An Oakland resident for over 10 years, Jing Wen Tan's two children, Natalie and Liana, both became involved with EBAYC when they were in 1st grade and kindergarten at Bella Vista Elementary. Jing values EBAYC for the learning opportunities it provides her children. “It allows them to open up their minds and expose them to new things.” Jing feels more connected with the school through EBAYC, and her kids do too. “I can see the dedication and energy that my children are putting into their work. It is a reflection of how much the EBAYC staff invests into helping with the children. Every person here truly cares about the kids.”

Tyree Washington joined the EBAYC family when he was 13 as a volunteer with our neighborhood clean up crew. “It was a way to keep me off the streets.” EBAYC was there to support Tyree in charting a new course for his future after an incident at his high school got him placed on probation. Tyree secured a job as an Academic Mentor at one of EBAYC’s elementary after-school programs while also completing his high school coursework. “That experience inspired me a lot. Being around the love and the spirit of the kids gives me hope.” Tyree is now working part-time while attending college, with plans to transfer to a 4-year college and to continue working with young people. Tyree reflected, “Whatever obstacles you go through, stay focused on what you need to do. And know that EBAYC is here to help you get through it.”

Oakland High School’s Shop 55 Wellness Center provides academic, health and social support to high school students as they navigate young adulthood. Many of our Shop 55 youth have been EBAYC students since elementary school, and give back to their community by interning at our elementary and middle school sites. “I want to make the same impact on a young person as my mentor made on me in the 3rd grade,” Hu Au, an Oakland High junior who has been a part of EBAYC since grade school, shared. In addition to support with job placements and higher education, Shop 55 students receive mentorship, guidance and community to learn to trust and invest in themselves.

What would you do with $10 million to improve your community? Our Fresno Youth Action Team surveyed over 1,000 youth to find out what support Fresno youth need to lead fulfilling lives. The findings revealed that a majority of youth feel there is a great need for career pathway opportunities; social, emotional and wellness services; and academic support services. "I've never seen something like this in Fresno before," said Alexis Mitchell, who first started interning with EBAYC as a Sunnyside High School student. "As young people, it gives us a chance to have an impact in the society we live in and firsthand make decisions that better the community that we live in." The Youth Action Team will use the findings to advocate for funding for youth services modeled on EBAYC’s success in Oakland.

EBAYC envisions a future where all young people grow up to be lifelong builders of a just and compassionate multicultural society.

Our mission is to support all youth to be safe, smart and socially responsible.

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