

(DESCRIPTION)

Text, What is the origin of the Economic Equity and Financial Education Pilot Program? Jimi Harris, PG&E, Program Lead.

(SPEECH)

The program was developed after the George Floyd murder in 2020. We wanted to develop a racial equity program to support the African-American community. But we didn't want to just do what a lot of other corporations were doing, which was throwing a lot of money at organizations. We really wanted to do something that was strategic, that would create impacts, and it really hadn't been done before. And so we wanted to work with a really key partner with an established reputation like the Haas Business School, to facilitate this educational opportunity, but also create a scholarship program for these high potential students.

In addition, we want to put them in a position to be successful in college. And that's why we're helping to underwrite their college educations-- plural, with an \$8,000 scholarship that's distributed by Mills at Northeastern University, who's actually providing case management and counseling services for all the students.

(DESCRIPTION)

Text, What does the future look like for this program?

(SPEECH)

We took the time to design a specific program that could have longevity. After two years of planning, we were able to launch a program.

And while other corporations and entities are not as invested in this issue anymore. And haven't reinvested, and put resources and time into this issue, PG&E is still at the table. And we're making an impact. And this is just the beginning. This is the first cohort. And we'd like to see how these results can create a platform to increase these opportunities for other students in California.