

Lake Avenue Community Foundation Gains 100th Volunteer



Anna Ochoa (center), director of the STARS tutoring program, spends some time with two of the participants. More than 150 local students are assisted by STARS.

Lake Avenue Community Foundation announced that it has secured its 100th community volunteer to support the acclaimed STARS after-school tutoring program. More than 150 local youth, ranging from kindergarten to high school, participate in the program, which is held Monday through Thursday from 3 to 6:30 p.m. at 500 Villa St.

The 100th volunteer, Daniel Hsieh of Pasadena, is pleased to be a part of an organization that gives so much back to the community.

"I can't believe this, but I had no idea about all the programs and community services being done in this little building to make a greater impact in the lives of neighborhood children," he said. "LACF is the best-kept secret in Pasadena with all they are doing to make a long and lasting impact in these kids lives.

"I am grateful for LACF giving me the opportunity to serve in the community. And I hope to build upon LACF's success."

STARS takes a community-collaborative, asset-building approach to after-school programming to provide Pasadena Unified School District students, primarily residing in northwest Pasadena. It gives them an opportunity to rise above the challenges of their environment to become college-educated, responsible citizens of the community.

By providing academic support, enrichment opportunities and family-strengthening activities, and by encouraging growing and accountable relationships with positive adult role models (tutors and mentors), the foundation provides an environment in which students are challenged to grow toward becoming what God intended them to be.

LACF is a faith-based, nonprofit organization that is unleashing the God-given potential of at-risk youth, providing the tools necessary for them to thrive academically, emotionally, economically and spiritually. LACF is in a relationship with approximately 150 low-income students in Pasadena, cultivating greater community and hope in the lives of the students and their families.

For more information, call (626) 449-4960 or visit www.lakeavefoundation.org.