



2020-2021  
**Annual Report**





## Executive Director Message

As we reflect on another year of living through the pandemic, I'm struck by how much this community has stepped up. You have been adaptive, giving, and creative in how to link arms with our young people in moving forward. Students are making progress on their goals, and are navigating new transitions to education or careers. Our collective has been a consistent and stabilizing support for returning students — and it takes all of us to make that happen. Thank you for the many ways you have shown up for our community!

In this annual report, you'll see a snapshot of what our work has looked like throughout a pandemic response. You'll see that we served fewer students, but we went deeper with the students who were able to stay connected to us. Our direct service hours increased as we navigated shifting and emerging challenges with students — interpreting vaccination protocols for different schools, tracking changes in class modalities, and connecting to community health resources. The drop in total students served and completions reflects the larger community disconnection that we're seeing in K-12 and colleges. The numbers of young people who remain disconnected from K-12 schools across Washington state after the last school year is daunting (around 25,000). Many communities and technical college partners are down in enrollments by 10%, so we have work to do as we turn a corner in the pandemic.

And yet—through the challenges of the past year, we found joy: the artistry of a student's puppet show at our first-ever Talent Show, celebrating new graduates, welcoming new staff and volunteers. Thank you for your steadfastness during the pandemic, and for your excitement as students hit milestones.

Onward!

A handwritten signature in yellow ink that reads "Laura DiZazzo". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Laura DiZazzo**

**Executive Director, Northwest Education Access**

# Student Survey

NW Education Access conducted a survey in winter 2021 with the purpose of deepening our understanding of how students are experiencing our program. We are beginning to implement improvements to our program, based on student insight collected through the survey. Survey topics included school preparation and connection resources, school climate, social and emotional learning, Education Advocate support and relationships, frequency of contact with Education Advocate, mental health, and COVID-19 impacts on education.

We collected a variety of demographic information from students. 305 students responded to our survey, and we're excited to share some of our takeaways with the community:



- Overall, students report having strong relationships with their Education Advocates (EA), especially students who have been in the program longer. Students with strong EA relationships also score higher in school preparedness.



- The impact of COVID-19 on educational pathways weren't all negative – a switch to entirely online learning was a positive experience for some students.



- A high number of students met diagnostic criteria for further screening of major depressive disorder (38.1%) and generalized anxiety disorder (39.1%)



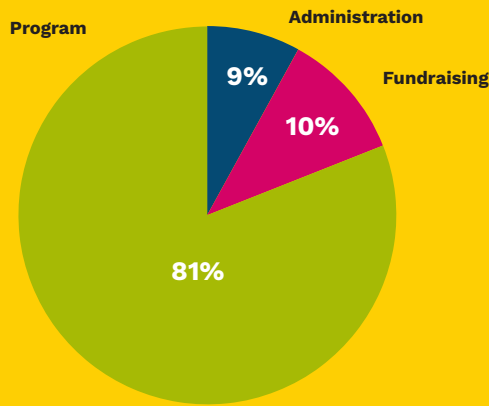
- Students with disabilities consistently responded with lower scores across many survey topics including EA relationship scale, school preparedness, EA support scale, when compared with students who do not have a disability.

# Northwest Education Access 2020-2021 Report

**Students Served: 820**  
2,608 served since 2011



**EXPENSES**  
**\$2,284,042**



## College Prep Program

**473**

Students Received Assistance

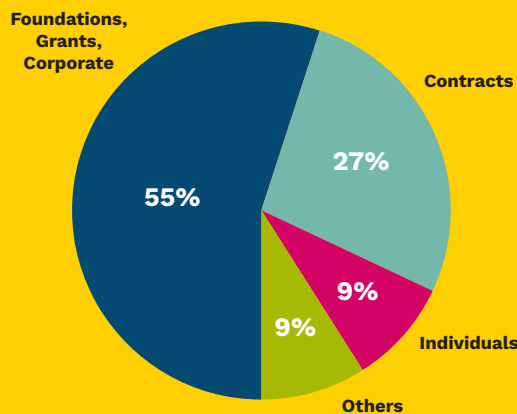
**30**

High School Equivalencies Earned

**121**

College Placement Exams

**REVENUE**  
**\$2,789,677**



## College Success Program

**347**

College Students Served

**109**

Students Started College

**71**

Students Graduated with a Degree



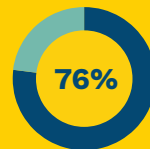
Low-Income



Experienced homelessness



1st gen high school graduate



1st gen college attendee



**41%**  
male



**52%**  
female

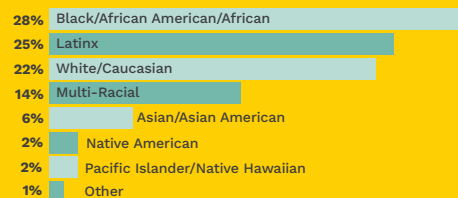


**7%**  
transgender/  
gender non-  
conforming

You helped award:  
**\$268,821**

in scholarships and COVID emergency funds to 277 students!

## Student Body



## 2020-2021 Corporate & Foundation Donors

Amazon  
Anderson Foundation  
Apple  
Auburn School District  
Ballmer Group  
BECU Foundation  
Ben B. Cheney Foundation  
Boeing Company  
City of Seattle  
Community Center for Education Results  
Eastside Community Aid Thrift Shop  
Ellison Foundation  
Ernest R. and Audrey M. Turner Foundation  
F5 Networks

FiveBy Solutions  
Glaser Foundation  
Google  
Green River College  
Heritage Bank  
Highline College  
Impact 100 Seattle  
Kaiser Permanente  
Kirkpatrick Family Foundation  
Krueger Sheet Metal Company  
Major League Hacking  
Mannix Canby Foundation  
Medina Foundation  
Microsoft  
Mud Bay  
Nordstrom  
Northwest Children's Fund

Optimal  
Oracle  
Plugable Technologies  
Port Jobs  
Puget Sound Energy Foundation  
Puyallup Tribe of Indians  
Red String Foundation  
Renton Technical College  
Rotary Club of Seattle - International District  
Safeco Insurance Foundation  
Salesforce.com  
Satterberg Foundation  
Seattle Central College  
Seattle Children's Hospital  
Sheng-Yen Lu Foundation  
Sunshine Fund

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation  
Trufant Family Foundation  
Ulmschneider Educational Foundation  
Union Bank  
United Way of King County  
VMware  
Washington State OSPI  
Windermere Real Estate - Capitol Hill  
Windermere Real Estate - Greenwood  
Workforce Development Council of King County