

# Community Impact Statement – 2025 FIRST Tech Challenge World Championship

The City of Santa Clara's support was instrumental in helping our youth FTC robotics team, Team 19819 Astrobruins, compete at the 2025 FIRST Tech Challenge World Championship in Houston, Texas. This prestigious global event brought together over 19,000 students from 66 countries, and we proudly represented our city as the **#1 qualifying team from Northern California** to advance to this world-class competition.

The impact of this experience on our youth was profound across all four key areas by which we measure success:

**Competitive Excellence:** Our team earned **3rd Place Motivate Award on the world stage**, which celebrates teams that demonstrate exceptional outreach, team spirit, and efforts to expand access to STEM. In addition, **one of our members received the FTC Dean's List Award**, a distinction given to only ten students worldwide for leadership, technical expertise, and community impact. These honors reflect not only individual achievement but the strength of the entire team and the supportive environment that helped them grow.

**Innovation & Learning:** Our robot showcased innovative engineering solutions, including AI-driven pathing and real-world design concepts. The countless hours spent prototyping, programming, and refining our robot offered valuable hands-on engineering experience that extends far beyond the competition. Students developed critical life skills—resilience, communication, collaboration, and critical thinking—while interacting with global peers and industry leaders.

**Community Impact:** Before Worlds, we contributed hundreds of hours of community service—hosting robotics museums, mentoring younger FIRST LEGO League teams, leading STEM workshops at the Central Park Library, and organizing free robotics events across the city. We've demonstrated our robot at numerous community events, inspiring younger students to explore robotics and engineering concepts through hands-on interaction with our technology.

**Sustainability & Growth:** The World Championship experience gave us valuable insight into how top teams build long-term success. We returned inspired with new ideas to expand our training program, strengthen mentorship between veteran and new members, and pursue more sustainable fundraising strategies. This momentum positions us to grow our program and reach even more Santa Clara students with meaningful STEM opportunities.

As one team member shared about the experience, *"Being on the world stage with the Astrobruins team expanded my vision of what's possible. We weren't just competing; we were exchanging ideas with the brightest young minds globally. Santa Clara's support opened doors we never imagined."*

We're a community-based team made up of students from Santa Clara schools, including many who are part of the 49ers STEM Leadership Institute at Santa Clara High School and Cabrillo Middle School, proudly representing the city on a global stage.

The City of Santa Clara's support made it possible for all students to access this remarkable learning and growth opportunity. Thanks to your support, our team not only competed but returned inspired, energized, and determined to give back. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the City of Santa Clara to inspire and support the next generation of innovators, problem solvers, and STEM leaders.