Improving overall grade performance and increasing student retention rates for economically disadvantaged students in Central Texas schools is at the heart of the Neighborhood Longhorns Program (NLP) in the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement at The University of Texas at Austin.

Started in 1991 by Texas Athletics as a way to introduce children in neighborhoods surrounding The University of Texas at Austin to the college environment, NLP inspires students to do their best and offers them opportunities to experience the university and envision themselves as college students. NLP remains the main campus organization for student-athletes to contribute service hours through events and coach-inspired programs like an initiative where students earn rewards for maintaining healthy lifestyles.

NLP provides approximately 5,500 elementary and middle school students with 70 opportunities annually to visit The University of Texas at Austin campus with educational programs like College for a Day, an all-day event that provides tours and hands-on activities at various UT departments. Students receive incentives throughout the school year based on their academic success and can also earn scholarships, which are disbursed upon enrollment at an institution of higher learning. In addition to special event opportunities, NLP recruits individual UT students and student organizations to volunteer as tutors for program participants. As volunteers, UT students grow to understand the value of community service. Whether they are helping a child with homework or building a child’s self-esteem, these UT role models learn firsthand how a little time and a few kind words can change a child’s life.

“We work with principals and teachers at each school to understand their specific educational goals and how NLP can assist them. We’re there to help, not reinvent the wheel.”

— Patrick Patterson
Assistant Vice President for School Partnerships

RESULTS MATTER

89% of NLP students increased their overall grade average.

89% of NLP students received awards for academic achievement.

97% average school attendance rate for NLP participants.

312 UT Austin students contributed 828 volunteer hours.

www.neighborhoodlonghorns.org
YOU CAN HELP!
Help economically disadvantaged students in Central Texas realize that a college education is within reach! Your support makes a real difference in children’s lives by providing them with tutoring from UT student role models, scholarship opportunities and incentives, such as visits to The University of Texas at Austin campus. You also create community service opportunities for UT students. The Neighborhood Longhorns Program’s wide reach is dependent on the generosity of our donors and volunteers.

YOU CAN:
• Underwrite all or a portion of the NLP annual budget
• Become a sponsor of the BEVO Celebrity Golf Tournament
• Join the BEVO Fan Club at: www.bevofanclub.com
• Donate online at: bit.ly/givetonlp

The students are more motivated to learn and as a result their grades have improved. Many have developed an interest in going to college and have included it as one of their long-term goals.
— Cheryl Gibson, Site Coordinator
Zavala Elementary School

Contact us for more information or to learn how to support the Neighborhood Longhorns Program:
Celina E. Ruiz-Snowden, Director
Hannah Beck, Student Program Coordinator
2109 San Jacinto Blvd., Stop E1700
Austin, TX 78712 • (512) 232-4650

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neighborhoodlonghornsprogram
@neighborhoodlonghorns
@UTexasNLP
www.neighborhoodlonghorns.org

The Neighborhood Longhorns Program is a unit within the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement (DDCE) at The University of Texas at Austin (EIN 74-6000203). All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

“...The Neighborhood Longhorns Program inspires and incentivizes youngsters to establish the work ethic and discipline necessary to make the dream of a college education a reality.”

Christine Plonsky
Texas Athletics Chief of Staff