

# THE DREAM PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



# LETTER FROM THE 2022-2023 BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends,

I want to express our deepest gratitude for the blessings received this year. We are thankful for the generosity and kindness of our donors, parents, advisors, mentors, volunteers, and staff, who personify our mission to empower students whose immigration status creates barriers to higher education. Working together, the Dream Project family has helped them access and succeed in college/university.

The year's highlight for me was the Scholarship Award Ceremony in June, where our Dream Scholars came together to celebrate their dreams. Some students had tears in their eyes as Parishay, a Dream Project alumna from Pakistan, shared her story of resilience and perseverance. With the Dream Project's support, Parishay graduated from college and is now attending Georgetown University Medical School. Some students could identify with Bryan, who, unaccompanied at age 13, made the treacherous weeks-long journey from El Salvador to the United States. After attending high school in Fairfax County, Bryan earned a Dream Project scholarship to study at Marymount University, where he graduated summa cum laude in three years with a degree in information technology. Bryan is now a Member of the Dream Project Board. Parishay and Bryan represent just two of our many success stories, none of which would have been possible without the generous support of our caring donors.

Immigration status does not define a person. Our scholars, mentees, and alumni make their mark on this world through their abilities, intelligence, hard work, resilience, faith, and character. They are making a real and positive difference in their own lives and in broader communities. As immigrants or refugees, they have sacrificed greatly by leaving their homelands. But they believe the sacrifices are worth it and that the United States offers them the chance to pursue dreams that would have been unimaginable. And they know that higher education expands horizons and opportunities to make these dreams come true.

We have a tremendous responsibility to continue to fund renewable scholarships. Dream Project scholars trust and depend on us, but our scholarship cannot fully cover their tuition or living expenses, and many continue to face financial challenges. That is why we must advocate to universities to provide more financial support to these incredible first-generation college students. Doing so is an investment in our students and our nation's future. We are proud of our accomplishments: Since 2011, the Dream Project has provided \$1,729,500 in scholarship assistance. The Mentoring Program continues to assist high school students through our outstanding team of volunteer mentors. Recognizing that financial challenges are not the sole impediment to earning a college education, we have expanded our counseling and coaching services, alumni support initiatives, emergency assistance, and loan funds to provide holistic support to our scholars and their families.

One of our biggest current challenges is the need for dedicated physical space. We have always tried to ensure that most of our funds are allocated for our scholarships, mentoring, and other support programs, but as we have grown, it has become challenging to deliver all our services online. We need physical space to meet with our students, host meetings and events, and store materials so that our growing professional staff can benefit from collaborating in person. Northern Virginia has many empty offices (both private and governmental) as well as houses of worship that have space during the work week. Please get in touch with us if you can help with our quest!

I am deeply grateful for your continued support for our students, parents, staff, and Board members.



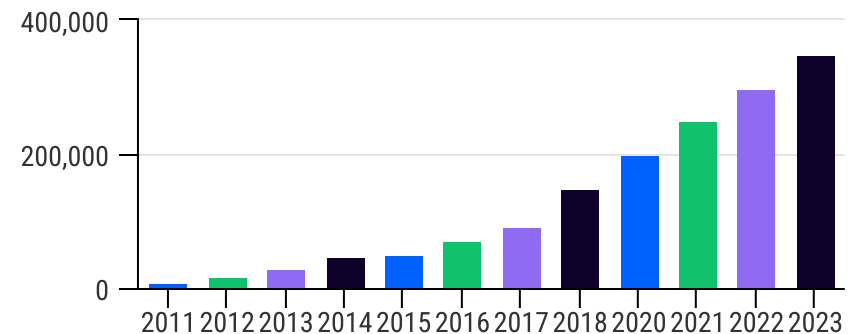
**DR. EMMA VIOLAND-SÁNCHEZ,  
2022-2023 BOARD CHAIR  
THE DREAM PROJECT**

# THE DREAM PROJECT: AT A GLANCE

## OUR HISTORY:

The Dream Project was founded in 2010 when a small group of parents, students, educators, and community members convened at the residence of Dr. Emma Violand-Sánchez, the founder of the Dream Project. They gathered to address their concerns and devise ways to support undocumented students in Virginia. The parents then organized the first Dream Project fundraisers, intending to establish a scholarship program. To this day, the Dream Project remains one of the few organizations providing scholarships and mentoring support to undocumented students in Virginia.

We granted a total of \$8,000 in Scholarships in 2011; by 2023, this has increased to \$350,000. **Since our founding, we have awarded over \$1.749 million to some 340 students.**



## OUR VISION:

Our vision is a supportive and inclusive community where Dreamers and their families are empowered through education to pursue their dreams and achieve their full potential.

## OUR MISSION:

We empower students whose immigration status creates barriers to education by working with them to access and succeed in college through scholarships, mentoring, and scholar, alumni, and family support.



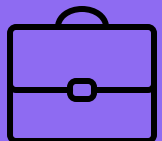
# THIS YEAR, WE IMPACTED OVER 300 IMMIGRANT STUDENTS



30  
mentees



100  
scholars



120+  
alumni

## WHO WE ARE

*Special thanks to the Parents Committee, mentors, mentees, Scholars, donors, and alumni who continually meet the needs of the Dream Project community.*

### OUR 2022-2023 STAFF:

**Karen Vallejos Corrales, J.D.**, Executive Director  
**Michele Connelly**, Director of Development  
**Liz Larabee**, Director of Communications  
& Student Recruitment  
**Cecilia Morales**, Business & Program Manager  
**Nashwa Osmani**, Operations Assistant  
**Belinda Passafaro**, Case Manager  
& Senior Consultant  
**Patricia Sanguinetti**, Mentoring Coordinator  
**Courtney Swan**, Intern  
**Tara Dixit**, Intern

### OUR 2022- 2023 BOARD:

**Dr. Emma Violand-Sánchez**, Founder & Chair  
**Julie Zalkind, Ph.D.**, Vice Chair  
**Robert Remes**, Treasurer  
**William Mark Habeeb, Ph.D.**, Secretary

Monica Burgos Flores; Dawn Cutler-Tran; Cinthia Fernholz;  
Ann Kennedy, Ph.D; Tim Lawler; Nancy McEldowney; Jeff  
Miles; Gustavo Minaya; Nataly Montañó Vargas; Roxana  
Montañó; Marie Price, Ph.D; David Rothwell, Esq; Robert  
Smith, Ph.D; Julius JD Spain, Sr; David Springberg; Meg  
Tuccillo; Bryan Viera

### OUR 2022- 2023 ADVISORY BOARD

**Honorable Tannia Talento**, Chair

Luis Aguilar; John Andelin; Hon. Ricardy Anderson; Gaston Araoz; Dr. Katherine Barko-Alva; David Bearinger; Dr. Nathan Carter; Hon. Cristina Diaz-Torres; Dr. Francisco Durán; Sen. Adam Ebbin; Sen. Barbara Favola; Denise Ferguson; Anita Friedman; Magaly Galdo-Hirst; Ginger Geoffrey; Dr. Mark Ginsberg; Del. Elizabeth Guzman; Rebecca Herman; Angela Kelley; Dr. Bethany Letiecq; Rita Lewis; Del. Alfonso Lopez; Cressida McKean; Anya McMurray; Tara Palacios; Hon. Dalia Palchik; John Porter; Alma Powell; Jane Powell; Dr. Natoschia Scruggs; Andy Shallal; Dr. Matthew Shank; Hon. Noah Simon; Justine Springberg; Dr. Drew Stelljes; Hon. Walter Tejada; Kathy Tenhula

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW: MENTORING

"Thank you for your support. Your belief in me has given me strength, and I am determined to make the most out of this situation and pursue my dreams."  
-Alessandra, Dream Project Mentee



## First Year

in our pilot Community College Mentoring Program. All eight participants are headed to four-year universities: George Mason University (4), Mary Washington (1), Marymount University (1), Old Dominion University(1), and University of Maryland College Park (1)



# 94%

Percentage of 2022-23 Mentees who reported that they benefitted from and enjoyed taking part in the Mentoring Program

# 13

Number of Virginia high schools whose students participated in the 2023-23 Mentoring Program



# 9

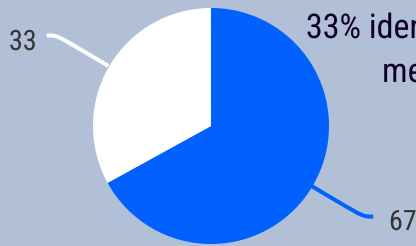
Countries of origin that were represented by our Mentees, including Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Nigeria, and Peru



# WHO ARE OUR SCHOLARS?

## Gender

67% of Dream Scholars identify as women, while 33% identify as men



● Women ● Men



## 100%

have immigration statuses that create barriers to higher education



## 17%

Are beneficiaries of DACA



## 57%

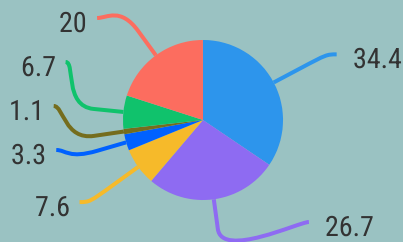
attend a public college or university in Virginia



## 88.9%

of Dream Scholars identify as Latino or Hispanic

## Racial Identity



● White/Caucasian ● Indigenous of the Americas ● Multi or Bi-Racial  
 ● Black/African American ● Middle Eastern ● Asian/Pacific Islander  
 ● Other



## 46%

pursue STEM-related careers

**I will forever be proud to say I am a Dream Project Scholar.**

-Silvia, 2023 Dream Scholar

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW: SCHOLARSHIPS

"My family and I are very excited about my first year of college and being the first generation in my family. This big step will be a change for my family and me. Thanks to your help, I will be able to alleviate a large part of the financial burden to achieve my goal." -Alejandra, Dream Scholar



## \$350,000

in scholarship money was awarded to students in 2023. Dream Scholars each received \$3,500 scholarships which are renewable annually for up to five years, an increase from \$3,000 in 2022



## 93%

of Scholars cited the Dream Project scholarship as a major factor in being able to remain in school

## 20

countries of origin were represented by our Scholars, including Afghanistan, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Venezuela



## 156

students applied, making this the most competitive pool of applicants in Dream Project history



# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 DREAM SCHOLARS!

\*All student last names are omitted to protect their privacy

Abraham V. | George Mason University  
Adriana T. | George Mason University  
Aida T. | George Mason University  
Ajwa A. | George Mason University  
Akylai T. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Alejandra V. | George Mason University  
Alexandra B. | George Mason University  
Alessandra M. | University of Mary Washington  
Alison A. | George Mason University  
Alondra J. | Virginia Commonwealth University  
Alvaro H. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Anderson V. | George Mason University  
Ariadna R. | University of Virginia  
Azucena C. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Belen T. | University of Mary Washington  
Carlos L. | Randolph College  
Christopher V. | University of Virginia  
Clara L. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Danayit A. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Daniel R. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Dasaylin M. | Trinity Washington University  
Delina G. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Diana B. | Marymount University  
Diego L. | Mary Baldwin University  
Dulce C. | University of Virginia  
Eduardo R. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Erika S. | Juniata College  
Ermuunkhuslen G. | George Mason University  
Eva Z. | University of Virginia

Fabricio A. | Virginia Tech  
Fabricio G. | George Mason University  
Farashta R. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Fatima G. | George Mason University  
Fausto F. | Colgate University  
Feben W. | Drexel University  
Filmon K. | George Mason University  
Flavia B. | University of Virginia  
Francisco V. | Reynolds Community College  
Geisha P. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Giovanni F. | College of William and Mary  
Gisela A. | George Mason University  
Graciela T. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Gustavo M. | Old Dominion University  
Henry A. | George Mason University  
Henry R. | Lewis and Clark College  
Irma K. | Marymount University  
Jatsuka P. | Georgetown University  
Javier O. | George Mason University  
Jenifer O. | Randolph College  
Jenifer S. | Virginia Commonwealth University  
Jhandira F. | Marymount University  
Jhina V. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Jhojan V. | George Mason University  
Johavy M. | University of Richmond  
Jose M. | Virginia Tech  
Juan T. | Marymount University  
Katherine L. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Katherine M. | Bridgewater College  
Kathy K. | Drexel University  
Khulegen L. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Laura A. | Virginia Tech  
Luis D. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Luis G. | Bridgewater College  
Maria D. | Virginia Commonwealth University  
Maria A. | College of William and Mary  
Maria E. | George Mason University  
Maria V. | Minnesota State University  
Mariamawit E. | George Mason University  
Mariana G. | University of Virginia  
Mariana P. | Longwood University



Maribel G. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Marie F. | George Mason University  
Marvin R. | Juniata College  
Melannye P. | George Mason University  
Mellany R. | George Mason University  
Meylin J. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Micael D. | College of William and Mary  
Miguel O. | College of William and Mary  
Milky K. | Trinity Washington University  
Mikyas T. | University of Mary Washington  
Millicent O. | Trinity Washington University  
Neyda Q. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Nicole U. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Nimrah S. | George Mason University  
Niyat A. | Duke University  
Ometere S. | College of William and Mary  
Paula M. | Virginia Tech  
Ramla A. | George Mason University  
Reina G. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Roberto A. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Rodrigo C. | George Mason University  
Rosa C. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Ruth W. | George Mason University  
Sebastian P. | Virginia Commonwealth University  
Stefani U. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Stepanny T. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Tomás J. | Northern Virginia Community College  
Yanci F. | George Mason University  
Yara A. | George Mason University  
Yulisa E. | George Mason University  
Zulma R. | George Mason University



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW: SCHOLAR & ALUMNI SUPPORT

"You guys truly helped make college possible for me! The growth Dream Project has gone through has made me proud to be a part of this family and the support you offer is second to none. Truly a family!"

-Zamilan, Dream Project alum



## 81%

of Scholars took part in our partnership with Beyond12, a nationwide nonprofit that helps low-income and underrepresented students succeed in college. B12 uses a unique coaching model to help students stay on track to graduate and thrive in school.



## \$2,580

in Emergency Relief Funds were disbursed to Scholars to help support emergency needs related to housing, medical, and other basic needs; the ERF is designed to help students remain in school by solving financial problems.

## 90%

of Dream Scholars attended the annual Dream Summit. This program is designed around workshops on topics handpicked by Scholars and alumni, including interviewing skills, financial management, immigration law, and mental health resources.



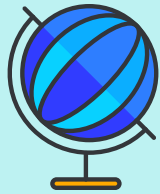
## \$3,640

was contributed to assist Scholars with mental health services through our partnership with George Mason University Center for Psychological Services. Students receive eight fully paid sessions, with an option to extend if desired.



# WHO ARE OUR ALUMNI?

Data sourced from the annual alumni survey and institutional historical records.



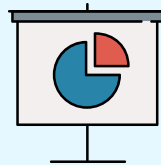
27

countries of origin comprise the Dream Project alumni, including Afghanistan, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Korea, Syria, and Venezuela



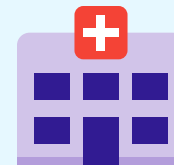
40%

of Dream Project alumni work in STEM-related careers



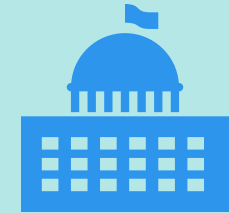
24%

work in business



17%

work in healthcare



67%

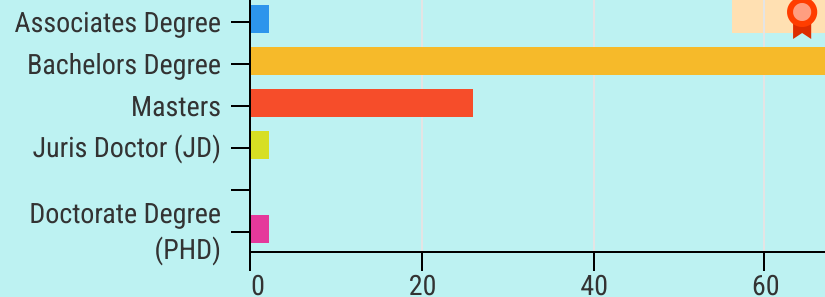
of Alumni jobs depend on DACA

74%

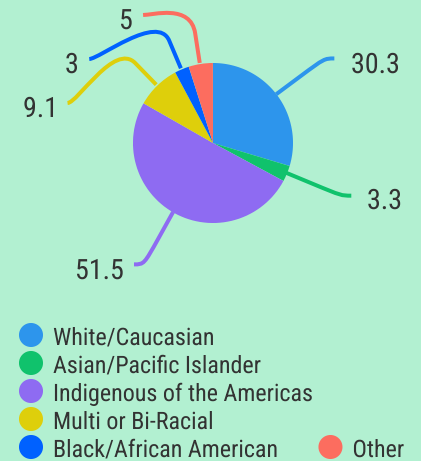


of Dream Project alumni reported feeling secure in pursuing their career interests

## Highest level of school completed (%)



## Racial Identity



# SPOTLIGHT: DREAM PROJECT ALUMNA

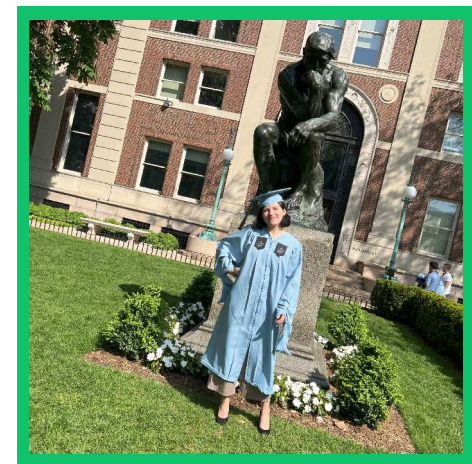
"I came to the US with my parents and older sister at age 11. Having arrived without knowing any English, I was very aware that we were outsiders and that it would take time to make this a home. We moved into my uncle's basement in Northern Virginia, and both of my parents got jobs at a restaurant. We had the usual embarrassing and defeating experiences of not knowing how to say things in English or how to defend ourselves in public. But we also shared really sweet moments, like seeing snow for the first time or renting Blockbuster movies every Friday night — a collection of small experiences that made us happy and closer to each other. It was challenging to navigate the path out of high school and into college as a family unfamiliar with how higher education works in the United States. In 2011, my older sister was admitted into George Mason University with in-state tuition rates — something we thought had been entirely by accident because our high school counselors told us undocumented students were not allowed to attend universities. Two years later, when I was about to graduate, I planned to do the same. But it was frustrating to know that my options were limited. If I wanted to consider other schools, many, at the time, would not allow me to move past the first stage of the online application without a social security number. In any case, the tuition rates — at out-of-state levels and the inability to apply for student aid — would have prevented me from attending anyway.

I learned of the Dream Project just months before graduating high school through a friend who was part of the mentoring program. I had heard him talk about university with frustration and uncertainty, even though he was one of the best students in our grade. He revealed that he was undocumented, and I immediately felt relieved to have found someone who shared my fears. He told me about the Dream Project and opened the door to a similar community of parents and students who were resourceful and happy to help each other. My friend started sharing the name of scholarships he had learned through the mentoring program so I could apply for too. Among them was the Dream Project scholarship, which I received some months later. It was a relief to find an organization engaged in the issues that most mattered to me as a young student — at a political level through their advocacy work, but also more immediately, through the information and community provided to me and my family at a time when we felt we needed it most."

*Patty Goren Morales is a news producer and multimedia journalist based in Washington, D.C. She currently works at C-SPAN. Previously, she worked as a breaking news producer at the PBS NewsHour, where she covered a wide range of day-of stories including domestic and international news, and congressional hearings. Separately, as a Spanish speaker, she has written extensively about Latino communities across the U.S. Patty earned a master's degree from Columbia University in Regional Studies, focusing on Latin America and the Caribbean. She grew up in Sucre, Bolivia and later moved to the Northern Virginia area. She is DACAmented and received a scholarship from the Dream Project in 2013.*



**Patty Goren Morales**  
**DREAM PROJECT ALUMNA**

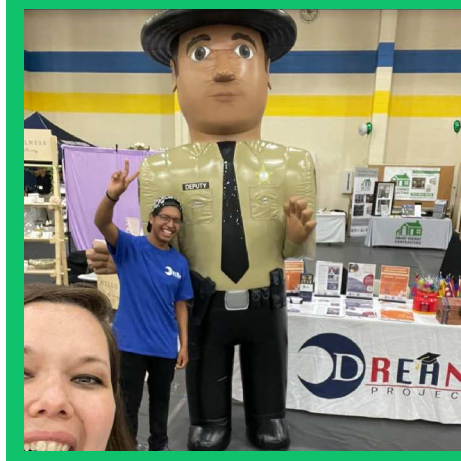


# COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ADVOCACY

"An important component of the Dream project's mission is not only to nurture our community of mentees, scholars, alumni, and volunteers, but also to be an active member of the broader community. By working in partnership with like-minded organizations, the Dream Project has advocated for policies and programs that benefit Dreamers and immigrants."  
-Mark Habeeb, Chair of the Communications, Advocacy, & Outreach Committee



Staff and student volunteers hosted a table at the annual Salvadoran Festival in Manassas on August 14, recruiting potential Dream Scholars, hosting a trivia game, and handing out prizes.



The Dream Project had a first-ever table at the Arlington County Fair, August 18 to 21. Members of the Board and staff joined Dream Scholars, alumni, and volunteers to represent the organization. We helped educate over 900 people about the work of the Dream Project.

In partnership with Comite Pro Bolivia, and the Center for Cultural Vibrancy, the Dream Project hosted Bolivian/Appalachian musical group Ouros in a performance at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, on April 21.



10 members of the Dream Project community participated in the Restless Books Immigrant Writing Labs, exploring the vast canvas of immigrant writing. On October 13th, we had the honor of hearing their stories aloud at a private event at Busboys and Poets, followed by a discussion by participants on what it was like to share these stories.



# PARENTS COMMITTEE

For 2022-2023, leadership consisted of Roxana Gutierrez (Chair), Alvaro Herrera (Vice Chair) Veronica Terreros (Secretary), Carmen Herbas (Principal Treasurer), Francisco Menjivar(Second Treasurer) Jaqueline Guzman(Sales Manager) Ricardo Martinez (Vocal 1) & Maria Luna (Vocal 2)



## 78

parents attended the annual Parents Summit. The results of the Summit helped contribute to a Dream Project special report on how immigrant parents engage with their children in pursuing education.



## \$24,600

was donated to the Dream Project by the Parents Committee, which included the Parents Scholarship given to one deserving Dream Scholar.

## 21

parents received a basic computer class, and 10 were gifted laptops to improve their digital skills and proficiency with Microsoft software through a Computer Core partnership.



## Holiday Event

Alvaro H. spoke as a parent committee representative during the December Holiday Event. Additionally, the Parents sold raffle tickets, earnings of which went directly to Dream Scholars.



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2022 – 2023



**\$188,671  
IN GRANTS**

from foundations and corporations to support our youth programs.



**TOTAL INCOME:  
\$816,398**



**\$607,808  
RECEIVED IN  
DONATIONS**

from generous community donors and supporters.



**\$19,919  
EARNED IN  
FUNDRAISING**

from faith organizations



# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Compiled by Business Manager, Cecilia Morales



## Revenue

Individual Gifts		
	Major Donors	327,000
	General Donations	280,808
	Total Individual Gifts	607,808
Foundations Grants		155,450
Corporations/Businesses		21,031
Faith Organizations		19,919
Interest		12,190
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>816,398</b>

## Expenses

Direct Student Aid		
	Dream Scholarships	354,500
	Scholar Coaching	23,970
	Emergency Relief	6,221
	Total Direct Student Aid	384,691
Student Programs		
	Student Aid Support	80,690
	Mentoring Program	55,629
	Scholars and Alumni Activities	61,416
	Community Outreach and Advocacy	64,764
Supporting Services		
	Development Infrastructure	88,120
	General & Administrative	37,035
	Total Supporting Services	125,155
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>772,345</b>

## NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS

The Named Scholarship program also offers a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one, respected colleague, or influential teacher. For more information contact: Michele Connelly, Director of Development: [development@dream-project.org](mailto:development@dream-project.org)

**Abdur and Robina Rashid Scholarship** Gifted by Hamza Rashid  
**Abraham & Celia J. Ringell Memorial Scholarship (2)** Gifted by the Nezer Family  
**Albert Zalkind Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Dr. Julie and Dr. David Zalkind  
**Alfred Habeeb, MD Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Mark Habeeb and Wendy Mills  
**Ann Bacher & James Sampson Scholarship** Gifted by Ann Bacher & James Sampson  
**Ann Caldwell Kennedy Scholarship** Gifted by Dr. Ann Kennedy and George Spanos  
**Ann Palmer Scholarship** Gifted by the Mason Hirst Foundation  
**Anna WinklerPrins Scholarship (2)** Gifted by Vince and Antoinette WinklerPrins  
**Carole H. Lopez Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by the Honorable Alfonso Lopez  
**Chapin Family Scholarship** Gifted by the Chapin Family  
**Charles Hoyt Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Maria-Isabel A. Hoyt  
**Daniel B. Kennedy Scholarship** Gifted by Dr. Ann Kennedy and George Spanos  
**David Carliner Memorial Scholarship (3)** Gifted by Bob Remes and Debbie Carliner  
**Denise Ferguson Friendship Scholarship** Gifted by Jeanne Kowalski  
**Dream Project Parents Scholarship** Gifted by the Dream Project Parents Committee  
**Elizabeth Kerr Martin Memorial Scholarship (4)** Gifted by Randy and Liz Brouckman  
**Emma Sanchez Rossel Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Dr. Emma Violand-Sanchez  
**Fairlington Presbyterian Church Scholarship** Gifted by Fairlington Presbyterian Church  
**Founder's Scholarship** Gifted by Dr. Emma Violand-Sanchez  
**Frechette Family Foundation Scholarship (10)** Gifted by Frechette Family Foundation  
**Freedom Scholarship** Gifted by Gen. (Ret.) Daniel and Susan Christman  
**Gene and Barbara Gerwe Scholarships (2)** Gifted by Gretchen and David Welch  
**General (Ret.) Colin Powell Memorial Scholarship (5)** Gifted by Jane & Michael Powell  
**Glen James Ferguson Scholarship (3)** Gifted by Denise Ferguson  
**Goree Family Foundation Scholarship** Gifted by Lynnette Goree  
**Harper Ann Opportunity Scholarship** Gifted by K. Dane Snowden & Spencer Hurd  
**Henry Mejia Scholarship** Gifted by Nathan Monell and Robert Pignato  
**Inner Light Scholarship** Gifted by Lisa Ling and Powan Patil  
**J. Robert Vastine, Jr. Scholarship** Gifted by Denise Ferguson  
**James G. Lewis Scholarship (2)** Gifted by Rita Lewis  
**Jean Crandall Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Marie Price & Rob Crandall  
**Jim Weber Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Friends and Family of Jim Weber  
**Joel Juarez Lopez Scholarship** Gifted by Dr. Matthew Shank  
**John D. Evans Foundation Scholarship** Gifted by John Evans and Steve Wozencraft  
**Julius & Adriana Spain, Civil Rights & Social Justice Scholarship**  
Gifted by Julius & Adriana Spain

**KBR Foundation Scholarship (5)** Gifted by the KBR Foundation  
**Kedron Simon Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Noah Simon  
**Dr. Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas Memorial Scholarship**  
Gifted by Bernardo Siles & Tim Lawler  
**Margarita A. Salvary Dreamer Scholarship** Gifted by Diann and David Frantz  
**Marianna & Julius Herman Scholarship**  
Gifted by Maury Herman & Karen Kinne-Herman  
**Marie Dowd Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Marie and Greg Price  
**Mary Chilton Ferguson Scholarship (3)** Gifted by Denise Ferguson  
**Mary Kach Chapin Memorial Scholarship (3)** Gifted by Mary Chapin Family & Friends  
**Mary Kay Kach '85 Scholarship** Gifted by Doug Chapin  
**Mason Hirst Foundation Scholarship** Gifted by the Mason Hirst Foundation  
**Melva B Galdo Scholarship** Gifted by the Mason Hirst Foundation  
**Molly Herman Scholarship** Gifted by Jonathan Zalkind  
**Natalie P Moody Scholarship** Gifted by Linda Powell  
**Neuhaus-Speck Family Foundation Scholarship (2)** Gifted by Marcia & David Speck  
**Pat and Ray Marshall Scholarship** Gifted by Sarah and Jill Marshall  
**Patricia Chamber Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Nancy McEldowney & Tim Hayes  
**Perpetual Journey Scholarship (2)** Gifted by Johnson and Sara Chen  
**Philip Zalkind Scholarship** Gifted by Dr. Julie and Dr. David Zalkind  
**Promise for the Future Scholarship** Gifted by Alma Powell  
**Ralph and Roslyn Limmer Memorial Scholarship (2)** Gifted by Andrea Limmer  
**Realizing Aspirations Scholarship** Gifted by Robert and Marjorie Green  
**Rita Andelin Memorial Scholarship (3)** Gifted by John Andelin and Ginger Geoffrey  
**Rosalie Smith and Lynn Juhl Scholarship** Gifted by Rosalie Smith and Lynn Juhl  
**Ruth Zalkind Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Dr. Julie and Dr. David Zalkind  
**Schmitz Family Scholarship** Gifted by Edward and Adrienne Schmitz  
**Sharon H Youcha, MD Scholarship** Gifted by Jessica M. Kaplan & Joseph M. Youcha  
**Shawn N. Smith Memorial Scholarship** Gifted by Dr. Robert and Sandra Smith  
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# SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

"Being a volunteer with the Dream Project has opened my eyes to the barriers immigrant students face in attending higher education and how hard they and their families work to make their college dreams a reality. Several years ago, I learned about the Dream Project through my church, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington. Two years ago, I decided to become a volunteer mentor to apply what I've learned as a volunteer Girl Scout leader and Gold Award panel mentor to help immigrant students with their college dreams. I also recently helped my own two children and nephew apply to college and learned a lot about the process through those experiences. Professionally, I am a developmental scientist who has studied adolescent development, so I love working with teens!

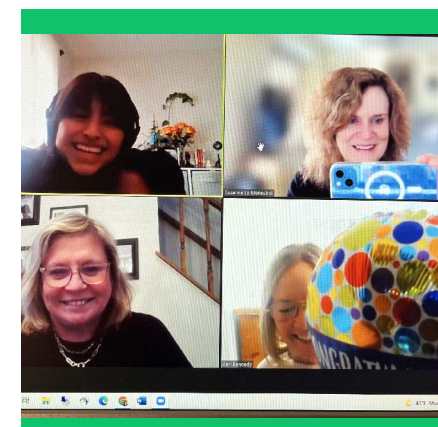
Two memories stand out to me. The first was last year when I met with my mentee on Zoom, and Mentoring Coordinators Dr. Ann Kennedy and Patricia Sanguinetti popped into our breakout room with balloons to let my mentee know she was receiving the Dream Project scholarship. We all screamed, and a few tears were shed! My other favorite memory was this past April when my mentee texted me to let me know that her dream college would give her nearly a full ride. Being a mentor also comes with challenges, especially in helping my mentees navigate remarkably complex rules in qualifying for certain financial aid and scholarships. Fortunately, there is a volunteer immigration lawyer who is available to meet with the students and their mentors and provides constructive and confidential advice. Another challenge is keeping my mentees motivated and encouraged when they feel overwhelmed with the application process, finding the needed money to attend college, and keeping on top of their schoolwork, part-time jobs, and family responsibilities. It is a lot for a teenager to handle. It is helpful to hear the success stories and have the Dream Project scholars and alums speak with the students and give them hope.

If you like working with teens and want to have a tangible impact on someone's life, volunteer! Don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it; the Dream Project has a lot of resources with its staff and other volunteers. Many students are highly motivated, hard-working, and want to attend college but need the support of an adult who can guide them and help them through the process. I love volunteering as a mentor and have learned just as much from my mentees as they have learned from me."

*Suzanne Le Menestrel, Ph.D., CAE is the Director of Science Affairs at the Society for Research in Child Development based in Washington, DC where she provides oversight of SRCDC's scholarly publications, special topics meetings, and science-based initiatives. Suzanne is an elected member of the American Camp Association Board of Directors, serves on the Board of Directors for Brigade of Mercy, a McLean-based volunteer-run charitable non-profit, and has been a volunteer mentor for the Dream Project for two years.*



**CONTRIBUTED BY**  
**SUZANNE LE MENESTREL**  
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# THANK YOU

*We are deeply grateful to each donor to the Dream Project. We are also thankful for the local businesses, foundations, and faith-based communities that support our work in all ways.*



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“

AT EACH DREAM PROJECT EVENT I'VE ATTENDED, I AM IMPRESSED BY THE INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY THAT IS CULTIVATED, AS STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO NOT JUST DREAM BUT ALSO ACHIEVE THOSE DREAMS.

**DON BEYER**

Congressman,  
Virginia's 8th Congressional District



“

PLEASE SUPPORT THE DREAM PROJECT IN WHATEVER WAY YOU CAN TO HELP THESE STUDENTS BECOME SHINING EXAMPLES OF WHAT AMERICA IS ALL ABOUT.

**BARBARA FAVOLA**

Virginia State Senator,  
Representing Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudon



# CONTACT US



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"Because of the support of the Dream Project, I am able to achieve my educational goals and obtain a college degree."

-Yanci,  
2023 Dream Scholar