Education

WE BELIEVE THAT THE FUTURE OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPENDS ON A WELL-EDUCATED SOCIETY. CCF WORKS WITH ITS PARTNERS TO ENSURE ALL STUDENTS HAVE THE RESOURCES NEEDED TO SUCCEED FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD THROUGH COLLEGE AND CAREER. WE HELP YOUNG PEOPLE FULFILL THEIR POTENTIAL AND BECOME THE CREATORS AND LEADERS OF TOMORROW.

The education pipeline begins at birth and continues through all levels of school, right into the workforce. It is where the next generation acquires the tools needed to become the entrepreneurs, artists, educators, scientists and community leaders of tomorrow. But too many are lost along the way.

Children who attend a quality preschool score up to 40 percent higher on academic tests, yet less than half of low-income three- and four-year olds attend a publicly-funded early learning program. Vulnerable student populations like English learners and students of color face particular challenges. They are less likely to score well on standardized tests, take advanced placement courses and go to college. And those who do enter higher education too often don’t graduate.

At a time when a bachelor’s degree leads to a one million dollar increase in lifetime earnings, that’s a tremendous loss for all of us.

THE WAY FORWARD

Partnering with community leaders and networks of educational institutions, CCF helps our most vulnerable students access the educational resources they need to succeed from cradle to college. These groups include preschool-age children, English language learners and students of color, particularly young men. We support efforts to encourage the fair and transparent funding for all schools regardless of zip code and want students to learn in innovative environments that put their needs at the center.

OUR IMPACT

- Provided more than 33,000 students with college access and success services
- Helped more than 1,000 young Black men in South L.A. succeed in education and life.
- Invested $4.2 million to expand access to high-quality early education
Los Angeles Preschool Advocacy Initiative (LAPAI)

We recognize that quality early care and education lay the foundation for children to succeed, in school and in life. LAPAI brings together parents, educators and community leaders to advocate for increased access to quality early care and education, creating a brighter future for all children in Los Angeles County.

English Learner Success

English learners are multilingual assets in the community, yet they are less likely to score well on standardized tests, take advanced placement courses and go to college. By supporting statewide policies and networks of elementary schools using evidence-based approaches, we’re helping to improve their academic success, social and emotional development and opportunities.

Los Angeles Scholars Investment Fund (LASIF)

LASIF combines need-based scholarships with intensive services before and during college to address the multifaceted financial, academic and personal barriers that have led to a college completion crisis in our community. Recognizing that young men of color are underserved and underrepresented in college preparation programs and most local four-year colleges, LASIF also launched a targeted two-year, two-million-dollar initiative to support promising practices to better help young men of color access college and succeed once they are in college.

Promises That Count

Promises that Count supports the development, implementation and continuous improvement of College Promise programs in Los Angeles County community colleges. Although programs vary in size and structure, the common goal of College Promise programs is to increase community college enrollment and make sure students graduate on time. Promises That Count activities will include research, technical assistance, the development of a professional learning community and a series of community engagement activities.

BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION

To learn how you can help our children succeed in school, college and beyond, contact Program Officer John Garcia III, Ed.L.D at jgarcia@calfund.org, Donor Relations Officer Celina Santiago at csantiago@calfund.org or visit calfund.org/education.