

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Programs, Partnerships, Progress



STUDENT
STARTUP

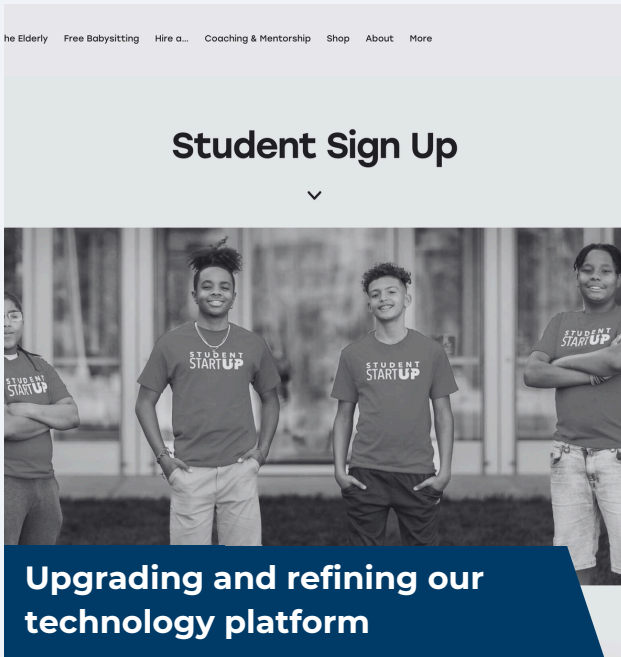
2025 FOCUS AREAS



**Partnership with Y.E.E.P
(Youth Educational Empowerment Program)**



**Events and engagement at
Student Startup**



**Upgrading and refining our
technology platform**



**Creating the SSAP Program (Student Sitters
Apprenticeship Program)**



**Supporting student entrepreneurs
through paid catering opportunities**



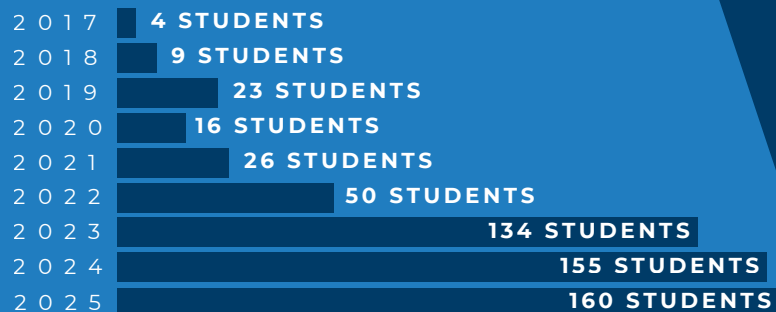
**Expanding the reach and
impact of RMLC**



BY THE NUMBERS

2025 was another standout year for Student Startup! With continued growth in our programs and over 577 students served since our start, we expanded our impact and strengthened our community even further. This year's achievements set the stage for an even brighter future!

HISTORIC TOTAL PARTICIPATION



SSAP 19 STUDENTS INVOLVED
85.5 HOURS OF BABYSITTING

577

STUDENTS SERVED SINCE FOUNDING

70 STUDENT MOWERS

62 STUDENT SITTERS

28 STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS

RMLC

24 STUDENTS

11 GRADUATES

8 STUDENTS COMPLETED 25+ YARDS

4 STUDENTS COMPLETED 10+ YARDS

78 CUSTOMERS SERVED

241 YARDS MOWED FOR FREE

10 COACHES | 1K+ YARDS SINCE LAUNCH

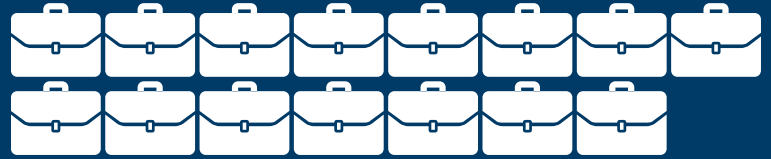


EVENTS

In 2025, Student Startup hosted events that empowered young entrepreneurs through learning, networking, and skill-building, highlighting our mission to inspire creativity and equip the next generation for success.

Raising Men Summer Mowing Clubs

Many of our most effective community building events were the Raising Men Mowing clubs that Student Startup hosted twice per week during June and July. 24 students benefited from business training and character coaching on what it means to be a real man and then had the opportunity to work together to provide free mowing to the elderly as they sharpened their skills. 11 students completed the 50 Yard Challenge and earned new equipment to start their business while learning the joy of using their strength to serve others!



15 EVENTS HELD IN 2025



42 STUDENTS AT
LARGEST EVENT

Student Sitters Apprenticeship Program

One of our most impactful new programs was the Student Sitters Apprenticeship Program (SSAP), where 19 students completed 85.5 hours of babysitting for local families while learning responsibility, professionalism, and the value of serving others.

JAN. 12

NEW YEAR PARTY

Wichita Sports Forum

MAR. 8

MOWING BOOTCAMP

The Learning Lab

Students at the Startup Mowing Bootcamp got an exclusive first look at our tech platform launch and gained inspiration from industry speakers sharing their paths to success.



MAY 29

GET STARTED EVENT

Wichita State University

JUNE
9-13

BABYSITTER BOOTCAMP

Trinity Academy

Our Babysitter Bootcamp helped participants enhance their skills with training in business, safety, infant care, and CPR, along with hands-on activities and prizes.



JUN. 26

RMLC BBQ

L+N Ranch

JULY
24

STUDENT SUMMIT

Wichita State University

The Student Summit featured inspiring speakers, hands-on learning, and meaningful connections for student entrepreneurs with Student Startup.



JULY 25

STUDENT STARTUP MOVIE NIGHT

Riverlawn Christian Church

AUG. 2

RMLC GRADUATION

The Ellis Residence

The RMLC Summer BBQ at the Ellis residence featured a pool party, dinner, and inspiring speeches from Chris Ellis and Joe Woodward, celebrating the RMLC graduates.



OCT. 4

FOSTER PARENTS AFTERNOON OUT

Pleasantview Baptist Church

SSAP's first Foster Parents' Afternoon Out babysitting event brought together service, gratitude, and love as volunteers cared for children and supported foster and kinship families in the community.



OCT. 5

STUDENT STARTUP COOKOUT

The Wark Farm

STUDENT PROFILE

CORTEZ'S STORY

Learning Perseverance One Lawn at a Time

Some of the most important lessons don't come from a classroom. They come from showing up, pushing through challenges, and realizing you are capable of more than you thought.

For Cortez, that lesson came through lawn care. Early on, the lawns felt overwhelming. They were huge, hot, and exhausting. There were days when the work seemed too big to finish. But each time, Cortez and his team finished anyway. "I learned perseverance from the huge lawns we mowed that seemed too big to mow," Cortez shared. "We did it, and I realized that I could do it."

One day in particular stands out. Paired with a new teammate, Cortez spent the entire day working through difficult lawns. By the time they reached the final yard, exhaustion had set in. But when Cortez looked back at the finished work, something clicked. Without even thinking about it, the lawn was simply perfect. The moment was so meaningful that he took a photo, capturing a moment of clarity, pride, and accomplishment.

The impact went beyond the physical work. After completing another long job in the heat, a homeowner came outside with water and handed them five dollars each. "It wasn't anything crazy," Cortez said, "but it blew me away." For the first time, he realized the work was not just

mowing grass. It was doing quality work, earning pay, and helping someone at the same time. That realization brought a deep sense of pride and fulfillment.

The experience also taught Cortez dedication and responsibility. There were many times when he had to pick up extra slack, helping new teammates learn or pushing through when others were struggling. While it was not easy, being counted on mattered. "It made me happy that I was trusted," he said. "I had been doing this, and I wasn't going to stop."

Looking ahead, Cortez hopes to continue working in lawn care or pursue a future in cooking, another passion he has discovered along the way. No matter where he goes next, the lessons of perseverance, commitment, and pride in hard work will continue to guide him.



STUDENT PROFILE

BLAKE'S STORY

From High School Hustle to Entrepreneurial Success

Blake Logan's entrepreneurial journey began with a simple goal. As he entered high school, he wanted to start saving for the future while avoiding traditional after school jobs in fast food or retail. Lawn care quickly stood out as the right fit. It worked around his school and sports schedule, and it gave him the opportunity to earn meaningful income through hard work.

Blake's path took a significant turn when a neighbor who worked as a business coach introduced him to Student Startup. Through the program, Blake gained mentorship, resources, and a community that helped him move from mowing lawns to running a legitimate business. He learned essential skills such as managing taxes, forming an LLC, and setting up business banking. Along the way, mistakes became valuable lessons, teaching him the importance of honesty and responsibility.

Blake's ambition led him to take on larger projects, and landing his first ten thousand dollar job marked a major turning point. The achievement represented trust, responsibility, and a new sense of freedom. His hard work was further recognized when he presented Logan Lawn Care at the 2024 Kansas Entrepreneurship Challenge, earning the highest tier recognition and

a one thousand seven hundred dollar cash prize.

Along the way, Blake has also learned the value of giving back. By helping clients maintain their homes and yards, he creates more time for families to spend together, making his work meaningful beyond just business success.

Looking ahead, Blake hopes to buy a house, eventually own a storage unit complex, and continue growing Logan Lawn Care by expanding his client base and taking on larger projects. Blake's story reflects perseverance, mentorship, and ambition, showing how hard work and accountability can turn a high school hustle into long-term opportunity.



STUDENT PROFILE

ERIC'S STORY

Learning Skills and Building Confidence Through Lawn Care

Eric Walterscheid's journey with Student Startup began with a simple goal: to earn money while learning valuable skills. What started as basic lawn mowing quickly turned into an opportunity to gain practical experience and confidence. Along the way, Eric discovered new skills he hadn't expected to learn, such as trimming bushes and small trees.

A defining moment for Eric came when he realized he could master edging and create straight, clean lines. That accomplishment gave him confidence and showed that consistent effort and practice really pay off. Beyond technical skills, Eric also learned the importance of managing his earnings. "When I first started getting my money, I realized that I actually had to spend it wisely," he reflects.

School lessons became practical tools for work. Eric found that his math skills helped with budgeting and measurements, while English and grammar skills were important for professional communication with clients. These lessons, combined with hands-on experience, have helped him grow both as a worker and a young entrepreneur.

Eric has also gained a sense of pride in the work he provides for his clients. Knowing that he is helping people take

care of their lawns and homes has made his work feel meaningful and rewarding, giving him motivation to keep improving and expanding his skills.

Looking ahead, Eric has clear goals. He plans to expand his business by finding more lawns in his area and providing quality service to more clients. In one year, he sees himself working for more people and continuing to build his business into something bigger. Eric's story shows how hard work, learning, and dedication can turn a simple job into a foundation for future success.



STUDENT PROFILE

MAY'S STORY

Finding Confidence Through Babysitting

For May, joining the Student Sitters Program marked a meaningful turning point in her personal growth. Having grown up shy and reserved, socializing did not come easily. Over the past year, she began stepping outside of her comfort zone, and the program provided a supportive environment to practice communication in real-life situations. Interacting with children — and building trust with parents she had never met before — helped her become more confident initiating conversations and connecting with new people.

As she gained experience, May noticed her confidence steadily growing. Situations that once felt intimidating became more comfortable, and she learned how to communicate clearly, stay patient, and handle responsibility with maturity. Each babysitting job strengthened her ability to adapt and engage with others in a positive way.

Some of the most meaningful moments came at the end of babysitting sessions, when the children would give hugs before heading home. These simple gestures reflected the trust and relationships she had built, making each job feel purposeful and rewarding.

Through the experience, May developed strong social skills and confidence — abilities she recognizes as

essential for interviews, professional settings, and future business opportunities. The Student Sitters Program not only helped her communicate more effectively but also gave her the confidence to build friendships and feel at ease in social environments.

Looking ahead, she sees babysitting as a valuable side opportunity rather than a primary focus. Still, the communication skills, confidence, and personal growth she gained through the program will continue to benefit her in every area of life.

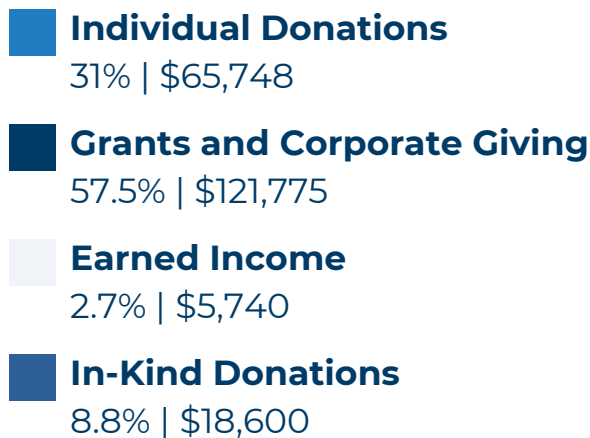
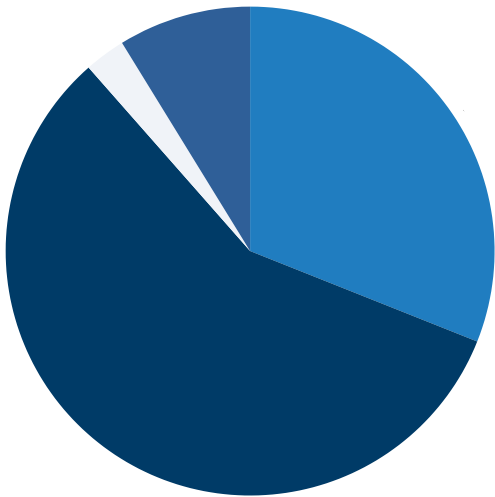


FINANCIALS

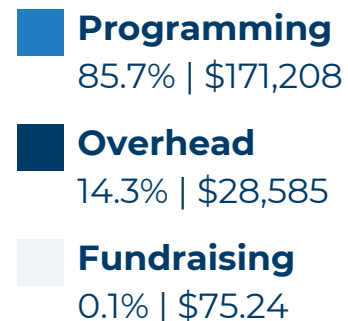
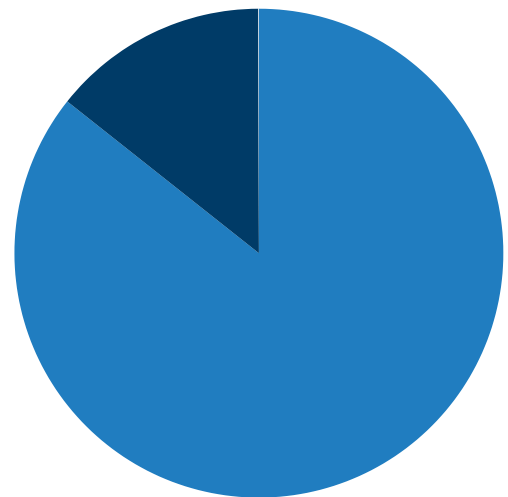
THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

We want to thank our incredible donors for their support in 2025! Your generosity has helped us empower even more students with meaningful job opportunities and real-world experience. Because of you, Student Startup continues to grow, expand our impact, and equip young entrepreneurs with skills for their future. We're deeply grateful for your belief in our mission and look forward to another year of creating opportunities together.

REVENUE



EXPENSES



2026 GOALS



Leverage our tech platform to maximize impact.



Broaden the reach of our babysitting program with two new initiatives.

Double the number of students served, achieving 100% growth.



Expand free lawn care services for foster families.



Develop a more structured and impactful coaching program.

Streamline event operations to enhance efficiency and outcomes.



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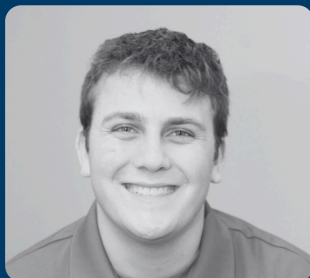
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STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM



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Thank you to our dedicated staff, generous donors, and supportive community for making 2025 a successful year for Student Startup!

To help our initiative, email cnewton@studentstartup.org.