



GreenLight Fund

PORTFOLIO REPORT 2020-21

EMBRACING
CHALLENGES.
MOBILIZING
CHANGE.

EMBRACING CHALLENGES. MOBILIZING CHANGE.

To say the period covered in this report, July 2020 – June 2021, was challenging would be an understatement. Yet our portfolio organizations and staff embraced the challenges. Marked from beginning to end by the Covid pandemic, our portfolio organizations remained strong and showed remarkable resilience, continuing to mobilize needed change in our communities.

We are proud to share this year's Portfolio Report highlighting the work, results and inspiring stories of GreenLight's 37 portfolio organizations across our 10 sites that reached more than 380,000 children, youth and families this past year alone.

In partnership with our portfolio organizations, we redoubled efforts to address deep-rooted racial disparities, strengthen economic mobility opportunities and accelerate social progress as people experiencing poverty were hit hardest by health and economic crises. Highlighted in this report are stories of meaningful change including opening new career opportunities for adults, helping young adults overcome obstacles and pursue their goals, utilizing technology to access resources, championing second chances for individuals returning from incarceration, supporting student mental health and equipping teachers, parents and students with what they need for future success.

A highlight of this year came in June when we received an extraordinary, unexpected gift from MacKenzie Scott and Dan Jewett. We are proud and grateful to be recognized among the "286 Teams Empowering Voices the World Needs to Hear." Empowering voices in our communities is paramount to our work as those proximate to the challenges are best able to elevate what's needed and identify solutions. Community members with lived experience are an integral part of our process in each of our sites, ensuring we address what matters most in impactful ways.

As we strive for equitable prosperity, we are committed to centering racial equity, challenging systemic inequities and engaging with communities to make measurable progress. We are so grateful for our partners, investors, Selection Advisory Councils and community members who make it possible to embrace challenges and mobilize change.



EMPOWERING
VOICES IN OUR
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OUR WORK...

MARGARET HALL
CEO and Co-founder

JOHN SIMON
Board Chair and Co-founder

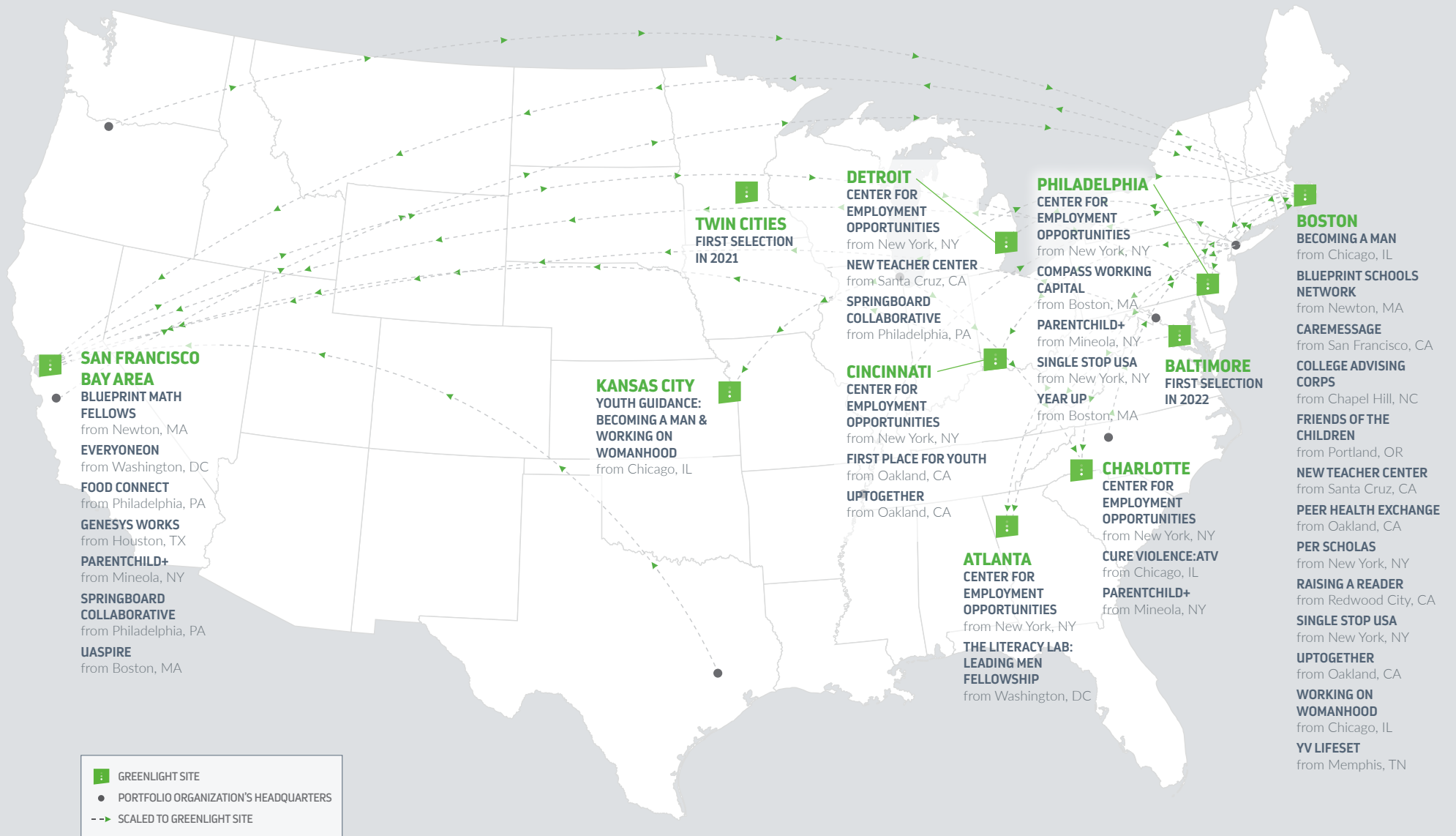


GREENLIGHT FUND NATIONAL NETWORK

GreenLight Fund

PORTFOLIO REPORT 2020-21
Embracing Challenges. Mobilizing Change.

Programs addressing social challenges in innovative and effective ways exist, but they may not be found close to home. GreenLight searches the country for proven programs to address local unmet needs and invests in their expansion in partnership with our communities.



AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2021

OUR APPROACH

The GreenLight Method is our approach to identify proven social innovations that address the needs that matter most to residents facing systemic barriers to economic opportunity. We engage deeply across all sectors of the community throughout the process, partnering with a diverse Selection Advisory Council (SAC) in each of our sites and listening directly to those who navigate poverty every day.



DISCOVER

Through conversations across multiple sectors, local data reports and listening to many voices, the local site team and the SAC look deeply at issue areas driven by racial and economic disparities in the region and identify community needs not yet being fully addressed.

SCOUT

The team searches the country and deeply vets proven programs best suited to tackle those needs locally.

SELECT

In partnership with the SAC, an innovative program with significant, measurable results and the best local fit is selected.

INVEST

GreenLight helps the selected organization reach and sustain impact locally with multi-year unrestricted funding, on-the-ground support and strategic partnership development.

MEASURE

At the outset with each portfolio organization, GreenLight identifies and sets annual targets for the programmatic and financial indicators to be measured. Each year, portfolio organizations report on those measures, a sampling of which you will find in this report.

NATIONALLY BY THE NUMBERS

GreenLight Fund

PORTFOLIO REPORT 2020-21
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10 
GREENLIGHT SITES

37 
PORTFOLIO ORGANIZATIONS

216 
ACTIVE LOCAL PORTFOLIO ORGANIZATION BOARD
MEMBERS

384,200 
INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES
REACHED THIS YEAR

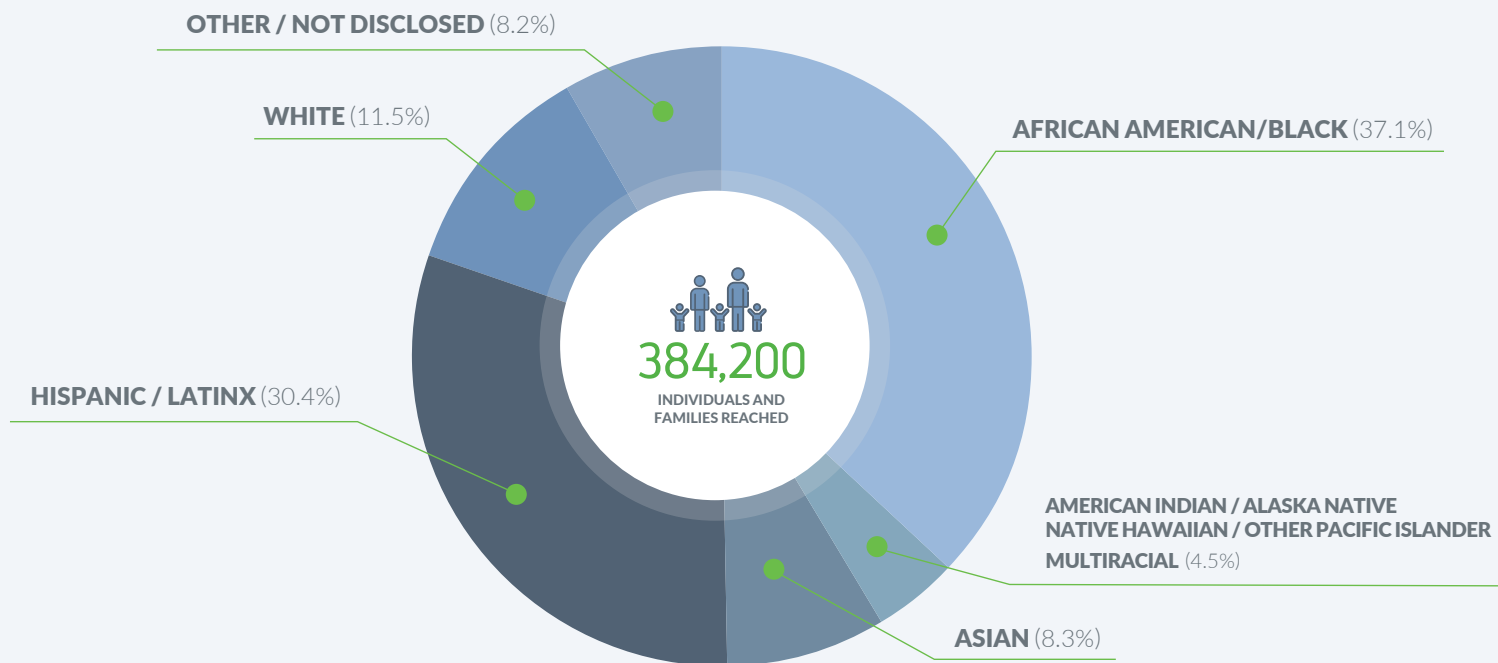
\$26,188,618 
INVESTED IN GREENLIGHT PORTFOLIO
ORGANIZATIONS TO DATE

292 
SELECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEMBERS ACROSS SITES

\$169,439,777 
ADDITIONAL NON-GREENLIGHT FUNDS RAISED BY
PORTFOLIO ORGANIZATIONS TO DATE

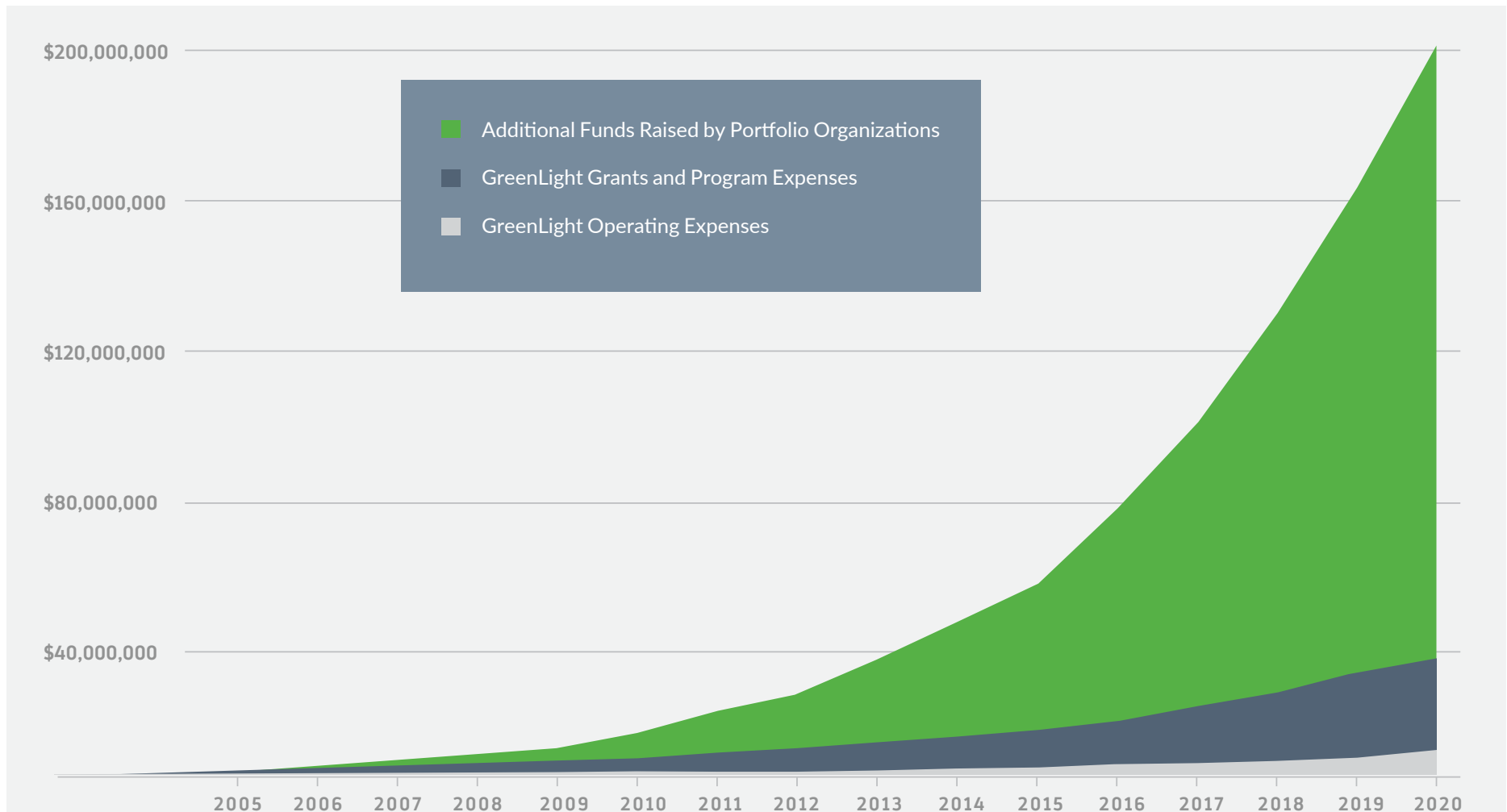
PORTFOLIO ORGANIZATION PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

Participants reflect the demographics of individuals experiencing poverty in our communities, with **80%** identifying as Black, indigenous or people of color. We believe leadership is most effective when they can connect deeply with program participants. We continue to make progress as more than **60%** of local portfolio organization leaders are people of color.



LEVERAGE ON GREENLIGHT'S INVESTMENT

GreenLight Fund's work in communities and dollars invested locally in portfolio organizations have leveraged an additional \$169M to date, helping portfolio organizations open opportunities for a growing number of children and families.



OUR INVESTMENTS

GreenLight's investments address unmet needs, often stemming from longstanding racial inequities, identified by each community each year. The result is a portfolio of innovative programs focused on a range of areas including: asset development, citizen re-entry, college access and persistence, community safety, the digital divide, early childhood literacy, food insecurity, teacher effectiveness, workforce development, youth mentoring/mental health and youth aging out of foster care.



BOSTON RESULTS

REPORTING PERIOD JULY 2020 – JUNE 2021

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WORKING ON WOMANHOOD

LAUNCH 2021

Working on Womanhood (WOW) is an in-school, group-based counseling and clinical mentoring program that cultivates leadership, promotes mental health and fosters the social-emotional skills of girls and young women in grades 6-12.

NEED IDENTIFIED

Prior to the pandemic, in 2019, 45% of girls in Boston Public Schools reported feeling sad or hopeless for two or more weeks. Female students were significantly more likely to experience depression and suicidal thoughts than their male counterparts.

KEY RESULT

Early findings in Chicago show **62%** of WOW participants experienced **fewer PTSD symptoms** and **71%** experienced **fewer depression symptoms**.

PER SCHOLAS

LAUNCH 2019

Per Scholas provides tuition-free technology training and professional development to help passionate, dedicated people build better lives for themselves and their families. Per Scholas develops employer partnerships for job placements and supports alumni to advance in their careers.

NEED IDENTIFIED

More than 60% of Boston Public Schools class of 2011 graduates did not complete college within six years. Now adults, many have aged out of traditional workforce development programs.

COVID RESPONSE

95% of graduates have achieved at least 12 months of **employment retention**.

INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2020-21

125



A RESTART IN LIFE: PER SCHOLAS

Jarred Gaines, 35, was working as a personal trainer when the pandemic hit and he struggled to make ends meet. Hearing from a friend about Per Scholas, he was intrigued by the opportunity, though he had little tech experience. Over the summer, Jarred learned Linux, Python, networking, security and relational database skills in virtual training. After graduating in October, Jarred started his first job in the IT field as a customer service analyst at IDBS, a research and development company. According to Jarred, "[Per Scholas] literally gave me a restart in life... it allowed me to rebuild that confidence and enter a field where I can make a competitive income to sustain myself in Boston."

BOSTON BY THE NUMBERS

344,221

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES REACHED

\$9,725,360

INVESTED IN PORTFOLIO ORGS TO DATE

\$92,669,950

ADDITIONAL LEVERAGED DOLLARS

46

SAC MEMBERS

108

ACTIVE LOCAL BOARD MEMBERS



BECOMING A MAN

LAUNCH 2017

Becoming A Man (BAM) is a school-based program that supports young men, particularly those of color in grades 7-12, through group sessions with their peers and the guidance of a trauma-informed BAM counselor. Counselors help young men develop social cognitive skills that deter criminal involvement and increase school engagement.

NEED IDENTIFIED

Boys and young men of color face disproportionate challenges in reaching their full potential as compared to their white peers.

KEY RESULT

BAM served **11 schools** across three school districts this year, **exceeding their target**, with the addition of the Arthur D. Healey School in Somerville.

INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2020-21

408

CAREMESSAGE

LAUNCH 2016

CareMessage is an intelligent cloud-based software that transforms communication for patients by providing personalized, interactive messages designed to educate, remind and motivate. It is used by community-based healthcare providers to help patients manage chronic health conditions.

NEED IDENTIFIED

Patients facing social determinants of health challenges need help managing chronic conditions at scale.

COVID RESPONSE

Massachusetts clinics have sent over **536,000 messages** to patients about eligibility, second dose reminders, scheduling appointments, walk-in availability and vaccine confidence.

INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2020-21

308,085

COLLEGE ADVISING CORPS

LAUNCH 2013

College Advising Corps (CAC) supports an increase in the number of first generation students with college aspirations who enter and complete higher education by hiring and training recent college graduates as full time college advisers in public high schools.

NEED IDENTIFIED

Low counselor-to-student ratios for high school students.

COVID RESPONSE

Despite a year of remote learning, CAC-BU served **100%** of school partners in Boston, Somerville, Malden and Lynn through virtual advising. Advisers supported seniors to complete college applications through **video conference, texting and phone calls**.

INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2020-21

18,526



AN UNEXPECTED LESSON: BAM

2021 saw 77 BAM scholars graduate from high school, all from the inaugural cohort of scholars in 2017. Thomas—an English HS BAM scholar—reflected upon his experience in BAM in the delivery of his commencement address. He joined BAM for the food but left with the profound understanding that, “manhood is not a definitive answer, meaning that you can always get better...” View Thomas’ full commencement address: <https://youtu.be/s5-TrAVmU-Qv>



TOWARDS A BRIGHT FUTURE: YVLIFESET

As Mikki approached their 18th birthday they were about to age out of foster care. Mikki felt lost and unprepared for the future and was referred to the Youth Villages LifeSet program.

Mikki worked with their specialist to successfully re-enroll in high school after dropping out and graduated on time with their peers. They learned coping skills and how to process their trauma.

With so many successes under their belt and so many obstacles overcome, Mikki is thinking about the future. They are planning to become a nail technician and Mikki is finally living the future they envisioned.

SINGLE STOP USA

LAUNCH 2011

Single Stop helps individuals persist through college and achieve financial self-sufficiency and economic mobility by providing access to benefits and services.

NEED IDENTIFIED

Lagging college completion rates despite high enrollment amid Boston Public Schools graduates.

KEY RESULT

Bunker Hill Community College students reached out to Single Stop **4,710** times over the course of the academic year.

INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2020-21

3,313

UPTOGETHER

LAUNCH 2010

UpTogether (formerly Family Independence Initiative) is a community, a movement and a platform to highlight, invest in and accelerate the initiatives people in historically undervalued communities are taking to improve their lives and collectively achieve prosperity. The UpTogether platform helps families build connections, discover each other's expertise, find support and access dollars.

NEED IDENTIFIED

The 2008-2009 recession.

KEY RESULT

Average **increase** of **90%** in family **earnings** of UpTogether families after two years.

FAMILIES REACHED IN 2020-21

2,956

YVLIFESET

LAUNCH 2008

YVLifeSet, a program of Youth Villages, provides support to young people who are aging out of foster care by helping them find safe housing, continue education or training, achieve stable employment and build healthy support systems.

NEED IDENTIFIED

Poor outcomes for youth aging out of foster care system.

KEY RESULT

96% of youth are **in school, employed or in GED classes** at 12 months post-discharge.

INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2020-21

628

PEER HEALTH EXCHANGE

LAUNCH 2007

Peer Health Exchange gives teenagers the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy decisions. The program trains college students to teach a comprehensive health curriculum in public high schools that lack health education.

NEED IDENTIFIED

Lack of health education in public schools coupled with rising obesity rates and other poor health outcomes.

KEY RESULT

13% increase in the number of students indicating they have talked to someone they trust about their mental health.

INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2020-21

4,800

RAISING A READER - MA

LAUNCH 2006

Raising A Reader is an evidence-based early literacy program that helps families with young children (newborn through age eight) develop, practice and maintain habits of reading together at home.

NEED IDENTIFIED

Reading readiness among kindergarteners was low.

KEY RESULT

88% of families report **reading together** three or more times in the past week.

INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN 2020-21

4,850

FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN BOSTON

LAUNCH 2005

Friends of the Children creates generational change by engaging children facing challenging home environments in 12 years of transformative mentoring relationships.

NEED IDENTIFIED

Rise of youth violence in Boston neighborhoods.

KEY RESULT

96% of beneficiaries served, met or made **progress towards their social-emotional skill goals** as defined in their individual Road Map for Success.

FAMILIES REACHED IN 2020-21

142



OVERCOMING OBSTACLES: FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN - BOSTON

Bella bounced between homes of different family members throughout the pandemic. Her stressors were exacerbated by the pandemic and she struggled with her mental health, especially with school moving to remote for over a year.

Friends of the Children - Boston provided support on multiple levels. Her mentor continued to work with her in-person and virtually. In addition, she received mental health support from a clinical intern and an older Achiever helped her develop additional reading comprehension skills as part of the Mighty Readers program. Her mentor also worked with her family to address food insecurity by delivering food and groceries, helping to lessen the stress at home. Bella reports an improved mood, returned to her home for much of the next school year, and now attends school regularly.



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