FIRST® launched its STEM Equity Community Innovation Grants program in 2016 to provide grants to underrepresented and underserved communities. An evaluation was conducted to assess the implementation, impact, and practices around access, equity, and inclusion. The following summarizes some of the key findings. For more information contact: diversity@firstinspires.org

Impact of the FIRST® STEM Equity Community Innovation Grant

- **9 Sites**
- **1,080 Youth Reached**
- **152 Teams Started**

### Reached more underrepresented and underserved youth

- 72% Economically Disadvantaged
- 43% Female
- 43% White/Caucasian
- 29% Hispanic/Latino/a
- 15% Black/African American
- 7% North American Indian
- 6% Other Races

### Positive outcomes as a result of participation in FIRST®

- **GAINS IN 21ST CENTURY SKILLS**
  - Teamwork: 93%
  - Problem Solving: 97%
  - Leadership: 91%

- **GAINS IN STEM**
  - STEM Interest: 95%
  - STEM Awareness: 93%
  - STEM Career Interest: 90%

- **Factors that resulted in success**
  - Champion with a personal connection to the community
  - Flexibility holding off-season events and extending the season to accommodate schedules
  - Removing Barriers providing transportation, food, child care, and coach stipends
  - Peer Mentoring by other FIRST teams
  - Community Support Training

### Results are from an evaluation of the 2016-2017 FIRST® STEM Equity Community Innovation Grant www.firstinspires.org DI002

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