



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



THE COLLEGE CRUSADE
of Rhode Island



OUR VALUES

Student Focus

We put students at the center of our model, and design and implement programming to engage them and meet their continually evolving needs.

Commitment

We invest in long-term relationships with our students and families, building trust and achieving mutual respect that translates into success and lasting impact.

Equity

We are committed to addressing barriers to education and economic empowerment for our students.

Diversity

We engage and strive to cultivate a diverse staff representative of the communities that we serve.

Inclusiveness

We learn from the broad range of perspectives and talents among our staff, students, families and partners, and use this knowledge to advance our mission.

Accountability

We strive to make organizational decisions rooted in feedback and quality data, and seek to measure the impacts of those decisions.

Sustainability

We practice sound financial stewardship and aim to be efficient in our operations to ensure the long-term viability of our organization.

OUR MISSION

We at the College Crusade prepare and inspire young people in Rhode Island to become the first in their families to attend and complete college.

OUR VISION

Equity and opportunity for first-generation students in their pursuit of higher education.





Middle school advisor Brian Estrada works with students at the College Crusade's February vacation STEM Camp in Pawtucket. We didn't know at the time it would be one of our last in-person programs in 2020.

Dear Friends,

This might not be a typical Annual Report letter, but as we all know, 2020 was not a typical year. College Crusade staff spent 12 months turning challenges into opportunities, redesigning programming, and refining our model to fit this new virtual world. It has never been more important than now to look to the future, rather than looking toward the past.

The long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our students, families, and communities has the potential to be devastating, especially with regard to educational outcomes.

With learning loss at an all-time high, we are not going to be able to simply flip a switch and return to the way we had been operating. We will need to continue embracing flexibility and innovation to carry us forward in a post-pandemic world.

Here at the College Crusade, we are ready to usher in a new era of combining tried and true interventions with bold new approaches. We are excited to return to in-person programming, while leveraging everything that we have learned over the last 12 months to continue offering virtual opportunities to reach more students throughout the state.

None of this would ever be possible without you – our donors, partners, board members, and volunteers. Thank you for all that you do to ensure that College Crusaders can follow their dreams of becoming the first in their families to attend and complete college.

Andrew Bramson
President and CEO

Edwin Pacheco
Board Chair

Emergency fund helps postsecondary Crusaders navigate the unexpected

In 2020, we awarded \$72,177 in emergency funding to over 150 students, thanks to Rhode Island Foundation, United Way of Rhode Island, ECMC Foundation, Angell Foundation, and our 401GivesDay donors.

College students who encounter an unexpected cost or emergency often try to manage on their own despite the obstacle. That was the case for Amelia Lopez, a sophomore at the University of Rhode Island majoring in business, who came home from her job at the Ram's Den food court on campus to find her laptop had fallen and shattered.

"I work and do school full time, all while paying my own rent and bills. I supply all of my own food and necessities; I'm 100% self-supporting," she said. "When my laptop broke, my life was put on hold. I couldn't do certain assignments or participate in Zoom meetings at times. I couldn't shell out the cash for a new one right away and, despite my efforts, I failed one of my classes."

She wants to thank the donors and funders who made it possible for her to get her studies back on track with her new laptop.

"Without the emergency fund, I'm not sure how much longer I would have gone without consistent access to a computer," she said. "Buying a new laptop was unexpected and would have set me back a whole month of rent. I cannot be more grateful to the donors and funders that took this huge burden off of my shoulders and made my success possible this semester. The laptop is much better quality than anything I could have gotten for myself and I feel privileged to have this kind of support. Thank you, donors and funders, for your generosity. It is going a really long way."

Because of the pandemic, students like Valeria Aguilar, a sophomore at URI majoring in medical laboratory science, sought funding for basic needs such as groceries.

"This helped me and my family because during the time there was a lot of uncertainty and my dad was the only one working, so it helped us be able to pay for groceries and still have money for bills," she said. "I am

super grateful to know that there are people helping others when needed. Funds are so crucial for students because it can help relieve stress and worries about financial problems in order to just stay focused on school."

All college students must purchase textbooks and supplies for their classes, but the equipment required for some fields of study can present an additional burden.

"Dowels, wooden planks, cardboard sheets, chipboard, foam board, glue, my drawing utensils, sketch books, erasers, and so many other materials," lists Carlos Ferman, a junior majoring in architecture at Roger Williams University. "It starts to become more of a nightmare than a dream. That is not even talking about the computer software that architects use."

He learned about the emergency fund when he attended a College Crusade FAFSA Night.

"This funding helped my family because I don't have the luxury of having two parents," he said. He used the funds to purchase one-year subscriptions to the Adobe Creative Suite and SketchUp software, an architectural scale, and other necessary supplies.

"Thanks to the College Crusade I was able to continue my third year of architecture because I was able to purchase these important items," he said. "As a family, we struggle financially and make do with what we have. I have taken out loans in my name and applied for several scholarships, so we get by, but this emergency fund has truly lightened the burden my mother carries on her shoulders."

Ferman said it's heartbreaking to see some of his peers who were not in the College Crusade struggling to chase their dreams.

"To the donors and funders who helped make these funds possible, thank you. I have too many stories of students who have the motivation, the knowledge, the qualifications, the ability, the talent – everything but the funds," he said.

"Again, thank you to every donor, because investing in our youth, our students, our children is what ultimately shapes the future. Thank you."

2020 by the numbers



3,506
students served



41

in-person
programs

\$3.7M

in scholarships
awarded to 891 students

\$2,807,619 donated; \$955,576 cash



100

virtual
programs

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

January 1 through December 31, 2020



FEDERAL & STATE

U.S. Dept. of Education/GEAR UP: \$3,500,000
State of Rhode Island: \$355,000

FOUNDATIONS, CORPORATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

\$150,000–\$200,000

ECMC Foundation
Rhode Island Foundation

\$125,000

Centreville Bank

\$50,000–\$75,000

Angell Foundation
Lloyd G. Balfour Foundation, Bank of America,
N.A., Trustee
United Way of Rhode Island

\$25,000–\$49,999

Amgen Foundation
Champlin Foundation
Social Enterprise Greenhouse

\$10,000–\$24,900

Bank of America
Carter Family Charitable Trust
Cox Charities
Isenberg Family Foundation
Textron Charitable Trust
Trilix

\$5,000–\$9,999

AAA Northeast
Andrade Faxon Charities for Children
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island
Nordson Corporation Foundation

\$1–\$4,999

Coleman B. Zimmerman Memorial Fund
Delta Dental
FM Global
HarborOne Bank
Pawtucket Credit Union

MATCHING GIFTS

Bank of America
Citizens Bank
Citrix
Google

INDIVIDUALS

\$2,500- \$3,000

Michael and Kirstin Allio
Andrew and Kate Bramson
Bhikhaji Maneckji
Nicholas Scoliard

\$1,000- \$2,499

Anonymous
Richard & Inge Chafee
Lois Graboys
Mary Halpin & Dan Parent
Anne Melvin
Kim Perry
Sidney Tynan

\$500- \$999

Mel & Patricia Alperin
Mark Callahan
Gib Conover

Kathy Donohoe
Megan Geoghegan
Cortney Lima
Richard & Harriet Steinberg

\$250-\$499

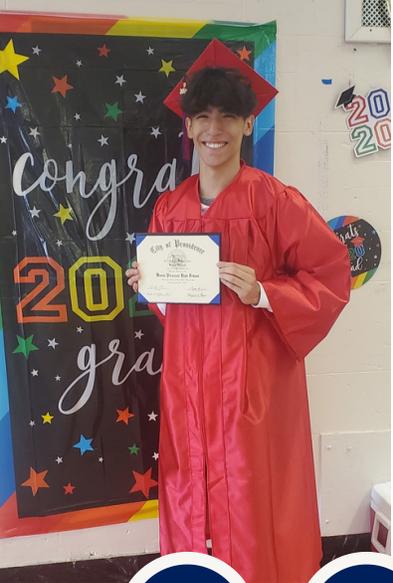
Lori Brown
Maria Buccieri
Elizabeth Burke Bryant
Kerri Conway
Kristen Cyr & Bryan Lucier
Crystal Darin
Erik Egge
Ronald Farrell & Rosa Applefeld
Jed Foley
Susan Horvitz Garlington
Dana & Kevin Ginestet
Adi Goldstein
Christopher Graham
Doug and Judy Sherman
Katherine Haspel & Paul Silver
Sylvia Natale & Henry D'Aloisio

\$100- \$249

Anonymous
Kerri Augenstein
Michaela Bileau*
Carrie Bridges-Feliz
Richard and Louise Carriere
Steve & Monique Collins
Josh Corria
Lisa Crossman
Jill DeShiro
Marie & Guy DiBiasio
Malcolm Farmer
Naglaa Gaafar
Lisa Guillette
Paul & Linda Harrington
Christine Heenan
Randy Jackvony
Katherine Lacasse
Nirva R LaFortune*
Emily & Travis McHugh
Dereck Mendoza*
Keith & Linda Michon*
Terri Monjar
Joe Monteiro
Sando Ojukwu*
Sandra Powell
Brad & Loren Puffer
Julia Rafal-Baer
Ranika Reyes*
Carolyn Sheehan
Jane Sherman
Jessica Tabak
Adam Tarczuk
Jessica Vega*
Ken Wagner

OTHER GIFTS

Anonymous
Corey Begly
Willie Borkai
Stephen Borsher
Valerie Burke
Amanda Caito
Jacqueline Canola



2 0 2 0



OTHER GIFTS (continued)

Victor Capellan
Richelene Cesar*
Alexander Dawson
Jordan Day*
Ryan Durgin
Paola Fernandez
Kirtley Fisher
Jill Glickman
Alaina Goldberg
Thomas Izzo
MaryKay Koreivo
Steve Krasner
Marilyn Le
Jacquelyn Letizia
Nicholas Longo
Gale Lucier
Jesse Lynch
Christina Mapes
Jessica Marfeo*
Marlene Martinez

Karen Morin
Edwin Pacheco
Neil Parrott*
Alice Paul
Gail Porter
Linda Reyes
Charon Rose*
Deanna San Antonio
Eric Shorter
Cintia Silva
Mila Skowron
Pamela Spiver
Jessica Toussaint
Erin Twomey-Wilson
Jim Vincent
Susan & Kim Winchell
Henry & Eileen Young

*Alumni

Thank you to the members of the College Crusade Scholarship Collaborative. Crusaders received \$2.8 million in donated scholarships in 2020.

Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology
Boston University
Brown University
Bryant University
Dean College
Emerson College
Grinnell College
Johnson & Wales University
Mount Holyoke College
New England Institute of Technology
Northeastern University
Providence College
Rhode Island College
Rhode Island School of Design
Roger Williams University
Salve Regina University
Syracuse University
University of Rhode Island
Wheaton College



We apologize for any omissions or misspellings. Please contact us so we can correct our records.

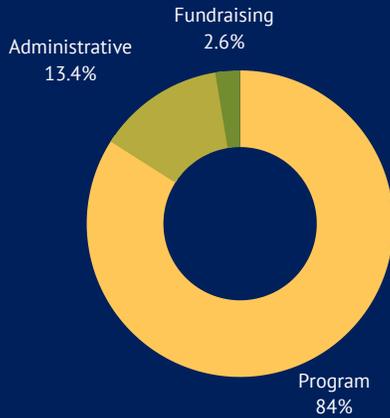
FY 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUE, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT

Government Grants and Support	\$3,694,624
Corporate and Foundation Grants	\$732,173
Investment Income	\$66,308
Investment Gains	\$364,554
Contributions and Special Events	\$155,225
In-kind Support	\$469,947
Total Revenue, Gains, and Other Support	\$5,482,831

EXPENSES

Program (includes \$965,486 in cash scholarships)	\$4,641,328
Management and General	\$738,702
Development	\$144,573
Total Expenses	\$5,524,603



THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Edwin R. Pacheco
Chair

Megan Geoghegan
Vice Chair/Acting Treasurer

Douglas Sherman, Ed.D.
Vice Chair, Chair of Governance Committee

Eric Shorter
Secretary

Victor Capellan

Willie Borkai, MPH

Robert W. Britto-Oliveira
College Crusade Class of '01

Alaina J. Restivo Goldberg

Adi Goldstein

Lisette Gomes
College Crusade Class of '04

Mary Halpin

Jessica Marfeo
College Crusade Class of '01

Sidney "Macky" McCleary

Kim E. Perry

Ken Wagner

Through June 30, 2020

Irving Schneider, Ph.D.

James Vincent

Joe Monteiro

Leadership Team

Andrew Bramson
President and CEO

Monique Collins
Chief Finance and Operations Officer

Dana Ginestet
Chief Program Officer

Joshua Corria
Director of High School Success

Kristen Cyr
Director of Marketing and Communications

Naglaa Gaafar
Director of Postsecondary Success

Emily McHugh
Director of Development

Ranika Reyes
Director of Middle School Success
College Crusade Class of '01

