



OVERVIEW   
EDUCATE TOMORROW

# About Us

Our mission is to have a positive and enduring impact on those we serve, focused on college access and success, helping them mature into strong contributing members of our community. We value creating transformational opportunities, growing through connecting with others and navigating and improving systems while staying relevant, agile and resilient. Our organization believes in constant growth and abundance.

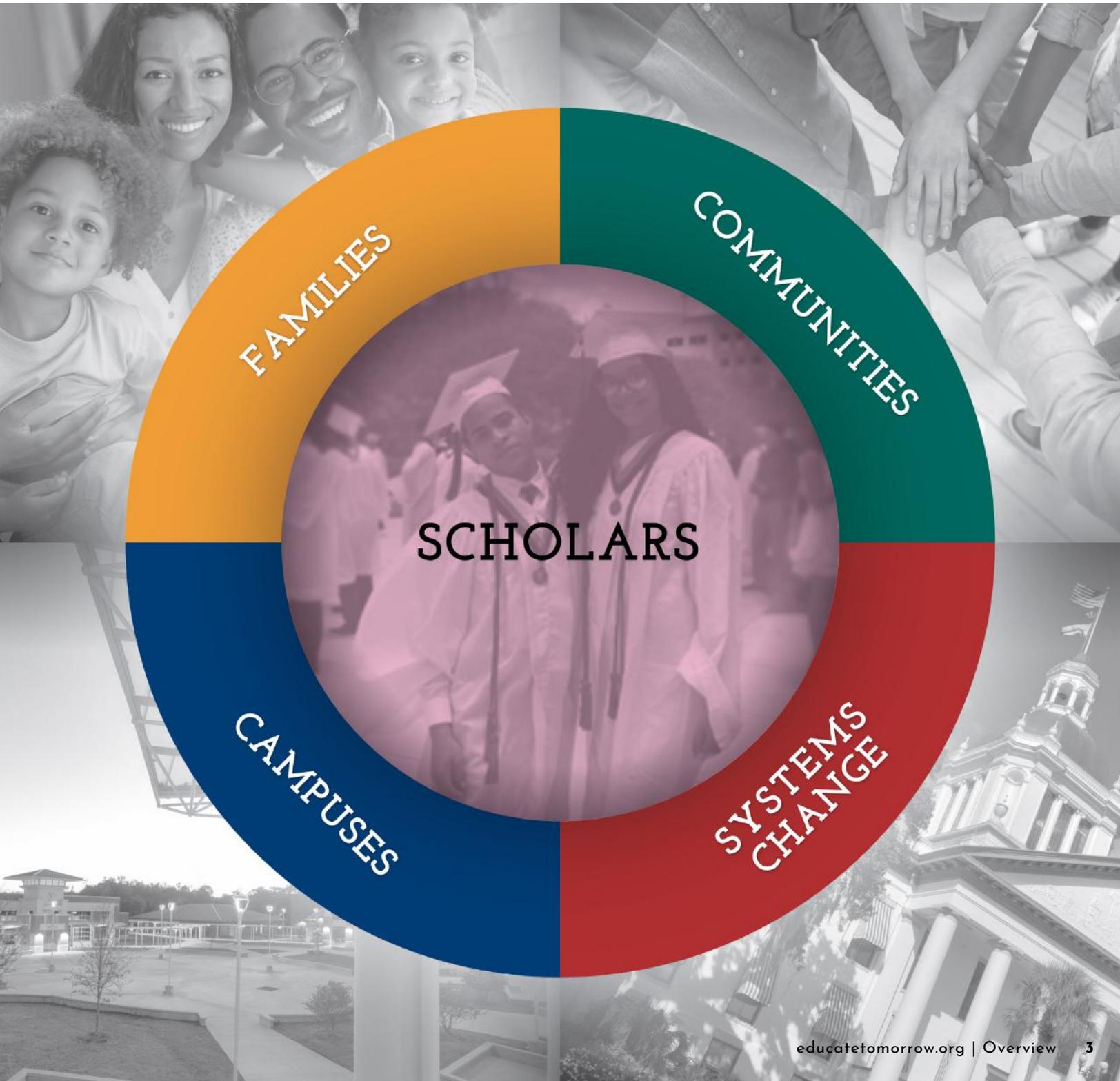
## Our Staff & Board of Directors



On the Cover: We are proud of Erykah Jackson, one of our many scholars, who graduated from FIU and is now attending law school at FAMU - Orlando.

# Our 5 Areas of Impact

We focus on five areas of impact to ensure college access and success. In this overview, you'll learn how our programs impact scholars, families, communities, campuses, and systems.



# Our Scholars Achieve Higher Educational Success

One of our primary activities at the student level is providing holistic support services to students from foster care and homeless settings who are pursuing higher education. We combine state-funded tuition waivers, federally-funded expense offsets, financial support from our partner foundations, and numerous services from community-based organizations.

We integrate Compassionate Coaching with student-centric services and continuous case management to address essential needs, inspire dreams, and help students to accomplish academic goals and develop social-emotional skills.

As a result of our innovative approach to providing equity, access, and opportunity, our students have proven to be more successful in completing their academic goals than their counterparts.



Our scholars rock! Watch their educational [journeys!](#)

## BY THE NUMBERS



**PROBLEM:**  
Nationally, **only 3-11%** of youth from foster care graduate from college.



**SOLUTION:**  
Our college scholars have persisted towards graduation at a rate **above 90%** for the past 5 years.

This rate is considered one of the best in the field.



**Over 730** degrees have been earned by our scholars since 2013.

This figure represents our scholars' success at three of many key institutions we serve: Miami Dade College, Florida International University & Florida Atlantic University.

# FEATURING SOME OF OUR MANY GRADUATES



We Thank Our \$25,000+ Contributors



Joseph and Sherrie Garfield  
Charitable Foundation



Kathleen Kennedy Foundation



TriMix Foundation



# Our Families Persevere

We empower multi-generational families to become drivers of their own learning experiences. Through a team of educators and school partners, we connect families to co-education coaching, field experiences, and community resources. Our programs promote academic success and eliminate barriers that may hinder academic, social and economic growth.



*We build self-determination, community, and responsible citizens through a holistic experiential choice education.*



**Our community is our classroom.**

## BY THE NUMBERS



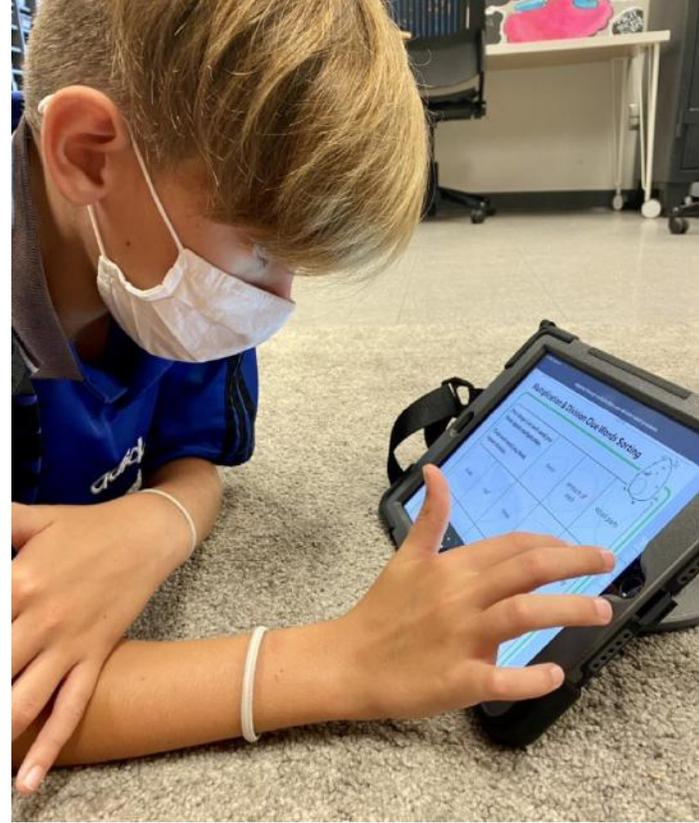
Since 2017 we have facilitated **over 275** educational and experiential field trips for families



**\$609,000** was distributed to more than **800 people** during the pandemic for emergency needs



**250 youth & their families** were served during the pandemic to navigate support systems and stabilize them more quickly and effectively



## We Thank Our Partners & Donors



TriMix Foundation

# We Boost Communities

We use a collective impact approach. We believe in working alongside community partners to address gaps in services, policies that need to be changed, or practices that do not serve our youth and families equitably. We believe in amplifying the voice of youth and giving them the opportunity to create change in their lives and in the lives of others that will come after them.



## Achievements

- Jointly developed the Miami Dade Homeless Trust Youth Voice Action Council.
- Assisted in creating official Access Points in the community to assist youth experiencing unstable housing.
- Contributed to creation of clearer policies for students using the tuition waivers.
- Collaboratively launched the HOMY Collective, Graduate Miami Dade and Positive Pathways.



## We Thank Our Partners & Donors



**Project  
UP-START**

# SPOTLIGHT:

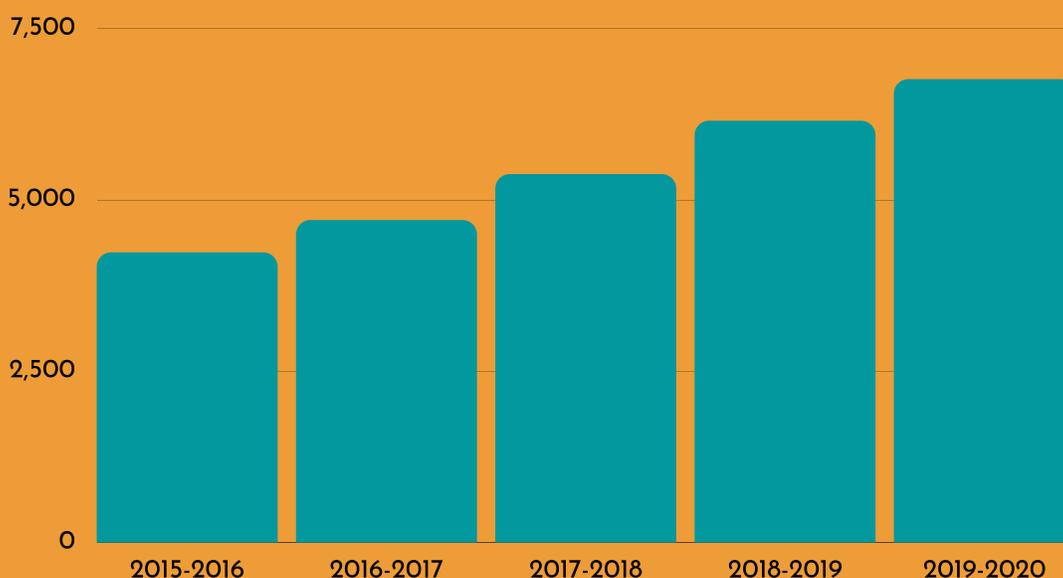
## Our Early Spark: Free Tuition

We launched Educate Tomorrow when we recognized that young adults from foster care could receive free college tuition in Florida and yet very few were accessing this benefit. In 2003, only eight students were reported using Florida Department of Child and Families' (DCF) tuition exemption program from universities.

We thus began to play a significant role in increasing the number of scholars who became aware of and used the tuition exemption program. By 2019, 6,700 students were accessing the benefit. Our first college coaching program in 2013, along with education and outreach to other institutions, contributed to accelerated growth.

The success of our college readiness and success programs is evidenced by the sustained growth shown below. Educational attainment has increased 60% percent since 2015.

### STUDENTS USING TUITION EXEMPTION



The number of students using the DCF tuition exemption at Florida's universities, colleges and technical colleges increased 60% percent from 2015-16, when we began tracking data.

# We Support Campuses



To increase enrollment, persistence and graduation rates, we operate:

- Campus-based student success programs to support students from foster and homeless settings
- Statewide professional networks to serve campus staff who directly serve these students

Our current networks are in Florida (Positive Pathways) and Michigan (Fostering Success Michigan) to provide professional development for campus-based educational and community-based child welfare managers and staff.

Through networking, training and real-time support, we build the capacity of our members to ensure academic success for their students.



## We Thank Our Florida Partners & Donors



## BY THE NUMBERS

**98% of members**

are very satisfied / satisfied with programs and services through the network

**30 programs & champions**

in Michigan network; we started with 7 campuses in 2012

**65 campuses**

participating as Financial Aid Champions across Michigan

# NEWEST EXPANSION: Michigan

Karie Ward, Former Director of Fostering Success Michigan, now Executive Director of Fostering Success Michigan at Educate Tomorrow.



We recently expanded our programming to Michigan through the acquisition of Fostering Success Michigan (FSM), a Michigan-based statewide program. FSM is a statewide collective impact initiative focused on increasing postsecondary access and success and career attainment for youth with experience in foster care.



The network was created in 2012 in response to need for campus-based programming to support student success and has created a pipeline of support from high school to college and into career for foster youth. FSM is recognized statewide and nationally for its collective impact work in Michigan.

## We Thank Our Partners & Donors



THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

**Baker  
McKenzie.**

## Professionals, Join Our Networks:

Florida



Michigan



Welcome FSM to  
Educate Tomorrow!



Locate programs in Michigan!

# SPOTLIGHT: College Coaches Deliver

Our College Coaches increase enrollment, retention, and graduation rates.

In 2013 we launched our first institutional partnership with Miami Dade College for a College Coach to work with students using the foster care tuition exemption.



Jasmine Moore, while serving as our coach at Florida Atlantic University, was nationally recognized by the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Outstanding Advisor Award.

Today, we have reached all corners of Florida through our Positive Pathways network to establish designated liaisons at 12 state universities and 28 colleges and we are growing in other states.

Our coaches have been recognized by many higher educational institutions

for advancing the academic and life success of former foster youth. Our model has attracted interest across the U.S. We are actively collaborating and sharing our work with leading institutions in states across the nation including Colorado, California, Texas, Michigan, and Wisconsin.

## BY THE NUMBERS



**\$1.3 million:**  
our total grants to  
**6 institutions**  
to establish or enhance their  
college coaching programs  
**since 2013.**



**400 mentors,**  
**coaches & students**  
use our mobile app to stay in  
touch, track contact, and  
"gamify" their  
**goals.**



**26% increase**  
in students served  
by a college coach  
on campuses from  
**2017-2020.**

# We Support Systems Change

To create positive and lasting social change for those we serve, we support changes in policies, processes, and governing structures with a holistic approach.

We engage at 3 systems levels in order to increase college access and success for our students:

1. Collaborate with state leaders for policy development
2. Develop unified research and data strategy
3. Improve consistency on program delivery

## We Thank Our Partners & Donors



## BY THE NUMBERS



**Only 22%**  
of students in Florida  
in 2018 attended a campus  
with college coaching  
programs and as of 2020,  
**44% now  
have access.**



Our Global Field Academy  
was recognized as a high-  
quality, financially  
sustainable, scalable and  
replicable model by  
**Drexel Fund.**



**We published  
2 key pieces**  
with Helios Education Fund

# Accolades for Our Work

## Our Team Delivers

From Child Welfare Champions, to Educators in Crisis Time, to Academic Advancement, to Social Well Being, our team has earned broad recognition for its dedication to our mission.



### **Andrea Arrechea, Care Coordinator**

was named Florida Foster Care Review Child Welfare Champion of the Month.



### **Co-Founder Virginia Emmons**

named a Fellow by The Drexel Fund, which supports entrepreneurs to launch and scale pioneering private schools focused on underserved communities.



### **CEO Brett McNaught**

named by Miami Today, Best of Miami "Educator in Crisis Time" during the pandemic.



# More Accolades for Our Work

Meaningful work catches attention. It is not just news; it informs the broader community about its strengths, resources and potential. We have been recognized over the years by respected organizations whose names represent true commitment to education. They rally behind our strengths and achievements with accolades that make us proud.



## Educate Tomorrow at Florida Atlantic University

Outstanding Academic Program by Palm Beach Illustrated 2021



## Andrea Arrechea and Devin Floyd

"40 Under 40" 2021 by Legacy Miami



## Brett McNaught

Florida Department of Child and Families' Child Welfare Champion Award 2018



## Service Year Alliance

Innovation Award 2017



## Florida International University

Student Access and Success Award 2016



## Virginia Emmons

Royal Caribbean International Education Award, Red Cross Sara Hopkins Woodruff Spectrum Awards for Women 2015



## Brett McNaught and Virginia Emmons

Florida International University Path Award Winner for Social Well Being 2015



## College Board Innovation Award

Getting In To College Award, Southern U.S. 2013



Read Our Latest:  
News and  
Announcements

# Our Partners Bring the Power

Our community partners extend our services and bolster our efforts to achieve academic and life success. When you do the right work, prominent leading organizations acknowledge your team's success.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS & AWARDS



**National Academic Advising Association  
Outstanding Advising Award, 2019**



**Guardian Ad Litem Community Partner  
of the Year, 2019 & 2014**



**Miami Marlins Charity Partner of the Year,  
2017**



**BANK OF AMERICA**

**Bank of America Neighborhood Builders  
Award, 2015**



**Miami Dade College Partnership Award, 2015**



**Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce  
NOVO Innovation Award for non-profits  
under \$1M, 2014**



**Voices for Children Most Valuable Protector,  
2013**

# Our On-Campus Partners

We identify public colleges and universities where there is a clear need for a dedicated program to serve students from foster care and homeless backgrounds. We have provided funding to launch, manage or expand programs at these institutions:



*The Fostering Success Program has helped me so much! I don't think I would still be enrolled at CSU if I was not in FSP. My mentor is such a great mentor and friend. Every time we have talked, I feel so much better; she's such a great listener, and our meetings are always filled with laughs.*

- Colorado State University Fostering Success Program student



See Us  
in Action:

1

Learn from our Miami Dade College Coaches, Wendy Joseph and Sandra Obas

2

Jasmine shares about the qualities of a Great Student Advisor

# SPOTLIGHT: A Star Scholar

## Finding Family with Educate Tomorrow

Demarco Mott was an Educate Tomorrow Scholar from 2016 to 2021, achieving a Bachelors and two Masters degrees.

In 2021, he was invited to join our Board of Directors to represent the needs of students who have experienced foster care and / or homelessness.

Demarco serves as the CEO and President of Aqua Lucaya Water Park LTD, a water park in development in The Bahamas.

He also volunteers as the Leader of the Citrus Family Care Network's Youth Advisory Council and was appointed by the DCF Secretary in 2020 to serve on the Independent Living Services Advisory Council.

Demarco shared  
the significance  
that Educate  
Tomorrow has  
had in his life:



**“Educate Tomorrow has been key to my educational success.**

When I first walked onto the Miami Dade College campus, I was afraid, lost and alone. Some months prior I was hungry and without a place to call home. My first interaction with an Educate Tomorrow staff member made me feel at home -- a feeling that has only grown! My passion for advocacy of child wellbeing was born from this experience . . . ”



**Donations help fuel our cause.**

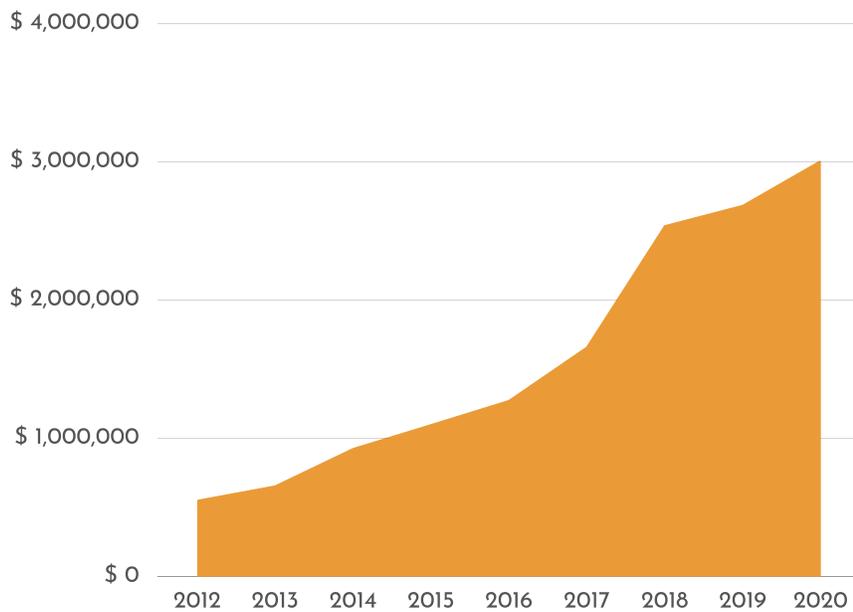
“ . . . Educate Tomorrow offers its students an invaluable way to stay connected, healthy and focused. It has contributed to my safety net. No longer am I afraid to stand up for others, because I am no longer afraid to stand up for myself. ”

# Financial Highlights

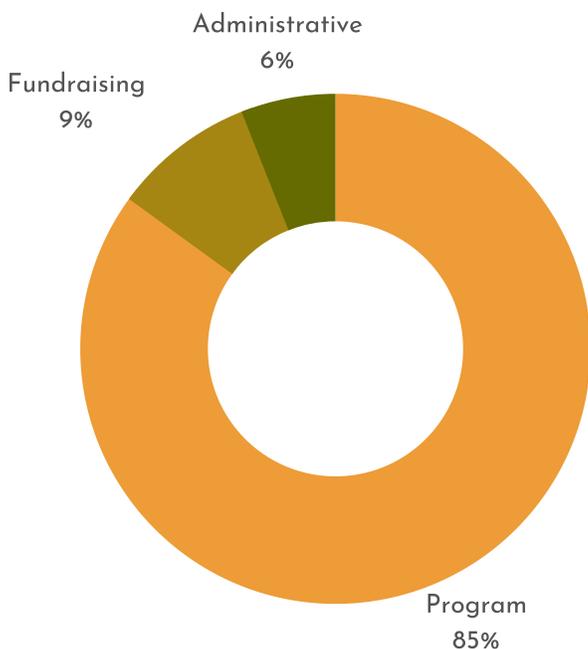
Financial responsibility and transparency are serious disciplines for a high-performing nonprofit. We submit ourselves to annual review by an independent auditor and we have earned GuideStar’s Platinum Seal of Transparency since 2013. We have a “Give With Confidence” Encompass Rating of 100 out of 100 from Charity Navigator.

## Revenue Growth

We have experienced substantial revenue growth since 2012, even during the COVID-19 pandemic period. Our growth is propelled by strong relationships with funders and community partners, and purposeful strategic planning by our leadership team. Our revenue is comprised of 46% government funding and 54% funding from private donors including foundations and individuals.



## Expense Allocation



Contributions to Educate Tomorrow are judiciously invested, with the majority of these funds directly applied to the enrichment of our organization’s programs to maximize impact on those we serve. 85 cents of every dollar that we raise is directed to programming. Charity Navigator considers this to be best in class.

Please visit our website to view our [990s](#).



# Looking Ahead



Husband and wife dynamic duo, Brett McNaught, our CEO, and Virginia Emmons-McNaught, President and Co-Founder.

Dear Friends, Donors, Partners  
and Educate Tomorrow Family,

Since 2003 Educate Tomorrow has been dedicated to assist young adults in reaching their goals. We believe that when people have the capacity to live a fuller life they become stronger members of our community. We know that talent is equally distributed and opportunity is not, so there is work to do to connect people to opportunities to better their lives.

Our team shares well-established values. We are dedicated to creating transformational opportunities for all who are a part of Educate Tomorrow. We can grow only if we are connected to others. We know that the systems that support our youth and families are not always equitable or efficient and we must help them navigate those systems. We support systems change and we advance policies to make them more inclusive.

We must stay relevant, agile and resilient if we are to grow for yet another 18 years, and beyond. 2020 gave us a good reminder of that. We believe in constant growth and abundance. We believe in sharing our spirit of gratitude with others. We believe in you.

In service,

*Virginia & Brett*

  
EDUCATE TOMORROW