

ALEKHYA SUREPEDDI

BREAKTHROUGH SILICON VALLEY

Over the past two summers I interned for a wonderful non-profit organization called Breakthrough Silicon Valley, whose mission is to empower students from underserved communities so they can reach their full potential. The organization provides a 6 year long multifaceted program that is full of academic resources and enrichment opportunities so the students are on track for a 4-year university. Over the past two years I've been a part of their summer program where I played many roles: teacher, camp counselor, spirit committee leader, etc. I organized spirit activities such as "spirit weeks" with each day having a different theme and prize and Olympics, in which different group of students competed in physical and academic competition. I also managed my own personal crew of 8 students whom I served as a personal mentor for 6 weeks and a guide for special events like a Mock Career Fair and STEM Challenge. The biggest part of my job was the teacher aspect. I taught two 50-minute classes on Geometry last summer, with each class having 10 students each. This involved me working with an instructional coach and designing daily objectives and engaging lesson plans. My students on average score 35% higher on their post exams compared to their pre exams! Overall my experience with this organization was extremely memorable and enriching and I recommend this opportunity to anyone, especially those who love working with children or are interested in the field of education.