



ANNUAL

REPORT

A grayscale photograph of a woman wearing a dark hijab, smiling and looking down at a podium. A microphone is positioned in front of her. The background is a plain wall.

2019 - 2020

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2019 - 2020

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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.

Emma Violand-Sanchez

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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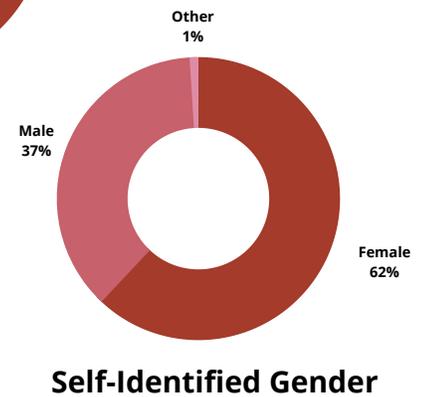
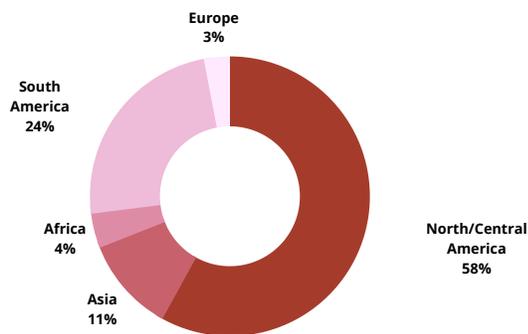
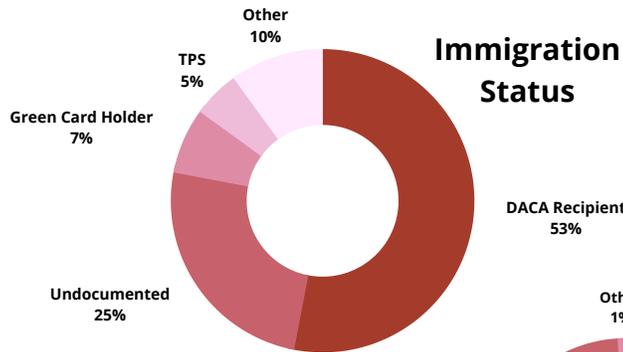
Dream Project by the Numbers

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.

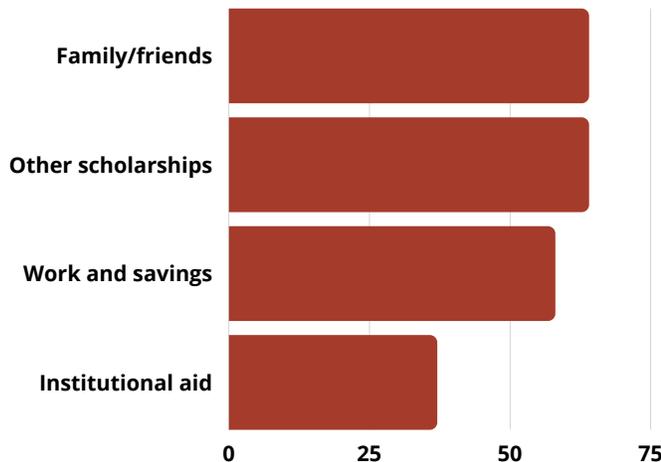
Our scholars need us.
84% believe the Dream Project is crucial for their success in college.



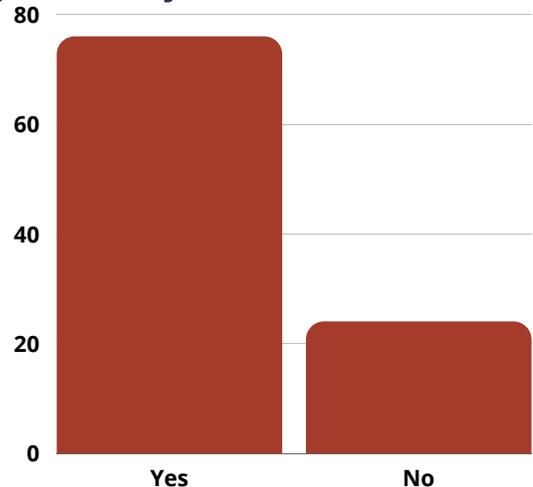
How do our scholars pay for college?

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?



Did you hold a job while in school?



COVID-19 Response

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.

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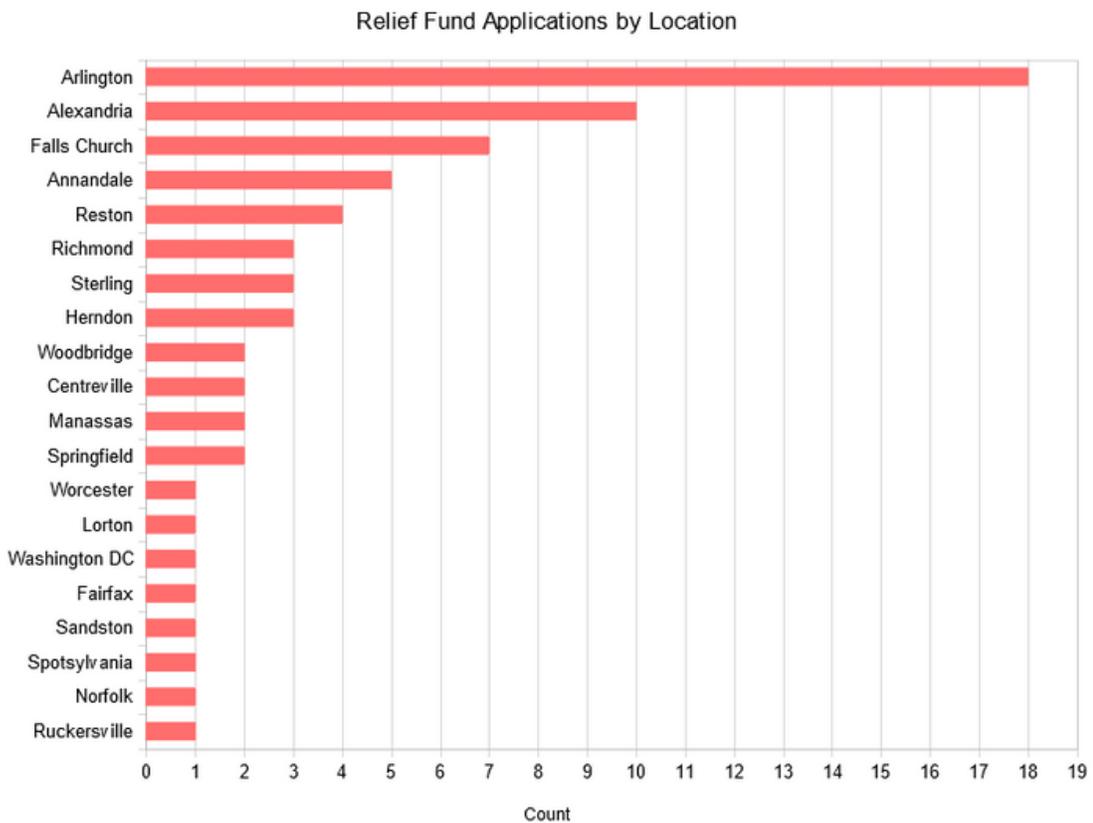
For families juggling health issues, financial concerns, and on-line learning, we worried that high levels of stress and anxiety would become a substantial burden. Starting in late March, the Dream Project organized check-in calls, texts, and emails to provide our students and alumni with ongoing emotional 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

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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

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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

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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 Timpone Scholarship

Gifted by Michael and Genevieve Timpone

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

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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

Kevin V. G., 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

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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

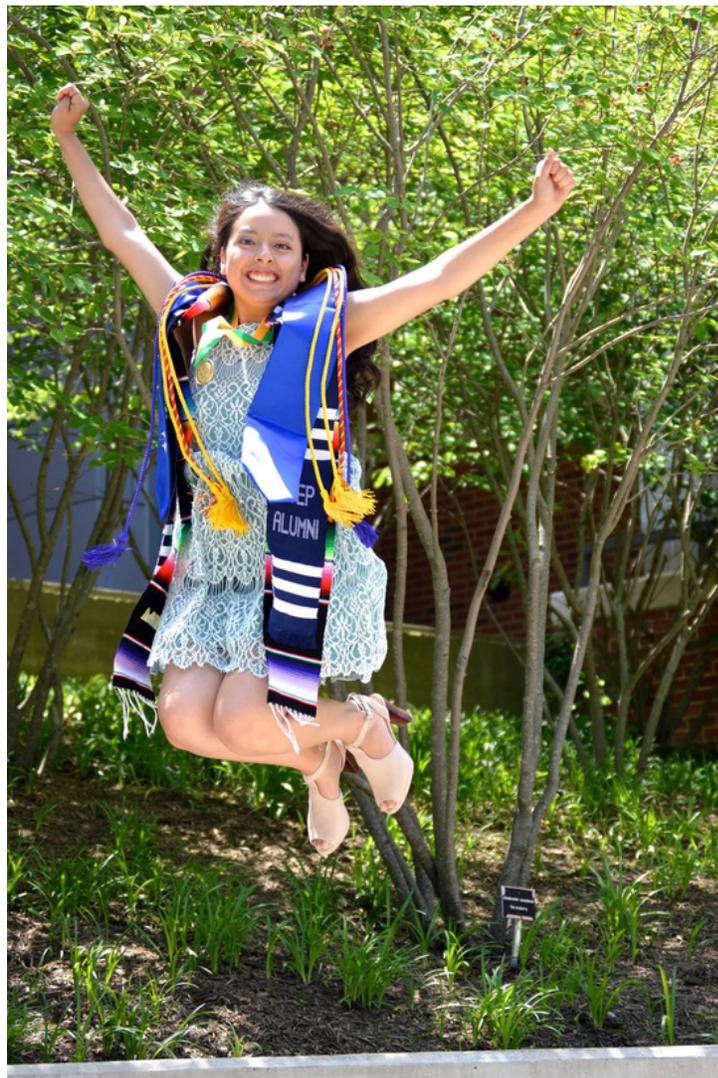
*Gifted by Joan Price
Fernando M. O., Old Dominion University*

Thomas Hall Memorial Scholarship

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

UndocuRams Scholarship

*Gifted by UndocuRams at VCU
Hazel A. A., Virginia Commonwealth
University*



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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

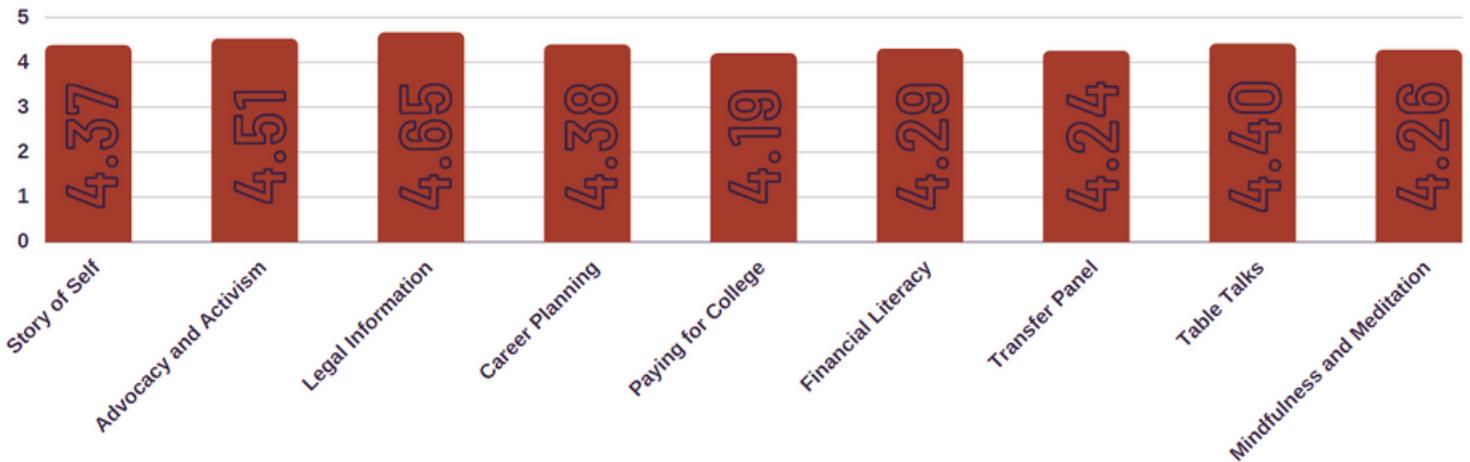
Scholar and Alumni Programs

Dream Summit

The 5th annual Dream Project Summit was held on August 3, 2019, at Marymount University’s Ballston Campus. This full-day event consisted of workshops and programming that provided scholars with the tools they need to persist and succeed in college. Sessions included topics like Legal Information, Career Planning, Paying for College, Financial Literacy, Mindfulness and Meditation, Story of Self, Advocacy and Activism, and a Student Panel on Transferring Colleges.

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 programming.

DREAM SUMMIT 2020



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.

Community Outreach and Advocacy

Parents Committee

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.



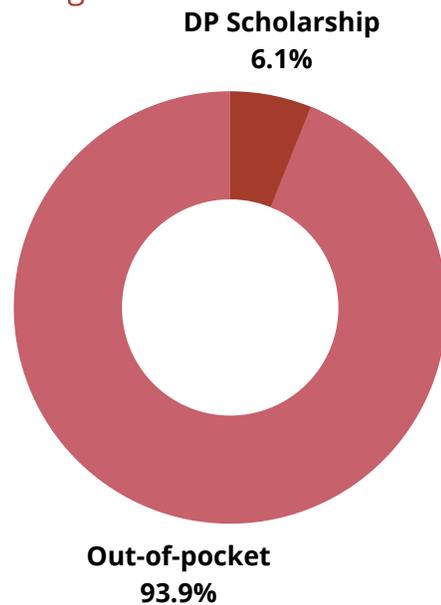
Community Outreach and Advocacy

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.**

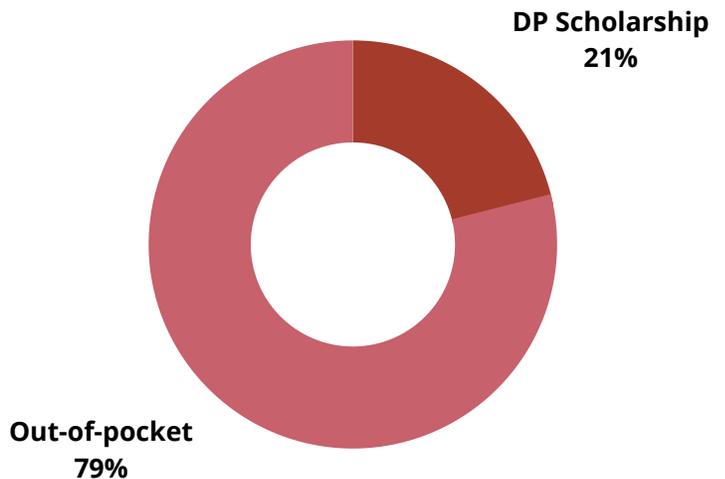
Participating in this grassroots effort empowered our students, who now know that their collective voices can help produce meaningful change. We are further very proud of and grateful to Delegate Alfonso Lopez and Senator Jennifer Boysko for their leadership in making this crucial and fundamental change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

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

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



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



**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:

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Dr. David and Dr. Julie Zalkind



Fundraising

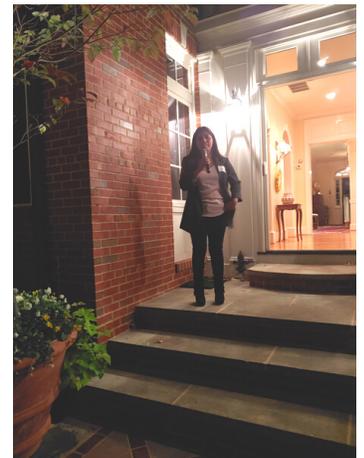
Investor Spotlight



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.

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.”



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

ANNUAL REPORT

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



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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.

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Financials

Revenue

Individual Gifts

<i>Major Donors*</i>	\$253,598
<i>General Donations</i>	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

<i>Dream Scholarships</i>	\$200,000
<i>Beyond 12</i>	9,000
<i>Emergency Relief</i>	50,900

Total Direct Student Aid 259,900

Student Programs

<i>Student Aid Support</i>	12,386
<i>Mentoring Program</i>	23,522
<i>Scholars and Alumni Activities</i>	7,409

Total Student Programs 43,317

Community Outreach and Advocacy 21,578

Supporting Services

<i>Development Infrastructure</i>	48,800
<i>General and Administrative</i>	63,201

Total Supporting Services 112,001

Total Expenses

\$436,796

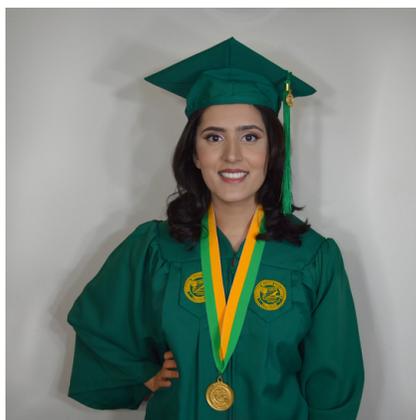
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The work of the Dream Project would not be possible without the commitment and generosity of the following partners that provide financial and in-kind resources to help us achieve our mission:

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Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington
V.O.I.C.E. (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement)



The Educational Community

Alexandria City Public Schools
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George Mason University
George Washington University
James Madison University
Marymount University
Northern Virginia Community College
Shenandoah University



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Every financial gift provided by individual supporters, no matter the size, offers Dream Project students an opportunity to succeed. We are deeply grateful to each and every donor of the Dream Project:

\$25,000+

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\$10,000-\$24,999

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