

For over 30 years, Partnership for the Future (PFF) has transformed the lives of Richmond students by equipping them with the tools and support needed for academic success and personal growth. Each year, PFF serves more than 500 students and families, by bridging the opportunity gaps that exist for economically disadvantaged and first-generation college students. Through 1:1 mentorship, college tours, financial literacy and professional etiquette workshops, a four-day overnight immersive college experience, and paid summer internships, PFF's model is intentionally designed to prepare students for higher education and meaningful careers.

PFF's College Success Program provides ongoing academic and emotional support to ensure students not only reach college but thrive there and beyond. They believe every student deserves the chance to succeed, and their program model is proof that when given equitable access and support, every student can succeed regardless of background. This is proven in their successful program whereby their students graduate college with low to no debt.

Higher education dramatically increases the likelihood that lower-income students will become higher-earning adults—and PFF is committed to making that opportunity accessible to all. When a RPS report revealed that 49% of RPS students aspire to attend a four-year college but less than half actually do, and even fewer graduate within six years, PFF saw an urgent opportunity to expand its impact. PFF views this as an urgent call to action and plans to launch a school-based model to increase access to higher education within the school system. This grant supports a collaborative initiative between Richmond Public Schools and PFF to focus outreach on young Black men, who are disproportionately represented in that gap, and to bring more qualified applicants into the program—making strong students stronger. Additionally, this grant will expand PFF's Keys to College free community workshops and deepen support for existing college students by launching a near-peer ambassador program.

By equipping students with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to navigate education and career pathways, Partnership for the Future creates lasting change—empowering individuals and transforming communities for generations to come.