

# HIGHER EDGE



# 2022

# REPORT CARD

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Getting Students To & Through College

# HIGHER EDGE TEAM

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Dear **HIGHER  
EDGE** Friend & Supporter,

The 2022 Report Card illustrates the transformational work Higher Edge is completing with students – at local high schools, within the community and on campuses across the country. From UCONN and Eastern Connecticut State University to colleges in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Kentucky; our students' are making an impact on the bigger world.

Each of us has had a dream – whether it's getting an ideal job or seeing our favorite team win, a bucket list of items to accomplish or places to visit. For Higher Edge students; that dream is being the first in their family to graduate from college. Their dreams are coming to fruition. They are our leaders; role models to our younger generations.

They are *BraVe* and their stories 

In Community,

*Katie Hallisey*



# COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM

*Personalized advising that guides high school seniors through the college application process and empowers them to make informed college decisions*

HIGHER  
EDGE

CAP CLASS OF 2022

22 Students from 7 high schools

- ACT - EastCONN (Willimantic)
- Fitch High School (Groton)
- Grasso Technical HS [Groton]
- New London MultiMagnet HS
- Norwich Technical HS
- Saint Bernard School [Uncasville]
- Windham HS

85%

ENROLLED DIRECTLY

\$400,000+

TOTAL AID RECEIVED

Merit Aid & Institutional Grants

\$150,000

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Private Organizations & Foundations

68%

AT 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Central CT State University  
Dean College  
Eastern CT State University  
Mitchell College UCONN  
University of Hartford  
University of New Haven  
University of Saint Joseph  
Vanderbilt University



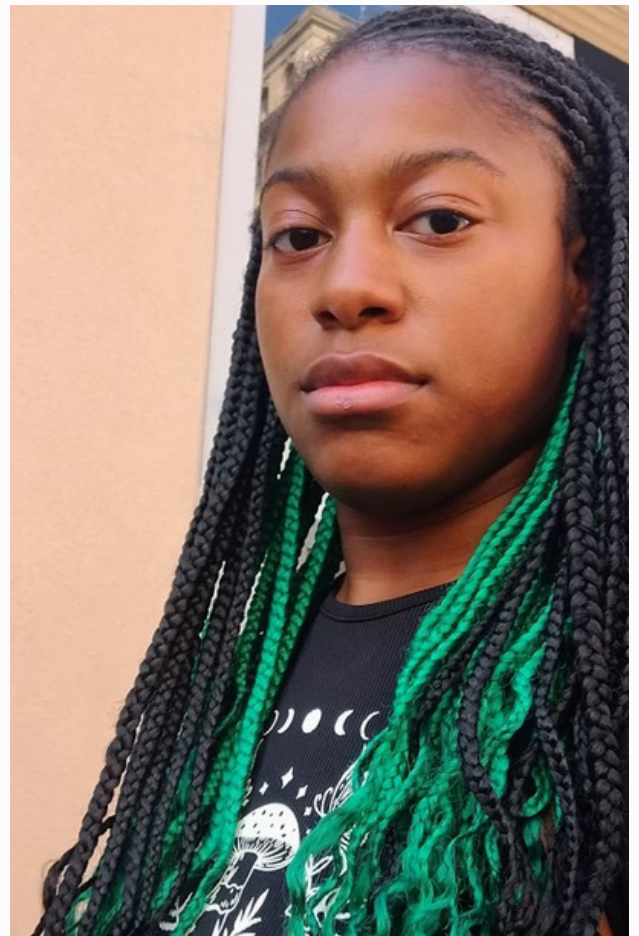


## Spotlight on The CAP Class of 2023 Nazariah, New London Arts Magnet High School

First Choice:  
Emerson College

Major:  
English with a concentration  
in Creative Writing

Proudest Moment as a  
Student:  
Having my poem featured in  
the book, "Some Stranger  
Somewhere"



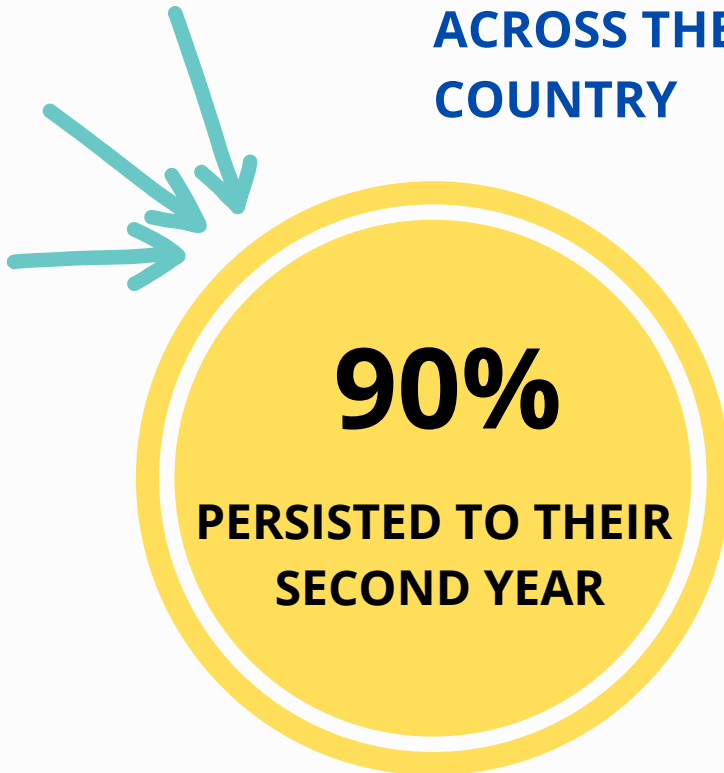
*"Higher Edge has guided me through the process of applying to college. Helping me find college, writing my essay, and applying for aid and scholarships are just a few of the things they've done. I also felt safe and comfortable enough to talk about my struggles so far this year, which were always met with kindness and understanding. I'm very thankful for Higher Edge for making me and so many others feel ready for life after high school."*



# HIGHER EDGE SUCCESS PROGRAM

*Upon making their final college choice and completing enrollment steps; students receive support and guidance throughout their' time in college that ensures they persist and earn a degree.*

**100** COLLEGE STUDENTS  
AT MORE THAN  
20 CAMPUSES  
ACROSS THE  
COUNTRY



**GRADUATED**

**In 2022**

**26**



**PURSUING  
PROFESSIONAL  
DEGREES**

**6**

**40**



**Other/Private  
4-Year  
Colleges**

**26**

**19** 2-Year  
Colleges

**10**



**4**



**1**



# Catching up with Sam, 1st year, UCONN Avery Point

Major:  
Pre-Social Work

Campus Involvement:  
Mentor to middle school  
students & Guard on the  
Women's Basketball Team  
GO POINTERS!

Favorite Snack: Oreos



Proudest Moment As a College Student:

Making the  Dean's List

*"Higher Edge has supported me a lot during my first year such as helping me out with scholarships, financial info. And always being available to answer any questions I have."*

This summer, Sam will be interning with a nonprofit in New London through a partnership with Eleven +.

 Eleven+

To learn more about Eleven+ & how the organization supports Higher Edge students, visit <https://www.eleven-plus.org/>

# HIGHER EDGE SUCCESS PROGRAM

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## *A little history ...*

When Higher Edge was founded **10** years ago, the organization was serving 6 students, all from one high school.

At the time, Higher Edge was a one year program and only guided students to college. But as students navigated campuses; they continued to reach back out to their advisors.

As a result, the Success Program was developed, which follows students through college. Since 2016;



**119**  
**students**

have earned their college degree

... And

**25**



are set to graduate in May 2023.

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# HIGHER EDGE ALUMNI

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

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### **AILIN, UCONN CLASS OF 2022**

*Diagnostic Genetic Sciences*



*"I will forever be grateful to Higher Edge and their support throughout the college application process and all the way through graduation. As a first generation college student having someone help me with all the paperwork, review essays and provide moral support was extremely beneficial and stress relieving. Gracie has always been a great resource - even after I graduated, she still checks in. I am grateful for her encouragement and kind words."*

#### **CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT:**

- METAS/PRLACC,
- LSAMP,
- UCONN Health NICHE Purposeful Visitor Program,
- Genome Ambassador Program



*"My METAS Mentor had such an impact on me that I chose to be a mentor too. And as an alumnus, I'm happy to still be a support."*

*"One of the most memorable moments was when my mentees thanked me for being so open about my experiences as a 1st Gen Latina at a PWI. It made them feel less alone and encouraged them to seek help whenever they need it."*

**Favorite Late Night Snack:**  
Dark Chocolate  
Peanut Butter Cups

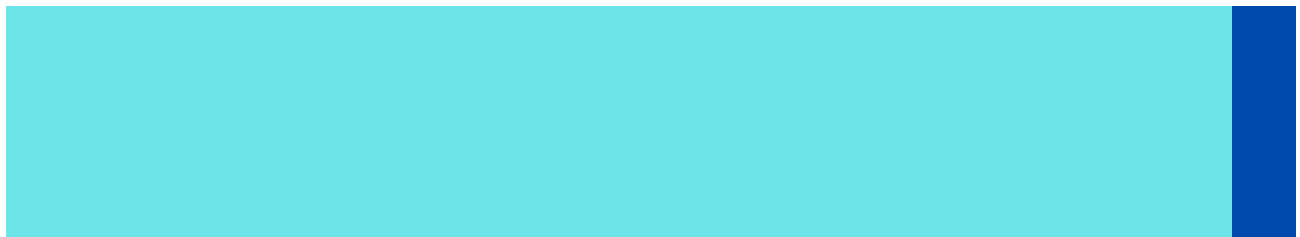


# FINANCIALS

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## REVENUES

\$271,923



- Foundations & Grants \$261,345 (96%)
- Individual Contributions /Events \$10,525 (4%)

## EXPENSES

\$238,294



- Programming \$184,873 (77%)
- Administrative \$52,971 (22%)
- Fundraising \$450 (1%)

# OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS



## FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS

Barrett Family Foundation  
Berkshire Bank Foundation  
Bodenwein Public Benevolent Foundation  
Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT  
Charter Oak Community Giving  
Chelsea Groton Foundation  
Citizens Charitable Foundation  
City of New London Community Development Block Grant  
Community Foundation of Eastern CT  
Connecticut Judicial Branch: Youth Service Initiative  
Deupree Family Foundation  
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation  
Elizabeth Raymond Ambler Trust  
Eversource Energy Foundation  
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Henry E. Niles Foundation  
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Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation  
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NewAlliance Foundation  
Nordson Corporation Foundation  
People's United Community Foundation  
Pfizer Connecticut Labs  
Retik & Mello Foundation  
SBM Charitable Foundation  
United Way of SECT

# OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS



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TOGETHER ...

We can change lives one college  
degree at a time

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**make a difference.**

PAYPAL

HIGHER EDGE CT



VENMO

@HIGHEREDGECT



Checks also accepted made payable to:  
Higher Edge

Donations may be mailed to:  
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