The Journal of Forensic Psychiatry & Psychology vol Vol. 21, No. 4, August 2010, 501-513. <http://www.soc.iastate.edu/staff/delisi/murder%20by%20numbers.pdf>

[3] "Epicenter - California Injury Data Online," California Department of Public Health, accessed 8/19/2011, <http://epicenter.cdph.ca.gov/ReportMenus/CustomTables.aspx>.