

HIGHER EDGE

2017



REPORT CARD

You may remember Tashawn. He was one of our early students at Higher Edge in 2012. Since then, he went off to Eastern Connecticut State University, graduated in four years with a degree in Management Information Systems (MIS), and is now working at Chelsea Groton Bank as a Customer Solutions Associate.

This is one of the many success stories that we are extremely proud of now that our students are graduating from college. You have been part of that journey with us.

Tashawn was just like one of the 200 students we are working with this year – he started with a dream to attend college. With your help, Higher Edge is growing and reaching more and more students every year.

This year's report card illustrates the transformational work we're doing with students, on college campuses, in our communities, and across the state.

Thank you for being a part of our team!

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I'm excited to work in a place where I can help customers achieve their goals, in the same way people supported and encouraged me as I worked toward mine.

– Tashawn Ward, Higher Edge Alum
*Customer Solutions Associate,
Chelsea Groton Bank*

OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

JULY 1, 2016-JUNE 30, 2017

GROUNDBREAKER

*Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation
Community Foundation of Eastern CT*

VISIONARY

*Church of the City
Frank Loomis Palmer Fund
Oasis of Restoration Church
Serve Here CT*

PIONEER

*Liberty Bank Foundation
NL Community Development Block Grant
People's United Community Foundation
United Way of Southeastern CT
Deupree Family Foundation*

TRAILBLAZER

*Bank of America Charitable Giving
Barrett Family Foundation
Bodenwein Public Benevolent Foundation
Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT Foundation
Charter Oak Community Giving
Chelsea Groton Foundation
Dime Bank Foundation
George A. & Grace L. Long Foundation
Henry E. Niles Foundation
Pfizer Charitable Giving
Ruud Salym Erie
SBM Foundation*

HERO

*Andrew & Megan Halvorson
Doreen & Larry Heller Fund*

*Lawrence + Memorial Hospital
CAPT John & Rosalie Maxham
Miracle Temple Church
New London Water Authority (Veolia)
Sean & Maddy Plankey
David E. Retik & Christopher D. Mello Foundation
SI Financial Group Foundation
Yale New Haven Health*

LEADER

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Dr. Walter & Maritza Diaz
Eastern CT State University
Jim & Margaret Ellis
Bob & Gladys Rivera-Griffin
Hoyt, Filippetti, & Malaghan, LLC
Keith & Rebecca Thomas
Simon Moore
Suisman Shapiro
Attorneys-At-Law*

MENTOR

*Allergy Associates of New London, PC
BT Tile & Carpet Company
Paul Formica
Susan Jones
Mystic Indoor Sports
Victor & Burju Perez
Tracee Reiser & Robert Hayford
Bob & Harriet Statchen*

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Isabel Bard
Robert & Mellissa Bixler
Carl Bloom
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*Linda Evers
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Jodie Kubachka
Ashley Leeds
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Anthony & Courtney Orazio
Nick & Erin Parker
Helen Sandalls
Ed Purcell & Grace Smith
Adam & Jean Spreccace
William Wernau*

FRIEND

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Aaron & Tonya Collins
Nancy d'Estang
Mark Harris
David Johnston
Amanda Klay
Andrea Marcille & Nick Mynuk
Joel Onorato
Jessica Porter
Brynn Rardin
Dr. Manuel Rivera
Felicia Thomas
David & Corinne Weber*

IN-KIND

*Art & Style Décor
Connecticut College
Filomenas Restaurant
Hoyt, Filippetti, & Malaghan, LLC
Suisman Shapiro
Attorneys-At-Law*

COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM

The CAP is an intensive year of highly effective college admissions and financial aid coaching that empowers high school seniors to make informed college choices.

TOTAL AID RECEIVED

\$589,551

Merit aid, institutional grants, private scholarships

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS

\$84,625

From private organizations and foundations

SCHOLARSHIP AVERAGE

\$2,820

Average amount received per scholarship recipient

Thanks to the generosity of the Jeffrey P. Ossen Foundation and a strong partnership with Eastern CT State University, we have been working diligently to serve students in the Willimantic area so they too can realize the promise of higher education.



Spotlight on Willimantic



100%
ENROLLED DIRECTLY



100%
ENROLLED AT 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS



Combined Site Totals (New London and Willimantic)



ENROLLED DIRECTLY

Percent of students enrolling directly into college after high school.



4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Percent of students enrolling in four-year colleges and universities.

Advisors help students to demystify college options, produce well-crafted applications, and navigate the financial aid process.

- Assumption College
- Clark University
- Colby College
- Delaware State University
- Gordon College
- Johnson & Wales University
- Mitchell College
- North Carolina A&T
- Providence College
- Xavier University

where are they now?

5

SCSU

7

ECSU

7

UCONN

6 Avery Point
1 Storrs

3

CCSU

3

2-YEAR COLLEGES
Three Rivers CC

10

PRIVATE / OTHER
4-YEAR UNIVERSITIES

SUCCESS PROGRAM

The Success Program is for students who participated in the CAP and have enrolled in college. Success students get continued support throughout their college experience until they graduate, in the form of campus visits, workshops, and regular communication with their advisor.



PERSISTENCE

Higher Edge Success students persist to their second year of college at double the rate of their peers.



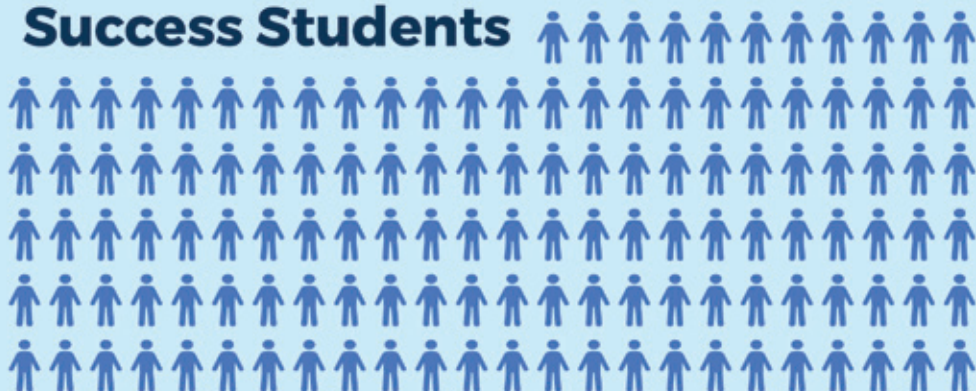
TARGETED PROGRAMMING

Advisors use the SAFE Status model (Student's Academic, Financial, and Emotional wellbeing) to pinpoint and troubleshoot obstacles with Success students.

131

...and counting!

Success Students



FINANCIALS

2016-2017

REVENUES

\$320,647



- Foundations / Grants \$187,666 (59%)
- Earned Income \$90,985 (28%)
- Individual Donations \$24,456 (8%)
- Special Events \$10,920 (3%)
- Organizational Partnerships \$3,000 (1%)
- Other Contributions \$3,620 (1%)

EXPENSES

\$310,751



- Programming \$260,711 (84%)
- Fundraising \$23,469 (8%)
- Administrative \$25,533 (8%)
- Capital \$1,038 (<1%)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ruud Salym Erie
Evariant, Inc.
Charles "Chap" Hanley
Atlantic Broadband
Jon Heller
U.S. Coast Guard Academy
Rosie Hernandez
Windham Public Schools
Susan Jones (treasurer)
Hoyt, Filippetti, Malaghan, LLC
Kristi Kelly
Suisman Shapiro
Attorneys-At-Law

Pam Days-Luketich
Liberty Bank
John McKnight
Connecticut College
Gladys Rivera-Griffin (president)
New London Public Schools (retired)
John Scott
Bailey Agencies Insurance
Adam Sprecaze (secretary)
Electric Boat
Bob Statchen
Western New England University
School of Law

HIGHER EDGE TEAM

Gilbert Bonafé, Jr.
Director of Programs
Luisanna Cabrera
Success Program Director
Mauro Diaz-Hernandez
College Access Program Manager

Katie Hallisey
College Access Program Advisor
Jennifer Portella
Success Program Advisor
Chris Soto
Founding Director