



CSF Scholars Kristopher, Terrell, Samantha & Charise celebrate graduation

July **2018**  
**Report to the Community**

# Wealthy students are 5x more likely to graduate from college than low-income students<sup>1</sup>

This staggering disparity fuels our passion to foster educational equity, making college accessible and affordable to underserved students – those from low-income families, foster youth, students of color and first-generation college students.

<sup>1</sup>The Pell Institute's "Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States" (2018)



College Prep Advisor  
Brian celebrates  
graduation with CSF  
Scholar David

# Our Mission

We provide a unique integrated system of supports and scholarships to inspire underserved, low-income students to finish high school, graduate from college and succeed in life.



CSF Scholar London

*We do everything in our power to help our students succeed!*

**62% of CSF Scholars graduate from college.**

**9,500 college graduates strong... and counting!**

## Our Vision

A nation where all students, regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or familial educational achievement, have equal opportunities to access and complete a postsecondary education.

A higher educational landscape where low-income and first-generation students, foster youth and other vulnerable student populations attend, persist and graduate from college at least on par with their higher-income counterparts.

A world where cycles of intergenerational poverty are interrupted and ultimately broken, as a result of the educational attainment levels and postsecondary professional accomplishments of low-income and first-generation students and other vulnerable student populations impacted by our work.

**Join us in changing lives through education!**

# Who We Serve

*College Success Foundation serves a very vulnerable student population.*



College Prep Advisor Michael assisting CSF Scholar Johnathan

We serve the underserved—those who might not otherwise get to college without our help. Our scholars include young people from low-income families, students of color, foster youth and first-generation college students.

## *Our Student Profile*

**71% are low-income**

**71% are students of color**

**76% are first-generation college students**



CSF Scholar Adna

## Where We Serve

*We serve students in high-need areas where graduation rates are low.*

Our advisors work directly in schools with high percentages of low-income students. We partner with schools and districts striving to improve high school graduation rates and increase the number of graduates going directly to college.

We serve thousands of students in middle school, high school and college to ensure high school and college success.

### **Washington State Public School Districts**

*Auburn • Bremerton • Highline • Kent • Port Angeles • Seattle  
Spokane • Tacoma • Yakima*

### **District of Columbia Public and Charter School Districts**

*Ward 7 • Ward 8*

### **Colleges**

*Over the past 17 years, CSF Scholars have attended colleges in every state of the nation.*

# Support Pipeline



## Middle School

*Early Awareness & Engagement*

We start early to build awareness of college and career choices, ensuring that students know college is an option for them before they even enter high school. We then guide them through the steps they'll need to take to become college-bound.

Advisors and coaches work directly in the schools to create a college-going mindset. With a personal advocate in the school building, students have a resource near them to help follow through with needed action. Students may attend learning institutes and career academies and visit college campuses.

## High School

*Advising & Mentoring*

Our ninth- and tenth-grade HERO program focuses on engaging students academically and guiding them on their college path. In our junior and senior year Achievers college preparation program, we offer proactive academic advising, college planning, college readiness support, summer programming, campus visits, financial aid and scholarship search assistance and high school-to-college transition support.

Our school-based advisors are college champions, keeping CSF Scholars on track to successfully finish high school and graduate college-ready. We help students develop the academic and emotional persistence that supports college success.

*Our model is predicated on a continuum of student supports beginning in middle school, continuing through high school and college and extending into our scholars' post-college lives.*



## College

*Mentoring, Navigation & Financial Support*

We support our scholars as they transition into college. Advisors stay engaged with students during the summer to make sure they fulfill the final steps they need to start school.

As students enter college, a new world opens up to them with fresh expectations, new peers and unfamiliar surroundings. During this transition time, CSF advisors and peer mentors help students navigate through the early years of college so they better understand the rigors ahead and the supports available.

In addition, we offer scholarships to help make college both accessible and affordable.

## Post-College

*Alumni Relations*

We support scholars as they graduate and begin their careers. Alumni Relations focuses on four priorities: networking, professional and leadership development, personal finance and giving back.

CSF Alumni learn how to prepare for graduate school and continuing education. We help with job and internship opportunities to further their professional development. We offer financial goal-setting and homeownership workshops to advance their personal finance skills. And CSF Alumni enthusiastically give back to those following in their footsteps—as mentors, advocates and donors.

# Foster Care Initiatives

*We provide additional support for the most vulnerable student population.*



Former Washington governors Gary Locke and Christine Gregoire with 2017 Governors' Scholars and alumnae

This holistic strategic approach has proven extremely effective. **Our Governors' Scholars graduate at more than 15x the national rate**—with roughly 50% earning their college degrees.



As few as **3% of students from foster care graduate from college** – the lowest of any student population. Recognizing that they face a whole spectrum of unique challenges, we provide additional trauma-informed programs and services to help them succeed.



- Our **Make it Happen!** summer college campus experience helps students from foster care successfully transition from high school to college, building a strong community. As most have experienced trauma and a lifetime of upheaval and uncertainty, the program empowers them to forge meaningful friendships and discover new avenues of support.
- We created the **Washington State Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth** with then-Washington governor Gary Locke in 2001 which has proven instrumental in supporting hundreds of young people from foster care to graduate from college.
- Our **Passport Navigators** on-campus mentoring program pairs near-peer mentors with students from foster care to welcome, guide and support them throughout their collegiate journeys.
- We provide **ongoing, tailored support to dozens of colleges** in our state operating foster care student support programs – including facilitating trainings, providing program development coaching, and leveraging best practices across colleges.
- We do year-round **policy and advocacy work**, in collaboration with our partners, to ensure our systems of support for students from foster care continue to function effectively and remain adequately resourced.

# College Services

*Our multifaceted approach gives students the tools they need to overcome barriers and persist towards graduation.*



CSF Scholars Milcah and Kristopher



CSF Scholar Terrell

- We partner with the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) to support the **College Bound Scholarship** for low-income students. Our Washington College Access Network (WCAN) staff visit districts, schools and community-based organizations to enroll eligible students across 292 of Washington's school districts.
- We privately fundraise to offer the **Leadership 1000 Scholarship** for low-income students and the **Washington State Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth**.

*62% of CSF Scholars graduate from college.*

- Our programs provide a strong focus on educating students about **financial aid** and guiding them in navigating the oftentimes cumbersome application process.
- Advisors stay engaged with students during the summer as they transition to college to ensure they fulfill the final steps they need to start school. As students begin their college careers they have access to a range of **CSF support services** including: one-on-one advising, case management, mentoring and group activities.

# Scholarships

*We are experts in managing and administering scholarship programs and connecting students to funding opportunities.*

## Leadership 1000 Scholarships change the lives of low-income students

As a donor, you have the unique opportunity to do more than write a check. You can change a student's life by creating a scholarship, as an individual, family, foundation or company. You may specify preferences such as a student's area of study, graduation from a particular high school or region or enrollment at a particular college.

Many donors have developed scholar relationships that continue long after college graduation.

79% of Leadership 1000 Scholars graduate from college - *beating the national college graduation rate* for high-income students!

<sup>1</sup>The Pell Institute's "Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States" (2017)



**We've created an efficient scholarship system to effectively select, award and disburse various scholarships, including:**

- Chateau Ste. Michelle Scholarship Fund
- Costco Scholarship Fund
- DC Achievers Scholarship Program
- Leadership 1000 Scholarship
- Opportunity for Success Scholarship
- Washington State Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth

# Donors Thank you to our wonderful 2017 donors.

## With your help we are changing lives through education.

### \$1,000,000 +

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Gary & Jennifer Rubens

### \$100,000 - \$999,999

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Diamond Foods, Inc.  
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TYLT/Technocel  
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# How We Build Capacity

**Nearly half of the school-age children in Washington state are from low-income families. Often their educational opportunities are limited due to the challenges they face from living in poverty.**

The need is immense, but through partnerships and sharing common goals, College Success Foundation collaborates with other nonprofits and organizations on issues that make a difference helping vulnerable populations achieve greater educational and career success. We build capacity by

empowering our affiliated organizations to focus on key areas and extend the reach statewide. We also advocate at the legislative level on policies and issues that can level the playing field for our young people, regardless of the circumstances into which they are born.

Each of our affiliates has their roots in College Success Foundation and focuses on an important set of supports demonstrated to improve educational outcomes for low-income, underserved youth.

*Through the power of collective impact, we create meaningful and long-lasting solutions that positively affect the lives of our students and the future of our country.*

## Key Priorities and Affiliations

### Mentoring

MENTOR Washington  
[mentorwashington.org](http://mentorwashington.org)

### College Access and Collective Impact

Washington College Access Network  
[wcan.org](http://wcan.org)

### Educational Opportunity for Foster Youth

Washington Passport Network  
[washingtonpassportnetwork.org](http://washingtonpassportnetwork.org)



College Prep Advisor DJ celebrates graduation with CSF Scholars Noor, Ali & Mays

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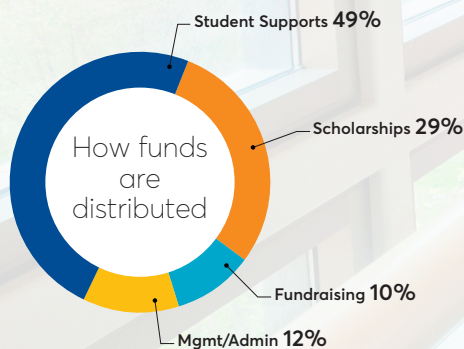
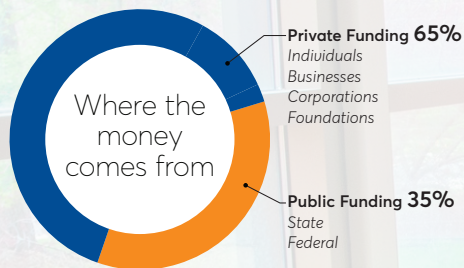
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## FY 2017 Financial Summary



**Note:** A complete 2017 Consolidated Audited Financial Statement for College Success Foundation and its subsidiaries is available upon request.



CSF Scholars Madeline & London



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