



# 2022 Impact Report



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[partnershipforthefuture.org](https://partnershipforthefuture.org)

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# Letter from the CEO

As President and CEO of Partnership for the Future (PFF) and a former PFF student, it is the opportunity of a lifetime to support some of the best and brightest students in the Richmond area achieve their dreams of obtaining a college degree. Over 80% of our students are first-generation college students, and over 90% come from low to moderate income households. This was our first summer since the pandemic that we returned to fully-in person programming and also the launch of our collegiate internship program as a part of our Wealth Building Initiative. It was truly a joy to watch our students emerge from the pandemic stronger, more confident, and living their dreams out loud.

The Class of 2022 holds the distinction of being the first PFF Class with at least one Valedictorian from all three of our major local school districts (Richmond, Henrico, and Chesterfield). One of our graduates, Sanaa Hayes, was the district-wide Valedictorian for Richmond Public Schools and graduated with a 5.03 GPA.

The Class of 2022 also was offered more than 15 million dollars in scholarships and 100% of our graduates matriculated to college. PFF continues to boast strong outcomes and our six-year college graduation rate is nearly 8x the national average for first-generation, low-income students. Our organization illustrates the endless possibilities when equity meets opportunity. Thank you for your continued support. I am excited about our journey forward and the opportunity to impact generations to come.



**Dionne W. Henderson**

President & CEO

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# Program Description

Partnership for the Future (PFF) is a nonprofit organization located in Richmond, Virginia, dedicated to empowering high-achieving, low-income and first generation students in the community. PFF's mission is to provide students with the tools, resources, and opportunities they need to succeed in school, careers, and life.

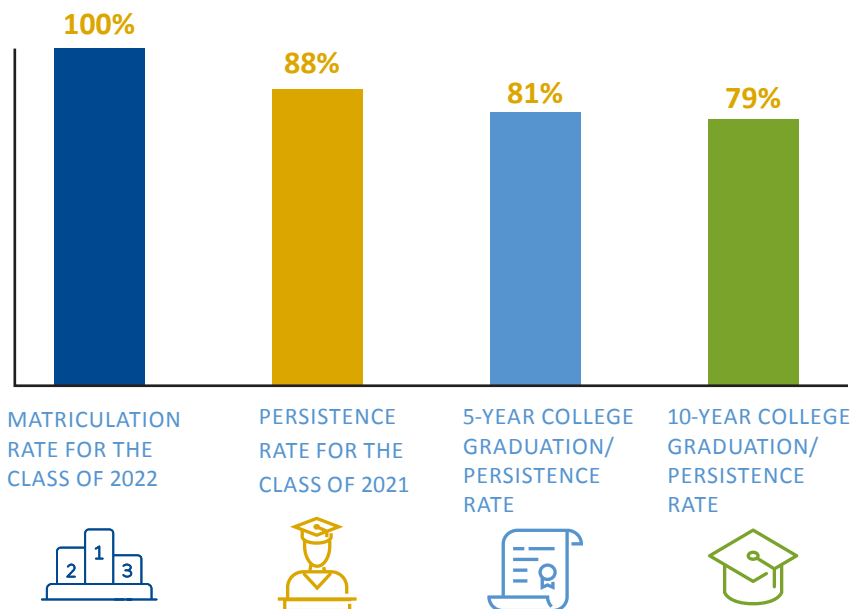
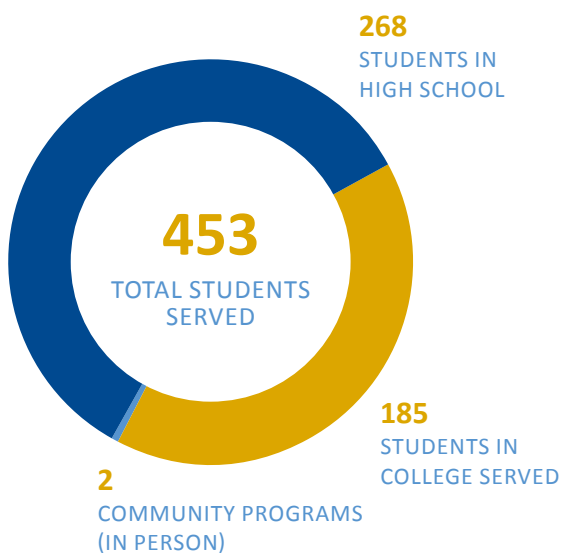
Through a variety of programs and initiatives, PFF connects students with caring mentors, provides them with academic and career guidance, life skills training, and access to educational resources. PFF's programs are designed to help students graduate from high school, attend and graduate college, and secure employment to live meaningful lives.



Decision Day

## Program Outcomes & Effectiveness

The Class of 2022 was offered **\$15,514,619** in scholarships



\*Persistence rate - percentage of students who return to college

# Student Testimony

## Jayden Cosby

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Being the youngest of three high achieving siblings, you are held unintentionally to a high standard. My siblings, Alexis Cosby, Greg Dortch, and TJ Cosby, were always at the top of their class and maintained good grades throughout their high school careers. During high school, they were a part of several clubs, teams, and organizations. For Alexis and TJ Cosby, one organization stood out, Partnership for the Future. Once all of their high school careers ended, they were ready to move on to the next chapter of their life—college. With the three of them being extremely high-achieving and hardworking students, they all received full-ride scholarships to the colleges of their choice, James Madison University, Wake Forest, and Virginia Tech.

While my brother, TJ Cosby was beginning his academic career at Virginia Tech; I was entering my freshman year in high school. Long before high school, I knew that college was a given for me, but naively I also believed receiving a full-ride scholarship was as well. I did not understand how much work goes into receiving a full-ride scholarship, but at the beginning of my freshman year, my sister, Alexis Cosby, told me to apply for Partnership for the Future. When I applied, I felt that if I got into Partnership for the Future, the program would guarantee receiving a full-ride scholarship just like my siblings did before me. This would not be completely true. Instead, Partnership for the Future helped mold me into the student I needed to be - making me eligible to receive a scholarship of that stature.

In my four years of being in Partnership for the Future, this program taught me and allowed me to experience many things that helped make my high school experience worthwhile. I learned professional skills such as time management, went through courses to improve my writing, and I learned how to be the best student I could possibly be to get into my top choice college.

I learned early in the program how beneficial time management skills are. During my time with the Partnership for the Future, we were frequently taught the importance of time management through Cultural Capital Sessions, events, projects, and assignments. The skills I learned early in the program I use today in my everyday life. Partnership for the Future generously brought in speakers during Cultural Capital Session events and meetings to strengthen important skills such as writing. Through participation in the workshops and the required “practice”, noticed improvement in my writing from the years prior.

Lastly, Partnership for the Future helped mold me into the student I am today. Before beginning this program, I often looked up to my siblings for their achievements and their ability to earn full-ride scholarships. As stated before, early on I thought that a full-ride scholarship was a given for students. As I grew wiser, I learned the work it took in order to receive that significant of a scholarship. With the help of Partnership for the Future, I have been molded into the student I needed to be in order to receive a full-ride scholarship. In the fall I will attend Virginia Tech on a full-ride scholarship just as my siblings did before me. Thank you to Partnership for the Future and the staff.



# Student Testimony

## Jaelyn Tyler

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

***“If you fall behind, run faster. Never give up, never surrender, and rise up against the odds.”***

—Jesse Jackson

I am very grateful for the support system I have built here in Partnership for the Future (PFF). I am also very grateful for everything I’ve learned, such as social skills, leadership training, improving my organization skills, and much more! Without all the hard work from my GUIDES mentors and College Access Managers, I would not have become the student I am today. These last four years have been very challenging and amusing, but I am so happy I made it. From the start of the program with the week-long overnight Institute Week at Randolph-Macon College, all the way to the Cultural Capital Sessions, I can say that PFF has opened many doors for not only myself, but my colleagues as well. I have been introduced to many educated individuals and created new relationships that have been extremely beneficial to me. All of which, I will carry with me after graduation.

PFF has also impacted my life by providing me with a paid internship. This past summer, I was given the chance to work at Markel Corporation in the IT department. While there, I was able to get office work experience along with getting the chance to network everyday. My internship experience was advantageous to me because I was able to connect with people with similar interests as mine and people in the field that I plan to pursue in the future. Furthermore, I was assigned a mentor who actually works in the field I want to go into, international economics and business. I am very appreciative of being assigned a mentor so similar to me, all the way down to what sport we played in high school! With her help and stories about her experiences, I was able to grow as a student and really try to focus on how I want to shape my future.

I would like to say thank you to my family for always supporting me and keeping up with my many activities. I’m excited to announce that I will attend North Carolina A&T in the Fall. I would like to say thank you to my friends for always being a listening ear for me. Partnership for the Future Class of 2022, I can’t wait to see what you guys accomplish—we made it!





# Student Testimony

## Malcolm Whitfield

University of Virginia

When I think of a doorway, I think of an entrance to somewhere I want to be. Over the last four years, Partnership For the Future (PFF) has acted as a doorway, taking me to places four years ago I never thought I would be. When I first heard about PFF I was scrolling through my school's internal message system and saw an announcement about an organization that purported to help students find great summer jobs and prepare for college. There was one catch; you had to apply to the program. I showed it to my mother that night and my aunt, who was more familiar with the program. They both strongly encouraged me to apply. Little did I know once I was accepted a whole world of doorways began opening for me.

The first door PFF opened for me was college exploration. As a freshman, I had the opportunity to spend a week on a college campus which helped me to begin shaping my ideas of what I wanted in a college campus and experience. PFF further shaped my college exploration by connecting me with a GUIDES Mentor. My GUIDES Mentor was Austin Welder, who works for Bank of America. He provided continued support throughout the applications season both for advice on essays and scholarships.

In addition to offering me support and guidance on my path to college, PFF has been integral in providing me many opportunities I never would have had the chance to pursue if not for them. Their organization helped me find an internship at a local marketing firm, Johnson Marketing Inc (JMI), and made sure I was well equipped with the interview skills I needed to impress

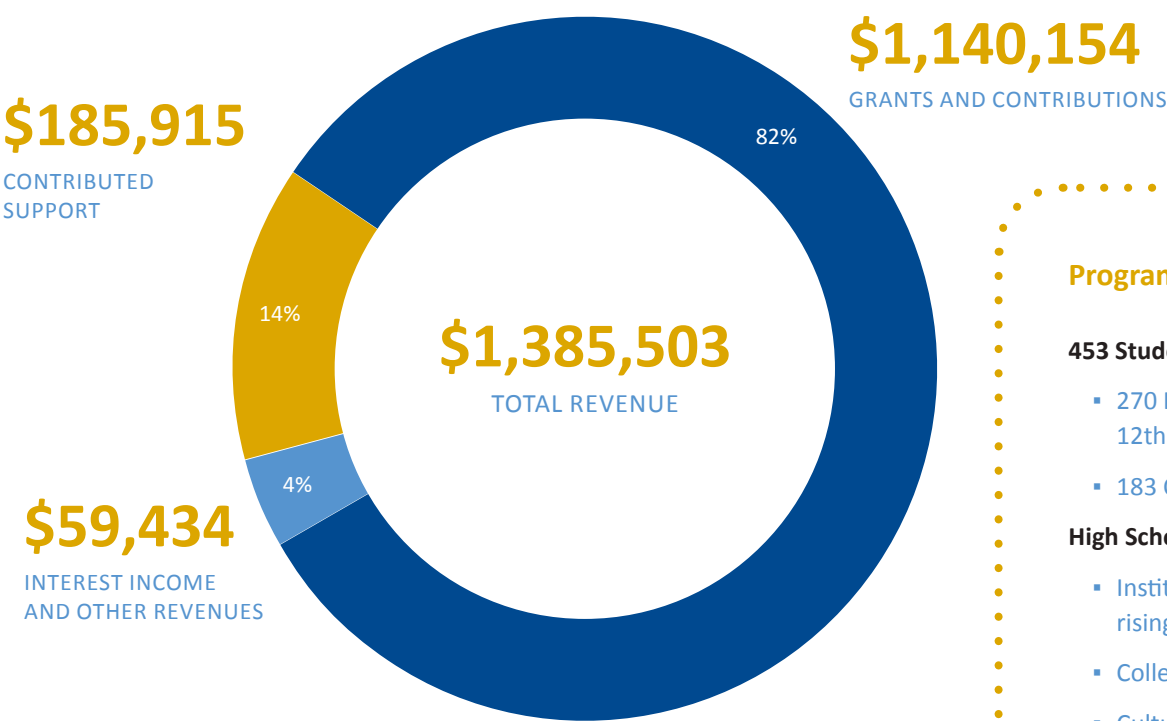
my interviewers and secure the job. While working for them I created different media calendars and did extensive research projects. The skills I developed from my time with JMI are transferable to different positions and will be a great boost to my resume. Resume building is another skill PFF has helped with on multiple occasions. The career readiness workshops I attended allowed me to steadily perfect a resume employers have been consistently impressed with.

Most of all I'm thankful for how PFF helped me not only get into my dream school, but helped me to go debt free for the next four years. After writing my essays for UVA, I was able to have my GUIDES Mentor review them and eventually apply to UVA early action. After I submitted my application, PFF nominated me to take part in the Walentas Scholarship process. As part of this process, I filled out their application and participated in regional and finalist panel-style interviews. PFF helped me to perform my best in those interviews by connecting me with a PFF board member and UVA alumna who ensured I was prepared for my final interview. Due to the mock interviews PFF provided me, I was able to attend the final interview feeling calm, collected, and confident that I would be selected to receive the Walentas Scholarship. I was in fact selected as a recipient of the Walentas Scholarship and I contributed a large part of this huge life accomplishment to PFF, who opened the doorway to debt free college for me.

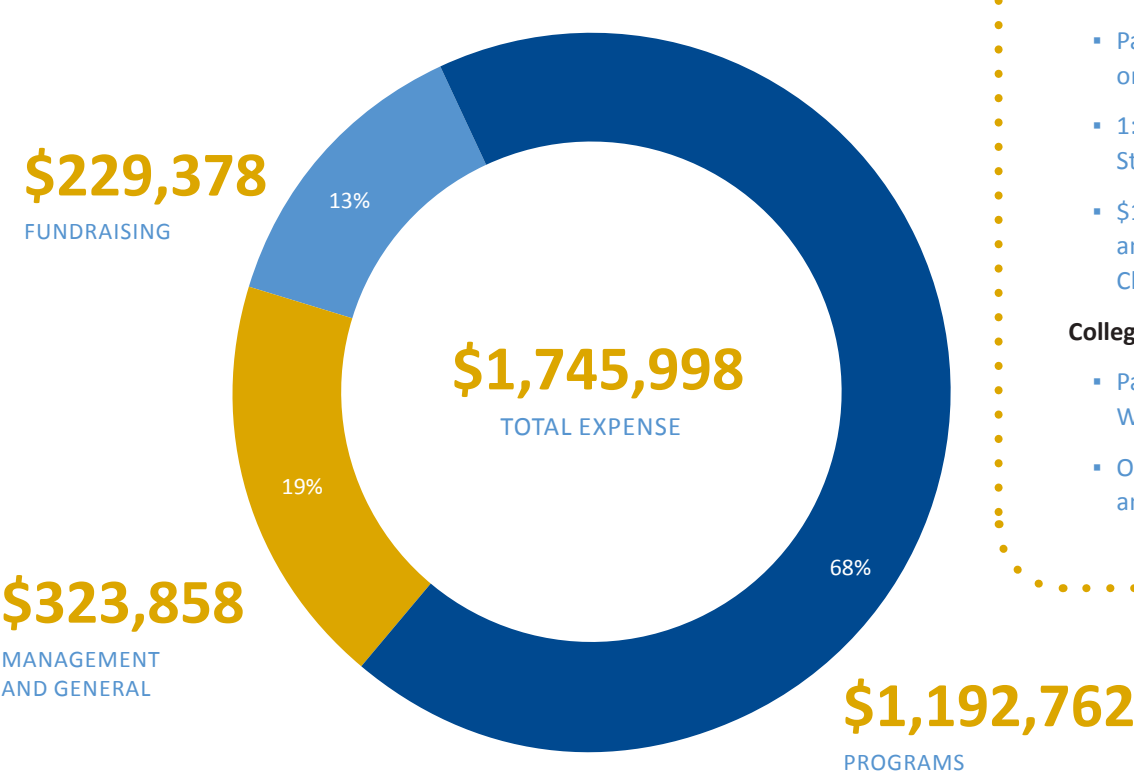


# 2022 Financial Summary

## Fundraising by Source



## Expenses by Function



### Program Highlights

#### 453 Students Served

- 270 High School (10th through 12th grade)
- 183 College

#### High School Program

- Institute Week (June 2022) for rising 10th graders
- College Tours & Fairs
- Cultural Capital Sessions
- Financial Literacy
- Personal Development
- Paid Summer Career Immersion or Internships
- 1:1 College Advising from PFF Staff and Volunteers
- \$130K+ in PFF Scholarships and 529 Savings Match for HS Class of 2022

#### College Program

- Paid Summer Internships and Workshops
- Ongoing Support, Mentoring, and Networking Opportunities

# Our program changes lives.



*Institute Week*



*Dining Etiquette*



*Reaching for the Stars Ceremony*



*Decision Day*



*End of Summer Celebration*



*March Cultural Capital Sessions (CCS)*



*March Cultural Capital Sessions (CCS)*

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