Listen with your heart

IMPACT REPORT 2022-2023
Dear Friends,

What do you say when asked, “What is Student U?” You might describe Student U as a nonprofit organization, an afterschool program, or a college access program—and you’d be right! But after my first year as Executive Director of Student U, I like to describe Student U as a community.

This community has, at its core, students, parents, staff, partners, board members, and other volunteers who are deeply committed to Student U’s success. Our community members demonstrate that commitment by being supportive in the ways they see fit, such as volunteering, donating, attending events, or looking out for our students. I have been so impressed by the varied and consistent ways in which our community shows up.

As part of the larger Durham community, Student U has earned respect from partners and neighbors. It is so rewarding to hear people express their excitement around Student U’s impact on students, families, and schools. There is an automatic level of appreciation and admiration there. Your support has made Student U what it is—a shining light in Durham.

As the Student U community has become my community, I have witnessed the power of so many individuals and initiatives coming together to support and build up the next generation of educators and changemakers. Over the next few pages, you will read about our successful capital campaign to raise funds for the renovation of The W. G. Pearson Center’s kitchen, the pilot year of our culturally responsive Summer Academy Curriculum, and more ways that students and families are becoming the leaders who will transform our city.

I hope you will read yourselves into these stories and understand how your support has made a difference for our students and families. Thank you for being part of the Student U community.

Sincerely,

Michelle Price - Executive Director
Our Mission

Our mission is to empower and equip first-generation college students in Durham Public Schools, their families, and educators to become the leaders that will transform our city.

Our Purpose

Our vision is to create a Durham where all students succeed. The core of Student U’s work is its 11-year pipeline of services, walking with students and their families in out-of-school-time from 6th grade to college graduation and providing holistic wrap-around support at each step of the way. Our students have outstanding results due to their tireless work and commitment.

SO FAR

81% of our Middle and High School Students are Enrolled in DPS
75% Qualify for Free/Reduced-Price Lunch
70% First-Generation College Students

100% High School Graduation Rate
55% College Graduation Rate in 6 Years
Increasing Family Engagement to Meet Students’ Needs

Learn what our community of families wants from their relationship with us and build Student U’s capacity for family engagement and leadership.

Crafting Culturally Relevant Summer Curriculum

Piloted our five weeks of academically rigorous and antiracist curriculum that prepares students for their school year ahead.

Increasing the Impact of The W.G. Pearson Center

Transform a 1,550 square-foot space into a commissary kitchen to grow our impact in Durham, supporting both families and aspiring Black and Brown culinary entrepreneurs.

Me gusta que son como una familia Y apoyan a uno cuando los necesita.” (I like how they are a family AND support us when we need it)

Student U Parent
Focus Group
In 2022, Student U piloted the comprehensive Summer Academy curriculum we developed alongside a team of 10 educators that emphasizes students’ academic, social, and emotional growth. This rigorous curriculum spans core subjects for grades 6-10, preparing students for the upcoming school year, improving academic performance, and prioritizing social-emotional development. Rooted in antiracist pedagogies and cultural relevance, it aligns with Student U’s values as a multicultural, anti-racist community organization.

**Summer Academy Academic Growth (2023)**

*On pre and post-assessments for summer classes, students averaged:*

- 25% HS Math Growth
- 23% HS ELA Growth
- 22.7% HS Ethnic Studies
- 15.4% MS Math Growth
- 21.5% MS Science Growth
- 14% MS ELA Growth
- 14% MS Global Connect Growth

Students feel successful most or all the time at Student U.
Since the COVID-19 pandemic, we have observed an increased demand for health and wellness programming to support Student U’s academic interventions. We have taken this opportunity to learn what our community of families want from their relationship with us and build Student U’s capacity for family engagement and leadership.

After-School and Summer Academy (2022-2023)

- Health Exams and Screenings: 596
- Parent Programs Provided: 87
- Hours of Provided Counseling Services: 272
- Hours of Provided College Advising: 132

WHAT WE HEARD

- Parents felt like Student U was able to step in with information and resources that parents were not able to offer their students.
- Across the board - Wellness and the Holistic Wellbeing of Students and Families is a parent priority.

GOAL 3: Increasing the Impact of The W.G. Pearson Center

We raised $1.72M for this project! We’re thrilled to expand our impact by renovating the center’s kitchen, a community-driven project. Our goal is to make this substantial, 1,550 square-foot space a commercial-grade commissary kitchen to continue to increase our impact in the Durham community by feeding families and providing culinary career pathways for Black and Brown entrepreneurs in our community. This kitchen will provide tools to combat the lack of healthy food available in our community and provide warm, nutritious meals on our campus to our student population. We’ve fully funded The W. G. Pearson Center kitchen capital campaign, and construction will be completed in early 2024 – stay tuned! Special thanks to The William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust, City of Durham, Lauren Whitehurst, and the F. M. Kirby Foundation.
Student U aims for a just, equitable community through sustainable financial stewardship, diversifying revenue for program and advocacy growth.

2022 Revenue: $3,169,901

- Foundations and Grants: 16%
- Government: 43%
- Individual and Corporate Donations: 13%
- Earned and Other Income: 25%
- In-kind Contributions: 3%

2022 Expenses: $3,217,760

- Middle School Program: 12%
- High School Program: 33%
- College Success Program: 10%
- Family Engagement & Other Programs: 10%
- The W.G. Person Center: 10%
- Management and General: 23%
- Fundraising: 8%
THANK YOU TO OUR INCREDIBLE DONORS!

15 YEARS
Tony and Teddie Brown
Scott and Heidi Carter
Mark and Cynthia Kuhn
Bela Kussin
Steve Schewel and Lao Rubert
Lauren and Jim Whitehurst

10-14 YEARS
Beth and Ed Anderson
Pat and Theus Armistead
Robert and Kate Cadwallader
Margareta Claesson
Kristin and Jacob Clauson
Anthony Clay
Grace Couchman and Eugene Oddone, Jr.
F. M. Kirby Foundation
Giarla, Michelson, and Carr Charitable Foundation
Daniel and Amanda Kimberg
Libby Lang
Stephen and Virginia Lang
Suzie and Ben Lowe
Melissa Malouf
Christine and Jonathan Mark
Mary Duke Biddle Foundation
Sam and Sheila Miglarese
Pete and Dana Moller
Albert and Kathleen Musciano
Office of Durham & Community Affairs at Duke University
Emily Oliver and Benjamin Edwards
The Grable Foundation
The Robert and Adele Schiff Family Foundation
Triangle Community Foundation
United Way of the Greater Triangle
Alexandra Zagbayou

5-9 YEARS (continued)
Gwendolyn Brooks
Carol Burk
Burroughs Wellcome Fund
Crum and Forster
Drew and Amy Cummings
Snehal and Sanjeev Deshmukh
Annette DuBard and Andrew Wang
Durham Academy
GlaxoSmithKline Foundation
Goodnight Educational Foundation
Sarah Haas and Connor Kozin
Matt Hickson
Mark Higgins
Alice and George Horton
Bruce and Barbara Jentleson
Thomas Kenan, III
Virginia Lee
Dave and Claudia Michelman
Amanda and David Miller
Navillus Foundation
Oak Foundation
Anneke Oppewal
John Page
Julian Perpignano-Humphreys
Charles Randazzo
Larry and Nancy Rocamora
Jennifer Rogers
Kenneth Rose and Beth Silberman
Amy and Daniel Salo
Shruti Shah
Elise and Graham Sharpe
Andrew Slater
Muriel Smith
Bradley and Patricia Staats
Susan Stankavage
The Clorox Company
The Duke Energy Foundation
The Leon Levine Foundation
Tom Russell Charitable Foundation, Inc
Michael and Beril Ulku-Steiner
Steven Unruhe and Jennifer McGovern
William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust
Bonnie Wright and Martin Eakes
Allison Yee

1-4 YEARS
ABC Science Collaborative
Betsy Alden and Mark Rutledge
Vernetta and Courtney Alston
Niki Alston
Annie E. Casey Foundation
Miriam Antelis
Dawn Arthur
Auto Club Group Foundation
Eva Bahnik
Alemany Bahta
Moazzum Bajwa
Nedra Baldwin
Casey Barr-Rios
Tracey Barrett
Carol Bartlett
Veronica Becerra
Laura Benedict
Margaret Booz
Olivia Bowler
Allie Bradfors Brown
Marla and Zach Bradshaw
Wendy Bridgers
Michael Bridgers
Frank Brown
Laurel Burkabauer
John and Anne Burness
Clarissa Campos
Mary Katherine and Philip Carmon
Jacqueline Carroll-Garcia
Rushina Cholera
Cisco
City of Durham
Leslie Clark
Dennis Clements and Martha Ann Keels
Laurie Hays Coffman
Renee and David Connelly
Costco Charitable Giving
Meredith Crabtree
Crawford Crenshaw
Jeremy Crouthamel
Otis Crowder
CT Wilson Construction Co.
Curamericanas
D and L Plumbing
1-4 YEARS (continued)
Nicole Daniels
Judy Daymont
Francis Dela Cruz
Molly Demarest
Deborah and James Dobbins
Dominion Energy
Rachel Donnald
Robert Duggan and Lynne Rychlec
Kala Dunn
Eastcut Sandwich Bar
Elizabeth and David Efird
Cate Elander
Erica Everett
Extended Learning and Integrated Student Supports (ELISS)
John Farrell
Christina Fish
Barbara Fish
Anne Fogg
Sarah and Howard Francis
Ashley and Andy Freedman
Pablo Friedmann
Isaac Gealer
Andrea Glimcher
Corrine Gosline
Maddy Hannan
Emma Harbaugh
Diza Hassane
Julian Hayes
Deanna Hinton
Dianna Houenou
Dan Hudgins
Marcus Hughes
Suzanne Hunt
Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill
Wendy John
Nancy Kaiser
Zack Kaplan
Nicole Kendall
Ciara King
Paul and Milinda Kirkpatrick
Connor and Jesse Kirkfarmer
Annapurna Krovi
Clarence and Lisa Laney
Alex and Graham Lowe-Turner
Brandy and Brian Luce
Hannah Lyman
Sarah MacNeil
Elena and Andrew Maina
Kathleen Malley
Jacob and Alison Martin
Rachael Massell
Alyzia McAlmon
Ron McGill
Kevin McGowan
Marcy McKaig
Henry and Euba McKoy
MDC
Benjamin and Julia Michelman
Meredith Milke
Jeff and Lauren Miller
Genna Miller
Moderna Charitable Foundation
Richard and Helen Moon
Miriam Moore
LaTonya Moore
Mary Mountcastle and James Overton
Jason Mundy
Ginna Neel
Michelle and Erik Norwood
NovoEd
Mimi O’Brien
Archimedes Organo
Michael and Taneisha Palmer
Panda Express
Ravi Patil
Agata Pelka
Ashley and Anthony Peters
Melissa Pfeil
Pfizer Sanford
Edward and Margaret Pikaart
Robert Pleasant
Sam and Caitlin Poole
Michelle and Kevin Price
PriceWaterhouseCoopers
Maggie Radack
Rachana Raghothama
AJ Ragosta
Kevin Reiner
Curt and Carol Richardson
Donnell Rini
Anna Rini
Vanessa Rini-Lopez
Tania Rodriguez
Beth and Stan Roessner
Mary Lou Rollins
Erin Roth
Walter and Patricia Rouse
Kate Rugani
Todd Rupprecht
Diane Satriano and Kevin Whalen
Janet Scovil
Kate Shirah
Stephanie and Joe Sircar
Chelsi Smith
Douglas and Lynn Solomon
Pamela Sosa
Robert Sotolongo
Gia Soublet
State of North Carolina, Department of Public Instruction
Chantal Stevens
Valerie Stewart
Sarah Stoneking
Laura Svetkey
The Durham Rotary Club
The Moses Kimball Fund
The New Teacher Project
The Walton Family Foundation
Selena Thompson
Julia Thompson Williams
TMW Enterprises
Marcus Trejo
Bettina Umstead
Ezgi Ustundag
TiVianna Webster
Katie Weeks
Dayle Wickizer
John and Elisabeth Wiener
Stefanie Williams
Thomas Wojnar
Katie Wong
Lisa Yarborough
Keshia Yarborough
Crystal Yarborough
York Properties, Inc.
Suzanne Young
Nancy Yovetich
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, Inc.
THANK YOU TO OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF!
WE THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF
OUR PROGRAMS

LEARN MORE:
www.studentudurham.org

FOLLOW US:
@studentudurham