



TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

IMPACT REPORT 2018



FOUNDATION

Dear Changemakers,

We are grateful to you, dear friends, for standing with us as we hold firm to the bold conviction that **higher education is the ultimate equalizer**. The Minneapolis College Foundation has maintained this core value at the center of everything we do for over 40 years. This vision, along with the hope, energy, and enthusiasm of community friends like YOU, has allowed us to change lives together.

Our students have big dreams. We believe everyone has a right to cross the bridge to opportunity no matter their race, gender, family economic beginnings or other circumstances. It all starts with equitable access. **Scholarships act as the transformational entry point to that access**. It's a fact. Your investment in deserving, highly-motivated yet underestimated students supports not only tuition, but also books, transportation, housing, and even food. Yes, even food. We know this because, during the school year, nearly 20% of Minneapolis College scholars tell us that they experience homelessness and food insecurity - an alarming rate.

With supporters like you on our team, **we remove these barriers to higher education** so our students can beat the odds stacked against them. From a troubled background to an invitation to attend Harvard, from escaping war and famine to chasing the American Dream, from suffering a crippling addiction to earning a degree in addiction counseling, **our scholars' persistence astounds and inspires us**. Already, many are working toward making our city more just, affordable and equitable.

As a changemaker, you empower our students to succeed, affording them opportunities they could only dream of just one year ago. Your gift offers a pathway to a college credential and high wage, high demand careers. You provide the lift out of generational poverty and into a middle class lifestyle for themselves and their families. What starts as an investment in one, turns into an investment for all. **See how powerful we are together?**

We are proud to share our annual impact report and the achievements you help make possible. With every gift, we are one step closer to seeing **our vision of equitable access** come to life. Every day, we remain amazed by the community of donors like you who are driving change. The road may seem long and hard at times, but our students know that whatever challenges they face, you'll be there to support them. We are grateful for your continued dedication to our corner on 15th & Hennepin Avenue.

Thank you for investing in hundreds of Minneapolis College students—many the first in their families to attend college—train for jobs, earn transfer credits, upgrade career skills, or explore passionate interests. Every bright future needs a strong foundation. Together, we can change the world.



Dr. Sharon Pierce
President



Orlando Flores
Foundation Board Chair



Penny Schumacher
Executive Director of
College Advancement

2018

THE FISCAL YEAR IN NUMBERS

Financial Review	Revenue	
	Scholarship donations:	\$725,442
	Grants for college programs and events:	\$57,235
	General contributions:	\$37,169
	In-kind, College:	\$199,148
	In-kind, Equipment:	\$12,513
	Special Event:	\$23,813
	Investment Income:	\$228,197
	Total revenue:	\$1,283,517
	Expenses	
Balance Sheet	Scholarships & Programs:	\$831,605
	Management and general:	\$270,450
	Fundraising:	\$39,267
	Total:	\$1,141,322
	Change in net assets:	\$(142,195)
	Assets	
	Cash and cash equivalents:	\$349,413
	Pledge receivables:	\$323,332
	Investments:	\$4,166,607
	Other assets:	\$83,236
	Total:	\$4,922,588
	Liabilities	
	Accounts payable:	\$9,048
	Total:	\$9,048
	Net Assets	
	Unrestricted:	\$1,648,031
	Temporarily Restricted:	\$1,592,448
	Permanently Restricted:	\$1,673,061
	Total:	\$4,913,540
	Liabilities & Net Assets	
	Total:	\$4,922,588

This information reflects audited operating results for the fiscal year ending 6/30/2018.



“The Minneapolis College Foundation is making things possible that seemed so far away at one point. This College and their support is really, truly what is pulling together the mastery of me.”



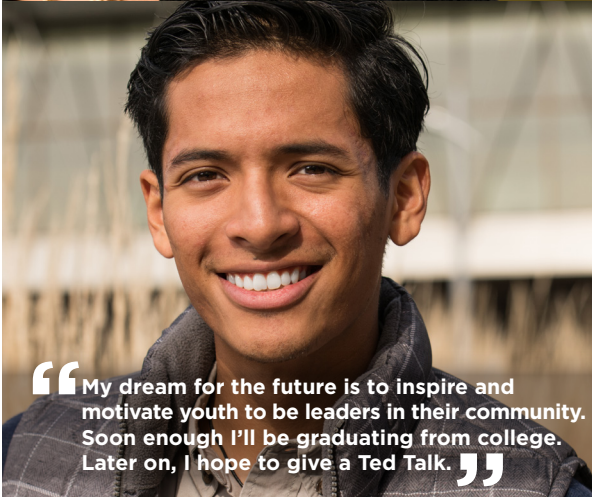
“From uncertainty and a cloudy outlook to clear vision, my future is now 20/20.”



“It's not about where you're from, it's more about where you're going.”



“The Minneapolis College Foundation and their donors built a bridge between me and what I wished for - an education.”



“My dream for the future is to inspire and motivate youth to be leaders in their community. Soon enough I'll be graduating from college. Later on, I hope to give a Ted Talk.”



“Everyone has a story, and Minneapolis College helped me realize I love capturing and telling people's stories through photography.”

The Minneapolis College Foundation removes barriers to higher education by providing scholarships and emergency assistance to students trying to beat the odds. We empower underestimated students to succeed and close the opportunity gap through educational equity.

SCHOLARSHIPS BY THE NUMBERS:

Over **88%** of scholarship recipients stay in school and persist to graduation or transfer pathways!

Scholarship recipients earn a GPA average of



Our scholars are:

60% female
40% male

100% from low income backgrounds



1,000+ students applied for Foundation scholarships this year



569 students were awarded scholarships or emergency assistance support in 2018

\$501,100

total awarded annually by the Foundation in scholarships, awards and assistance.



You help our scholars dream big, create new opportunities for families and transform the Twin Cities. **We're a great investment.**

Alumni Spotlight: Gadisa Berkessa Class of 2008

I am forever grateful for the quality of education and the opportunity Minneapolis College gave me.

Gadisa Berkessa's journey to Minneapolis College began over 7,000 miles away in the Oromia Region of Ethiopia. Growing up with big dreams for himself, he applied for the Diversity Immigrant Visa Program right after graduating high school and was one of 50,000 people from around the world chosen to immigrate to America. He soon found himself on a Minnesota adventure! Landing in Minneapolis in 2006, he immediately enrolled at Minneapolis College to pursue a liberal arts transfer pathway, and was awarded the Wells Family Foundation Scholarship.

My scholarship lifted a weight off my shoulders. I was able to work fewer hours and focus on my education. Education has always been my first priority.

In 2008, Gadisa transferred to the U of M to major in Electrical Engineering. After graduating, he worked full-time as a Building Systems Specialist. Two jobs later, he's now a Facilities Engineer at Tennant Company.

As his career progressed, he opted to come back to Minneapolis College to earn another associate degree, this time in heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVACR) to better understand his role and the people he supervises. He's turning out to be the kind of boss everyone wishes they could have!

Gadisa believes in giving back and showcases his gratitude for all the opportunities offered to him in his adopted community by founding and leading a non-profit organization, Egeree Education Foundation, which supports orphans with proven education potential in Nedjo, Oromia.

Much of Gadisa's family has now immigrated and joined him in Minnesota. "I've referred my entire family to Minneapolis College and my wife has already graduated once, my brother has transferred to the U of M to pursue his Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and my sister is currently enrolled in the nursing program!"

Scholar Spotlight: Deliah Grimes Class of 2019

I understood that the only way towards hope and opportunity for me and my family was by way of an education. I am proud that I am on track to graduate with a degree in criminal justice. I am a 4.0 student. I appreciate the donors so much for not knowing me, but still investing in me. They helped me be the best I can be. Because of my scholarships, I am able to make my mama proud.

Among the 11,000+ students enrolled at Minneapolis College, the average age is 27 years old. This simple stat is representative of the factors and barriers that prevent many from pursuing a college credential earlier.

For Deliah, starting a family came first. Becoming a mother as a teenager, she is a parent to six children, including two sets of twins. Having lost both parents in her early 20s, she felt she lacked a support system while balancing her role of parent and provider. Nonetheless, earning a college credential was always in the back of her mind.

As Deliah's children grew up, she felt more inspired to pursue her academic dreams to both afford her family a middle class lifestyle and to serve as a role model for her children as they themselves approached college age.

Deliah is a proud recipient of the St. Mark's Cathedral Lionheart Scholarship and the Deena Solomon Legacy Scholarship. After she graduates from Minneapolis College this spring, she'll be attending Metro State University in the fall.

Even though Deliah received multiple offers from several Ivy League universities to continue her education, she is choosing to stay right here in Minneapolis!

I'm here to represent the North side of Minneapolis, where I've called home for my entire life. I see myself as a role model for the North side because it's not about where you're from, it's more about where you're going.



Donor Spotlight: Evie Linner

If Evie Linner decides to write an autobiography one day, it would definitely include a chapter called “Moving Students Closer to Their Dreams.” That’s because Evie’s Minneapolis College story is one filled with family tales, adventures, celebrations and legacy.

Evie first found herself on this campus as a proud mother watching her youngest son, David B. Linner II, follow in her footsteps to become a registered nurse. Through his studies here, she saw him realize his full potential and delighted in watching him pursue his passion for helping others. As a parent, Evie couldn’t wish for a better college experience for her son or be more thrilled to see the young man he had become.

David B. Linner II (Class of 1994) brought light to otherwise drab hospital rooms with his outgoing personality and unrivaled compassion. Caring for others was at the root of everything he did, whether assisting in medevac helicopters during the Persian Gulf War, serving as a volunteer firefighter, or pursuing a career in nursing. Unfortunately, David tragically passed away in 2005 in an air ambulance crash, devastating the family, friends and colleagues he left behind. He was survived by his wife, Laurel and daughter, Abigail.

To honor his remarkable legacy, close family friends created a nursing scholarship in his name at Minneapolis College, the place the Linnrs agree, provided David the professional skills needed to become his best self. This scholarship was generously maintained by Evie and her children until her husband and their father, David B. Linner I passed away in September 2017. During this difficult time, one of his tribute memorials was graciously requested to go to Minneapolis College. Several months later, Evie decided to transfer the scholarship’s principal into a new endowment fund so the investment income earned can be used to fund scholarships for years to come. **The David Linner Memorial Nursing Scholarship Endowment** was then established with a very generous gift from Evie, totaling nearly \$150,000. What a powerful way to remember her *two Davids*; her son, David B. Linner II’s legacy of compassion and her husband, David B. Linner I’s overwhelming generosity.

Evie, you have made an enduring difference on our campus community. You are moving students closer to their dreams. For that, we are most grateful.

My son, David, received such a good college education here. It’s important to our family that we give this opportunity to as many as we can. We are very impressed by the barriers many Minneapolis College students face and more importantly, overcome while pursuing their passion. I know that these scholarships go beyond just helping the student. They lift up their family and the community. The importance of this College in so many lives, including in my son David’s life, is what makes this place special to me and is what made our choice to establish this endowment so clear.

-Evie Linner

After serving on a medevac chopper with the 101st Airborne during Desert Storm, David found his calling in helping people. When he came home from the war, he enrolled at Minneapolis College to pursue his calling and become a registered nurse. Minneapolis College was a perfect fit for him and allowed him to further his passion for helping others. This place holds a special place in all of our hearts.

-Eric Linner, David’s brother

It is my hope that David’s legacy of compassion will live on in Minneapolis College nursing students who benefit from the scholarship funds given in his memory and who share his caring spirit.

-Kris Linner, David’s sister

What we find most unique about Minneapolis College is how many nontraditional students come here seeking to change the course of their family’s future. Many of the scholars we supported are parents, immigrants, and first-generation college grads. Being able to support these students, while honoring the legacy of my brother and the place he began pursuing his passion, is really special.

- Karen Linner, David’s sister



Donor Spotlight: Javier & Azalea Henao

The diversity in life experience brings an energy to this campus like no other. It's our honor to be a part of it. So many students need just a little bit of funds to turn their dreams into actionable goals. With this little bit of support, they can leave Minneapolis College with a pathway to a career that sets them up for a comfortable life. We want to open this door for as many students as we can.

- Javier Henao

If I had to describe this campus in one word, it would be opportunity. So many students don't fit the traditional college student mold. They are older, they are first-generation, they are immigrants, they are working full-time and raising families.

- Azalea Henao

After retiring from a career in business and raising two children, Javier and Azalea Henao were looking for a meaningful way to give back to the community. They wanted to find a nonprofit whose mission they felt fully vested in. When close family friends, Maria Antonia Calvo and Steven Rosenstone, shared with them their own Minneapolis College experience of establishing a scholarship for first-generation college students, they were eager to learn more. All it took was a brief meeting with Foundation staff before they, too, would begin investing in Minneapolis College students' futures, ensuring access to an excellent education and the support needed to succeed.

Immigrating from Colombia and Mexico as young adults, Javier and Azalea were familiar with the hardships faced when adjusting to a new country and a new culture. Knowing little English, Javier began his post-secondary education at a community college in Chicago. He continued on, earning a degree from Loyola University before beginning his business career in the healthcare industry. With their own American Dream stories in mind, the Henaos established a scholarship for undocumented students of Hispanic heritage.

Over the past two years, the **Henao Family Scholarship** has invested in six scholars and their academic journeys at Minneapolis College. From nurses to architects to international relations advocates, Javier and Azalea's support is helping shape the next generation of community leaders.

The most meaningful gifts are always from the heart. We are incredibly grateful for Javier and Azalea's heartfelt, personal connection to Minneapolis College. They have sparked some of this year's most memorable moments on our campus.

The incredible student success stories we heard at the first Minneapolis College Foundation event we attended ignited our passion. In a way, we saw ourselves in these scholars' stories.

- Javier Henao

Azalea and Javier are generous, humble people committed to serving our community.

- Maria Antonia Calvo

Minneapolis Community & Technical College Foundation 2018 Donors

Thank you for investing in our students' academic dreams!

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ONE SCHOLARSHIP + HOPE x OPPORTUNITY = TRANSFORMATION

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We are an organization you can trust.

In fiscal year 2018, over 89% of all expenditures went directly to support Minneapolis College students.

