Table of Contents

I. Message from the Dream Project’s Founder
II. What is the Dream Project?
III. COVID-19 Response
IV. Scholarships
V. Mentoring
VI. Scholar and Alumni Programs
VII. Community Outreach and Advocacy
VIII. Fundraising
IX. Financials
X. Thank-You
Message from the Dream Project's Founder

Friends of the Dream Project,

As always, I am grateful for your support as the Dream Project continues to be a beacon of hope in the lives of many immigrant scholars and their families. This year is marked not by the adversities we faced, but rather by the victories we achieved: scholarships and mentoring for college-bound students, in-state tuition for all, the Supreme Court’s ruling upholding DACA— all in the midst of a global pandemic.

Evident throughout these victories is the strength of our Dream Project community. In using our voices to uplift others, together we create a more powerful and unified force for positive change in the fight for equity for all, regardless of immigration status. Our Dreamers can look confidently toward the future knowing they have an army of supporters standing behind them.

This year, we awarded 100 Dream Project scholarships in the amount of $2,000 each thanks to donors like you. We cheered 16 new Dream Project alumni as they walked across the (virtual) stage to receive their undergraduate degrees, and three more as they completed post-graduate programs for a total of 61 university graduates. We helped 22 mentees navigate the college and scholarship application processes and jumped for joy as they received college acceptance letters and scholarship award emails.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic created significant economic challenges and turmoil for our students and their families. Many of them lost jobs, lacked health insurance, and sought financial assistance for food and rent. Unfortunately, several students and families tested positive with COVID-19. In response the Board established an “Emergency Relief Fund for Dreamers” which awarded over $50,000 in aid to our scholars and their families during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. A newly-hired Case Manager also helped connect vulnerable
students with community resources and sought partnerships with other nonprofits to assist vulnerable families.

Most importantly, we could not have made it through the ups and downs of this year without the generous and steadfast support of the Dream Project family. I am in awe of the dedication, determination, and compassion each and every one of you has exhibited. We truly are stronger together. I invite you now to look back at this year’s accomplishments and reflect on the impact the Dream Project has had on so many lives in our shared community.

---

Dr. Emma Violand-Sanchez
Dream Project Founder and Chair
What is the Dream Project?

Mission Statement

The Dream Project empowers students whose immigration status creates barriers to higher education by working with them to access and succeed in college through scholarships, mentoring, community engagement, and advocacy.

Vision

Our vision is a supportive and inclusive community where education empowers all people to pursue their dreams and achieve their full potential.

History

In 2011, Dr. Emma Violand-Sanchez and a small group of parents gathered around a kitchen table with the mission of raising enough funds for a small college scholarship to benefit undocumented students. This first year, the Dream Project awarded four students $8,000 in scholarships, never dreaming the organization would grow into what it is today.

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Cecilia Morales, Bookkeeper and Administrative Associate
Patricia Sanguinetti, Mentoring Coordinator
Carlos Puerta, Program Assistant
Belinda Passafaro, Case Manager
Dream Project by the Numbers

Who are our scholars?

Our scholars are intelligent. 77% are involved in student organizations while maintaining an average GPA of 3.4.

Our scholars are engaged. 80% participate in Dream Project activities such as the Mentoring Program, Dream Summit, or annual fundraisers.

Our scholars need us. 84% believe the Dream Project is crucial for their success in college.

How do our scholars pay for college?

This year, the Dream Project awarded 100 college scholarships of $2,000 each. With the high cost of college tuition, students must be resourceful to cover their additional college expenses. Only 38% receive financial aid from their institution, and 63% must seek aid from other scholarships.

What has allowed you to stay in school?

- Family/friends
- Other scholarships
- Work and savings
- Institutional aid

Did you hold a job while in school?

- Yes
- No
The novel coronavirus outbreak has disproportionately affected Virginia’s immigrant population -- the Dream Project’s constituency. Twenty-nine percent of Latino families have had someone in their household lose their job because of the pandemic, and 42% of Latinos have also reported using all their savings to pay for basic living expenses during the pandemic.

On top of these challenges, undocumented immigrants have feared violating “public charge” rules or revealing their status if they seek testing or treatment. Many of our families have also been excluded from federal coronavirus aid such as stimulus checks and unemployment insurance.

At the Dream Project, we established a strong infrastructure to fill our students’ need for direct services by connecting them with external resources. We have partnered with local organizations like Arlington Thrive and Arlington Food Assistance Center to provide our students with emergency financial assistance and to prevent hunger.

The small Dream Project team worked overtime to ensure new aid programs were set up appropriately, and board members remained committed to assuring our undocumented scholars had the tools they needed to succeed in college. Understanding that our students would not be able to focus on their academic pursuits if their basic needs were not met, the Dream Project community sprung to action and assembled a cohesive response addressing the urgent and varied needs of our students and their families.

Case Manager

In order to address the needs of our students quickly and effectively, the Dream Project secured funding from ACT for Alexandria to hire a temporary Case Manager, Belinda Passafaro.

Ms. Passafaro has connected families in need of rental assistance to Human Services as well as other departments in various Virginia counties. She also provided social-emotional support to vulnerable students, helped them find mental health services, distributed grocery gift cards, and informed families of local food banks and distribution sites.
For families juggling health issues, financial concerns, and on-line learning, we worried that high levels of stress and anxiety would become a substantial burden. Starting in late March, the Dream Project organized check-in calls, texts, and emails to provide our students and alumni with ongoing emotional support and community resources. Staff and board members made calls to over 160 current and former scholars, with follow-ups by our Case Manager, helping to establish the Dream Project as a trustworthy source of information during uncertain times.

Emergency Relief Fund for Dreamers

Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to raise over $65,000 for an Emergency Relief Fund within three weeks. Over $50,000 of these funds have been granted to 67 students with pressing needs such as paying for rent, food, and medical expenses. The remaining funds will continue to be granted to Dream Project students in need.

$1,008 AVERAGE AMOUNT REQUESTED

$580 AVERAGE AMOUNT GRANTED
Scholarships

“Dream Project support is much more than monetary assistance. It helps our emotional well-being to know that such an organization exists and spreads values such as love and compassion so generously.”

- Anonymous Dream Scholar 2020

Because most undocumented students are ineligible for state or federal financial aid, they struggle to obtain funding for their education. The Dream Project is proud to be one of the few organizations that supports undocumented students by providing scholarships as well as ongoing non-financial support to help them access and succeed in higher education.

This year, the Dream Project's Scholarship & Selection Committee received 132 applications for 100 scholarships. Out of 74 renewal applications and 58 new applications, we ultimately awarded 73 renewals and 27 new scholarships, for a grand total of 100 Dream Scholars. Reviewing these applications was possible with the help of over two dozen readers and interviewers-- Dream Project staff, Board members, alumni, and volunteers.

We are pleased to announce that 91% of our scholars from last year renewed their scholarships and their commitment to earning an undergraduate degree. Although we were unable to host an in-person Scholarship Awards Ceremony due to COVID-19 restrictions, attendees at our virtual event were able to hear the inspirational message delivered by keynote speaker Jose Antonio Vargas. He helped us congratulate our 100 Dream Scholars and to celebrate the 16 Dream Scholars who graduated from college in the spring, bringing our cumulative alumni total to 61.

100 DREAM SCHOLARS

16 NEW COLLEGE GRADUATES

$200,000 AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS
ANNUAL REPORT

Scholarship Recipients

Dream Project Scholarship
Katherine G. O., Northern Virginia Community College
Jose M. O., Shepherd University
Richard M., George Mason University
Zamilan M., George Mason University
Jenifer O., Randolph College

Albert Zalkind Memorial Scholarship
Gifted by Dr. Julie and Dr. David Zalkind
Luis G., Northern Virginia Community College

Alfred Habeeb, M.D. Memorial Scholarship
Gifted by Mark Habeeb and Wendy Mills
Deily E., Northern Virginia Community College

Ann Bacher and James Sampson Scholarship
Gifted by Ann Bacher and James Sampson
Judany D., George Mason University

Anna WinklerPrins Scholarship
Gifted by Vince and Antoinette WinklerPrins
Temsalet M., University of Massachusetts Amherst

Aspire2Achieve Scholarship
Gifted by Jane and Michael Powell
Ivan A. F., James Madison University
Maria C. M., George Mason University
Emily G., George Mason University
Henry M. G., George Mason University
Danny V., George Mason University

Carole H. Lopez Memorial Scholarship
Gifted by Alfonso Lopez
Daniel M., Northern Virginia Community College

Charlene A. Green Scholarship
Gifted by Laurie Koehler and Carla Carick
Luis A., Northern Virginia Community College

Charles Hoyt Memorial Scholarship
Gifted by María-Isabel A. Hoyt
Jose M. F., Virginia Tech

Daniel B. Kennedy Scholarship
Gifted by Dr. Ann Kennedy and George Spanos
Veronica O. R., Marymount University

David Carliner Memorial Scholarship
Gifted by Bob Remes and Debbie Carliner
Ricardo A., Shenandoah University
Katherine G. P., Marymount University
Darwin M., George Mason University

Dream Project Parents Scholarship
Gifted by the Dream Project Parents Committee
Kervin G., Northern Virginia Community College

Educational Opportunities for Alexandrians Scholarship
Gifted by Educational Opportunities for Alexandrians (EOA)
Syndi A., Northern Virginia Community College
Adriana T., Northern Virginia Community College
Elizabeth Kerr Martin Memorial Scholarship  
*Gifted by Randy and Liz Brouckman*  
Arij J., University of Virginia  
Marvin R., Northern Virginia Community College

Emma Sanchez Rossel Memorial Scholarship  
*Gifted by Dr. Emma Violand Sanchez*  
Girasol O., George Mason University

Fairlington Presbyterian Church Dream Scholarship  
*Gifted by Fairlington Presbyterian Church*  
Maria G., Northern Virginia Community College

Founder’s Scholarship  
*Gifted by Dr. Emma Violand Sanchez*  
Flor C. G., Lafayette College

Frechette Family Foundation Scholarship  
*Gifted by Frechette Family Foundation*  
Laura Gaby A., Virginia Tech  
Carol A. C., Marymount University  
Emeli Esther A. B., Northern Virginia Community College  
Silvia C. B., Northern Virginia Community College  
Tengis G., Virginia Tech  
Yasir M., Northern Virginia Community College  
Mellany O. A., George Mason University  
Maria P., George Mason University  
Ana R. A., Northern Virginia Community College  
Afshan S., Virginia Tech

Freedom Scholarship  
*Gifted by Gen. (Ret.) Daniel and Susan Christman*  
Feben W. S., Drexel University

Gene and Barbara Gerwe Scholarship  
*Gifted by Gretchen and David Welch*  
Rodrigo S. H., George Mason University  
Ruth W. S., George Mason University

George Lietmann STEM Scholarship  
*Gifted by George, Nancy, and Joseph Leitmann*  
Ndeye Maguette S., Old Dominion University

Glen James Ferguson Scholarship  
*Gifted by Denise Ferguson*  
Johan A., Virginia Tech  
Monica G. G., Marymount University  
Yeimy O., Northern Virginia Community College

Goree Scholarship  
*Gifted by Skip and Lynnette Goree*  
Katherine A. H., Northern Virginia Community College  
Pablo R., University of Virginia

Harper Ann Opportunity Scholarship  
*Gifted by K. Dane Snowden and Spencer Hurd*  
Omar M. A., William & Mary

Henry Mejia Scholarship  
*Gifted by Nathan Monell*  
Josselyn T., Germanna Community College  
Stefany V. T., George Mason University
ANNUAL REPORT

In Memory of Jaryd S. Vann Scholarship
Gifted by Pay it Forward America
Foundation
Esau L., Old Dominion University

In Memory of Mariano Castro Scholarship
Gifted by Pay it Forward America
Foundation
Paola C. V., George Mason University

Inner Light Scholarship
Gifted by Lisa Ling and Powan Patil
Jose B., Northern Virginia Community College

J. Robert Vastine, Jr. Scholarship
Gifted by Denise Ferguson
Cecilia Y. T., George Mason University

James G. Lewis Scholarship
Gifted by Rita Lewis
Diego L., Mary Baldwin College
Brith Milenia R., University of Rochester

Jean Crandall Memorial Scholarship
Gifted by Marie Price and Rob Crandall
Maria D. G., J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College

Joe Timpane Scholarship
Gifted by Michael and Genevieve Timpane
Fabricio G., Northern Virginia Community College
Porfirio M. J., Northern Virginia Community College

Joel Juarez Lopez Scholarship
Gifted by Dr. Matthew Shank
Chelsea F. J., Marymount University
Jonathan N. S., Marymount University

John D. Evans Foundation Scholarship
Gifted by John Evans and Steve Wozencraft
Olvin V., Northern Virginia Community College

Julius Fernandez, M.D. Scholarship
Gifted by Julio and Evelyn Fernandez
Maria Sabina V. P., Northern Virginia Community College

Kach/Chapin Scholarship
Gifted by Mary and Doug Chapin
Giovanni F. M., William & Mary

KBR Foundation Scholarship
Gifted by KBR Foundation
Camila A. M., Northern Virginia Community College
Anelva C. B., George Mason University
Ashlen G., George Mason University
Gabriela G. B., Northern Virginia Community College
Katherine M., Bridgewater College

Kedron Simon Memorial Scholarship
Gifted by Noah Simon
Khuslen J., University of Virginia

Margarita A. Salvary Dreamer Scholarship
Gifted by Diann and David Frantz
Mikaela P., George Mason University
Marianna and Julius Herman Scholarship
*Gifted by Maury Herman and Karen Kinne-Herman*
Grisly A., Northern Virginia Community College

Mark Unatin Scholarship
*Gifted by Justine and David Springberg*
Reina G. L., Northern Virginia Community College
Aida T., Northern Virginia Community College

Mary Chilton Ferguson Scholarship
*Gifted by Denise Ferguson*
Cristina A. C., Tufts University
Mirna G., Marymount University
Diego V. C., Georgetown University

Molly Herman Scholarship
*Gifted by Jonathan Zalkind*
Sebastian P., Virginia Commonwealth University

Natalie P. Moody Scholarship
*Gifted by Linda Powell*
Alejandra R. C., Northern Virginia Community College

Neuhaus-Speck Family Foundation Scholarship
*Gifted by Marcia and David Speck*
Wendy H., Wingate University

Pat and Ray Marshall Scholarship
*Gifted by Sarah and Jill Marshall*
Jacqueline A. H., Longwood University

Perpetual Journey Scholarship
*Gifted by Johnson and Sara Chen*
Minjae H., James Madison University
Natalia H. B., Randolph College

Philip Zalkind Scholarship
*Gifted by Dr. Julie and Dr. David Zalkind*
Bryan V., Marymount University

Promise for the Future Scholarship
*Gifted by Alma Powell*
Jonathan R., Virginia Tech

Ray Springberg Scholarship
*Gifted by Justine and David Springberg*
Diana B. L., Marymount University

Realizing Aspirations Scholarship
*Gifted by Robert and Marjorie Green*
Carlos L. R., Randolph College

Rita Andelin Memorial Scholarship
*Gifted by John and Ginger Andelin*
Juan Jose A. C., Northern Virginia Community College

Robert A. Remes Scholarship
*Gifted by Sarah Remes*
Papia K., University of Mary Washington

Robert and Sandra Smith Scholarship
*Gifted by Dr. Robert and Sandra Smith*
Brenda C. M., Marymount University

Rosalie Smith and Lynn Juhl Scholarship
*Gifted by Rosalie Smith and Lynn Juhl*
Kevin T., Marymount University
Ruth Zalkind Memorial Scholarship  
*Gifted by Dr. Julie and Dr. David Zalkind*  
Prishay J., George Mason University

Sharon H. Youcha, M.D. Scholarship  
*Gifted by Jessica M. Kaplan and Joseph M. Youcha*  
Nadiran A., Lebanon Valley College

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church Scholarship  
*Gifted by St. Mary’s Episcopal Church*  
Ola O., Marymount University  
Stephanie S. B., George Mason University

Ted Price Scholarship  
*Gifted by Joan Price*  
Fernando M. O., Old Dominion University

Thomas Hall Memorial Scholarship  
*Gifted by Nancy Hall*  
Paula M. R., George Mason University

UndocuRams Scholarship  
*Gifted by UndocuRams at VCU*  
Haziel A. A., Virginia Commonwealth University
Congratulations to our 2020 College Graduates

Nicole M. M., Trinity Washington University

Nelcy R. M., George Mason University

Maria C. B., George Mason University

Cristopher D. Z., George Mason University

Glendy H. M., George Mason University

Rimsha R., George Mason University

Karen C., George Mason University

Fernando A., George Mason University

Sergio C., James Madison University

Daniel S., Marymount University

Jung Jun C., University of Virginia

Claudia L. A., Virginia Commonwealth University

Mateo S. A., Virginia Commonwealth University

Manuel M. H., Virginia Tech

Stefany L. Z., College of William & Mary

Monica B. F., College of William & Mary
Mentoring Program

The Dream Project’s Mentoring Program helps immigrant high-school juniors and seniors in Virginia as they pursue their higher education goals. These students are often the first in their families to attend college and because the college and scholarship application processes are especially complex for students with challenging immigration statuses, they are at a significant disadvantage compared to their peers. The obstacles these students face make our Mentoring services particularly invaluable.

This year, over the course of 24 two-hour sessions, 22 mentees were paired with 20 trained mentors. These volunteer mentors directed students to best-fit colleges and scholarships, and proofread essays and other application materials. Mentee/mentor pairs worked diligently throughout the program—during our weekly sessions and beyond. The Mentoring Program also offered mentees access to pro-bono immigration lawyers. Throughout the year mentees were provided with extensive guidance on immigration legal questions thanks to the pro-bono support of Robert Remes Esq. and David Rothwell Esq.

Mentees visited the campuses of George Mason University, James Madison University, Georgetown University, Marymount University, and the College of William & Mary. Through these visits mentees can picture themselves in a college environment, interact with current students, and learn more about the campus experience. Mentees further participated in two seminars with the College of William & Mary’s Washington D.C. Center. They met with William & Mary students taking classes with the Leadership & Community Engagement Institute to discuss values, culture, and the immigrant experience in America.

Able and Gio are now roommates at William & Mary after striking up a friendship at our Mentoring Program
Impact

This year, our 22 mentees submitted numerous college applications and they were accepted to universities that include: The College of William & Mary, George Mason University, Georgia Tech, James Madison University, Marymount University, Northern Virginia Community College, Randolph College, Shenandoah University, University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University and Virginia Tech.

Many of our mentees were also awarded a number of scholarships including Dream Project, Arlington Community Foundation, Presidential, Dream US, Esperanza, and Trinity Presbyterian Church. Three of our mentees were granted “full ride” scholarships to the universities where they will matriculate.

Evaluation

In March, mentees were administered a survey to gauge their satisfaction with the program. In the survey, mentees were asked to rank how strongly they agreed with nine statements on a five-point scale, from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5). Out of the responses for all 22 surveys (100% participation), each question received a composite score of at least 4.57, and the overall average for all questions was 4.67-- a compelling indicator that, in general, mentees were very satisfied with the program.

The importance of the Dream Project support system forged by the Mentoring Program was evident this year when mentee students and their parents began to lose their jobs as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Through regular communications between mentees, the Mentoring Coordinator and mentors, mentees received the vital support that they needed to continue moving forward. While students and mentors often sign up to participate in the program to receive or provide assistance, they actually obtain access to a caring and nourishing family at the Mentoring Program.

"While the experience of mentoring has been rewarding and inspiring, there's no better feeling than watching these bright students grow and realize their potential. It may take a village to raise a child, but it takes just one person to make a lasting difference in another's life."

- Cynthia, Mentor 2019 - 2020
A total of 37 Dream Scholars attended the event. At the end of the day, participants were administered a survey to gauge their satisfaction with the Summit. In the survey, participants were asked to rank the value and effectiveness of each workshop on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being least valuable and effective and 5 being most valuable and effective (see graph below). Out of the 28 responses collected, the average rating for the Summit workshops was 4.37. This data is a compelling indicator that overall, scholars were satisfied with this year’s programing.
Scholar and Alumni Programs

The Dream Summit was made possible through partnering nonprofit organizations and businesses that presented workshops and led discussions to instruct and offer guidance to our Dream Project students.

Thank you to each of our presenting partners:
- Arlington Community Federal Credit Union
- Arlington Public Schools
- Carliner & Remes P.C.
- Georgetown University
- George Mason University
- FWD.US
- Haynes Novick Immigration
- Legal Aid Justice Center
- Marymount University
- Northern Virginia Community College

Beyond 12

The Dream Project is proud to partner with Beyond 12, a nationwide nonprofit organization dedicated to helping low-income and underrepresented students succeed in college. Beyond 12 utilizes a unique coaching model to ensure students stay on track to graduate and thrive in the college environment.

Twenty-four Dream Scholars have opted to participate in Beyond 12’s coaching sessions for the 2020-2021 school year. The coach and student will connect twice a month, and during each session, the coach will check in with scholars and provide assistance in various target areas such as:
- Achieving Academic & Personal Goals
- Balancing School/ Work/ Extracurricular Activities
- Utilizing Campus Resources
- Understanding/Accessing Financial Resources
- Networking & Building Social Capital
- Planning for College Graduation.

Between sessions, coaches will connect with scholars via phone, text, video chat, and social media to flag any potential challenges that scholars may be facing.
The Dream Project Parents Committee provides a robust community of support and encouragement for parents of Dreamers. This year, nearly 30 parents volunteered their time and talents at Dream Project events and fundraising initiatives. At the Holiday Dinner, the Parents Committee contributed the ingredients and culinary expertise in a fundraising effort that fed 300 guests. They also raised $2,783 from raffle ticket sales for a Royal Prestige pot valued at $500.

The Parents Committee also organized additional food sales to raise money for their Named Scholarship. For New Year’s Eve, the committee cooked and sold entrees and sides, raising over $1,000. In early March, the committee raised nearly $1,500 selling a traditional Andean breakfast of api and pastel. Unfortunately, due to stay-at-home orders, the parents were forced to cancel two more fundraisers they had planned for the spring. In spite of this setback, the Parents Committee managed to contribute more than $12,800 in funds and in-kind donations to the Dream Project this year.
Community Outreach and Advocacy

Fighting for Tuition Equity

For years, Dream Project supporters and community have called for policies that would allow our students to follow their aspirations for higher education, regardless of their immigration status. In January 2020, the Virginia General Assembly took up the “Tuition Equity Bill” (SB 935/ HB 1547) which the Dream Project recognized to be an unparalleled opportunity to help ensure that immigration status would no longer be a factor in preventing Virginia students from accessing affordable, in-state tuition at state colleges. This bill would allow all Virginia students, regardless of their immigration status, to receive in-state tuition, provided they graduated from a Virginia high school and that the student or parent/guardian had filed taxes in Virginia for at least two years prior to registration or enrollment.

To help ensure that this bill would pass, the Dream Project joined with partnering organizations and sprung into action. On January 16, 2020, Dream Scholars and volunteers joined VACALAO's Advocacy Day in Richmond, Virginia. Throughout the day, students and supporters visited Virginia Delegates and Senators and fervently asked for their support for this important bill. Then, on February 10, 2020, the Dream Project hosted the Tuition Equity Advocacy Night at St. George’s Episcopal Church. At the event, we provided participants resources to write letters and make calls to members of the General Assembly. Inviting Dream Project students and supporters to promote this critical tuition equity legislation helped convince enough Virginia Delegates and Senators to support the Tuition Equity Bill.
Community Outreach and Advocacy

Words cannot express the relief and joy that the Tuition-Equity Bill brought for our students and their families. **The bill passed both the House and Senate of Virginia’s General Assembly on February 27, 2020.** Although the law took effect on July 1, 2020, Governor Northam held a ceremonial bill signing of the new law on July 15, 2020, which was attended by Dr. Emma Violand-Sanchez, Dream Project Founder and Chair, and Johan, one of our Dream Scholars. Thanks to this new law, all residents of Virginia can access in-state tuition at all 39 of Virginia’s public colleges and universities regardless of immigration status. **Virginia is the first state in the south to pass such a bill, and joins just 20 other states to offer in-state tuition to Dreamers.**

Participating in this grassroots effort empowered our students, who now know that their collective voices can help produce meaningful change. We are further very proud of and grateful to Delegate Alfonso Lopez and Senator Jennifer Boysko for their leadership in making this crucial and fundamental change for Virginia Dreamers.

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**THE TUITION-EQUITY LAW TRIPLES THE POWER OF DREAM PROJECT SCHOLARSHIP DOLLARS**

Dream Project Scholarship coverage for student charged out-of-state tuition*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DP Scholarship</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-pocket</td>
<td>93.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dream Project Scholarship coverage for student charged in-state tuition*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DP Scholarship</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-pocket</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*based on George Mason University estimated costs of attendance for a full-time student
Fundraising

The Dream Project’s revenue goal for FY 2019-2020 was $424,000. Because of the success of many of our fundraising initiatives, as well as an unanticipated drive to raise funds for Emergency Relief for students and their families suffering from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, our fundraising revenue was 42% higher than our original goal, for a total of $602,830. The Dream Project has a well diversified portfolio of funding sources including individuals, foundations, faith organizations and corporate/business support. This broad ranging support is critical to our ability to deliver quality programming and bolster our infrastructure. We are profoundly grateful for the generosity of each and every Dream Project donor. See our list of supporters in Section X.

Invest in Dreamers

In Fiscal Year 2019-2020 we launched Invest in Dreamers. This Major Donor Initiative had the goal of garnering the support of investors-- donors giving or raising $10,000 or more to support our programs and to solidify our infrastructure --so that we may continue with our mission into the next decade. We are excited and proud to report that we were able to more than double our initial “Invest in Dreamers” goal of $120,000, raising a grand total of $253,869.

The Invest in Dreamers initiative was made possible by ACT for Alexandria’s Capacity Building Grant and the assistance of Susan Kelly from Kelly Strategies.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR INVESTORS:

John Andelin and Ginger Geoffrey
Donald E. Graham
Denise Ferguson
Rita Lewis
Dream Project Parents Committee
General (Ret.) and Mrs. Colin Powell
Michael and Jane Powell
Robert Remes and Deborah Carliner
Dr. Robert and Sandra Smith
David and Justine Springberg
Peter and Kathy Tenhula
P. Michael and Genevieve Timpane
David and Gretchen Welch
Kathryn Zachem
Dr. David and Dr. Julie Zalkind
Fundraising

Investor Spotlight

Throughout the gathering, other Dream Project Scholars, Mentees and Alumni also shared, in personal conversations with supporters, similar experiences and motivations to contribute to the country they now call home. This evening, engineered and sponsored by the Tenhulas, proved to be a catalyst for sparking engaging conversations among Dreamers and benefactors. Guests donated more than $20,000 following this “friend-raiser.”

While some of our investors support the Dream Project with a gift of $10,000 or more per year, others spearhead a personal drive for additional funding to the Dream Project through house parties, corporate support, and foundation gifts.

On October 5, 2019 Kathy and Peter Tenhula opened up their home to welcome old and new friends to meet and learn from Dream Project students. In their lovely backyard, brimming with Dream Project supporters, students and families on this warm fall night, guests heard from Mikaela, a T.C. Williams 12th grader and from Chelssi, a Marymount University student. Both young women spoke about their experiences growing up in the United States and their dreams of making their parents proud by earning a college degree and becoming professionals in their fields of interest.
Named Scholarships

Ninety-four of our 100 awarded scholarships are sponsored by Named Scholarship donors. Named Scholarships allow individuals to honor a special person in their life while sponsoring a scholar through their college experience. Named Scholarship donors provide immigrant students with a $2,000 annually renewable scholarship that helps alleviate the financial burden of higher education while reminding students of the support system that surrounds them. Our goal is to have all 100 Dream Scholars supported by a Named Scholarship in FY 2020-2021.

When he retired in 1991, his practice -- Anesthesia Services of Birmingham -- was the largest anesthesia practice in Alabama. After he retired, his friends and family raised over $2 million to establish the Alfred Habeeb Chair in Clinical Anesthesia at the University of Alabama School of Medicine. Mark and Wendy believe that establishing this scholarship in honor of Alfred Habeeb, MD is the best way to maintain his memory and ensure that future immigrants can continue to make significant contributions to our community.

Named Scholarship Sponsor Spotlight

In 2015 Dr. Mark Habeeb and Wendy Mills established the Alfred Habeeb, MD Memorial Scholarship to honor Alfred Habeeb, who immigrated with his family to the United States from Lebanon in 1920. Seven years after landing in the US with no knowledge of English, he graduated Valedictorian of his HS class in Vicksburg, Mississippi. He earned his BA degree from Mississippi College and his MD degree from the University of Tennessee.

Dr. Alfred Habeeb
Dream Project Gatherings

9th Annual Holiday Dinner

The Dream Project’s 9th Annual Holiday Dinner was held on Friday, December 13, 2019. Guests enjoyed a red carpet photo station, delicious food, great conversation, and inspiring speeches. **Dr. Irma Becerra, President of Marymount University, served as the keynote speaker for the event.** Attendees also heard from Prishay, a current Dream Scholar studying at George Mason University, and Diana, a Dream Project Mentee from Wakefield High School, who shared their stories of perseverance and dedication. With the help of nearly 300 supporters, students, friends, and family, we raised a total of **$106,000**—exceeding our original goal by over $30,000 and making this one of the most successful fundraising events in our history.

$106,000 RAISED

300+ GUESTS
Dream Project Gatherings

Uncancelled Concert
This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, we reimagined the concert virtually. Performers from previous years and a few of our own musically-inclined scholars submitted recordings which were then compiled into one cohesive video. This video was live-streamed via Youtube to kick off the Fourth of July weekend. In celebration of our Scholars’ “American Dream,” donors contributed more than $3,000.

Online Days of Giving

Giving Tuesday: The Dream Project participated in Giving Tuesday, an international day of charitable giving the week after Thanksgiving. Executive Director Lizzette Arias and Communications Intern Nelcy Rocha took to social media to introduce the campaign and share videos submitted by Dream Scholars Papia and Ricardo, who highlighted the organization’s impact on their lives. The Dream Project raised $475 from this initiative.

Spring2Action: In addition, for a third year, the Dream Project participated in Spring2ACTion. Hosted by ACT for Alexandria, Spring2ACTion is an online giving day created to support the nonprofits doing incredible life-changing work in our community. Thanks to matching donations from the Rita Susswein Gottesman Fund and the Mason Hirst Foundation, we were able to far surpass our initial goal of $10,000. Together, 49 donors raised a grand total of $17,860-- an overwhelming show of support for the Dream Project’s mission.
Financials

Revenue

Individual Gifts
  Major Donors*  $253,598
  General Donations  156,348
Total Individual Gifts  409,946

Foundations/Grants and Nonprofits  151,425

 Corporations/Businesses  16,224

 Faith Organizations  20,516

Interest  4,719

Total Revenue  $602,830

Expenses

Direct Student Aid
  Dream Scholarships  $200,000
  Beyond 12  9,000
  Emergency Relief  50,900
Total Direct Student Aid  259,900

Student Programs
  Student Aid Support  12,386
  Mentoring Program  23,522
  Scholars and Alumni Activities  7,409
Total Student Programs  43,317

Community Outreach and Advocacy  21,578

Supporting Services
  Development Infrastructure  48,800
  General and Administrative  63,201
Total Supporting Services  112,001

Total Expenses  $436,796

*Major Donors includes parents' contribution
Additionally, in-kind contributions totaled $31,750
Many Thanks to Sponsors and Supporters

The work of the Dream Project would not be possible without the commitment and generosity of the following partners that provide financial and in-kind resources to help us achieve our mission:

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