

Impact Report | 2019 - 2020

Your support keeps our students on track

College degrees promote economic mobility, even during a global pandemic. We know this to be true, as unemployment rates in the past year were notably higher for people without college degrees.*

Women, particularly women of color, have been hit hardest by the economic realities of COVID-19.† That is a stark reality affecting Goodwin Connections’ student parents, of which 95% are women, 60% are women of color, immigrants, or refugees, and half are single mothers.

To help combat these inequities, we will work to expand our professional development offerings to support our student parents as they prepare to graduate and launch their careers amid the toughest job market in memory.

This past year was very difficult, but with your support, our students demonstrated their resiliency once again. As part-time jobs were lost, in-person classes moved online, and homeschooling commenced, parents faced additional childcare, technology, and budgeting challenges. Together, you helped get them closer to graduation day with childcare tuition, additional basic needs, and technology assistance.

2019-20 By the Numbers



Student parents averaged a **3.5 cumulative GPA** while in our Family Connections Program.



95% of our students successfully completed each quarter while navigating a pandemic.



We invested **\$586,965** to support our student parents and their families with educational and professional development opportunities and basic needs throughout the school year.



1,280 volunteer hours were given by **105 volunteers** who supported Goodwin Connections’ program and fundraising activities.

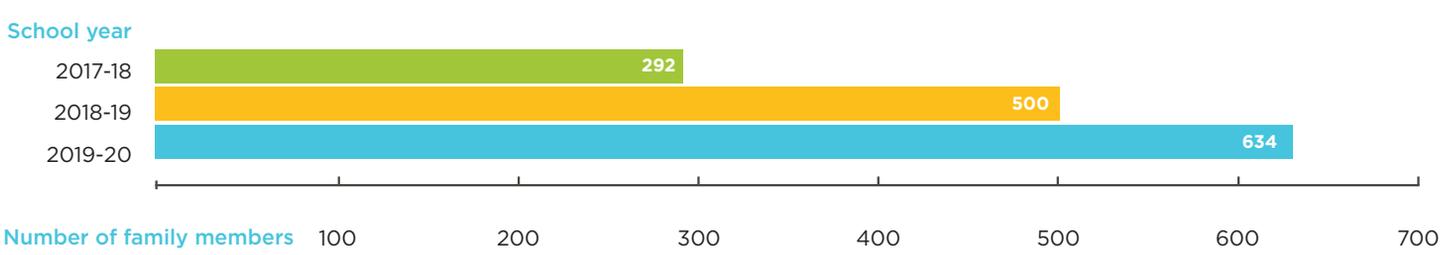
College graduates see higher earnings and employment rates;

improved health and well-being; and have access to healthcare and paid leave through their employers.**

For every \$1 invested in college, **single mothers see a return of \$12.32** for earning an associate degree.**

Poverty rates decline by 30% when a single mother who is a high school graduate attains a bachelor’s degree.**

Number of local family members supported by Goodwin Connections in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties



* US Bureau of Labor Statistics, December 2020.

** Reichlin Cruse et al, 2019, Investing in Single Mother’s Higher Education: National and State Estimates.



Childcare is a basic need

While our student parents knew how crucial childcare was to their families' livelihoods in a pre-COVID-19 world, childcare has become even more vital to our families during the pandemic.

Childcare providers have proven once again to be a lifeline for our student parents. Whether it's during a parent's school or work hours, they keep children safe, educated, and provide a consistent structure throughout a child's day. Without childcare, parents would not be able to attend their courses, work part-time jobs, or study for their exams. Their dreams of a brighter future for their family would have been put on hold.

Goodwin's Family Connections Program allows parents to choose a childcare facility that works best for their family. This flexibility is especially important to meet families' budget limitations and cultural considerations. As families move to more affordable areas in our region, they are encountering childcare "deserts" in low-income neighborhoods and in the suburbs where high-quality, affordable, licensed childcare options are few and far between.

Our student parents can select in-home childcare facilities or small preschools as their children's caregivers. These childcare options are often closer to home, run by trusted people in their community, and can be more affordable. When you support Goodwin Connections, not only are you supporting student parents with the cost of childcare, you are also supporting small businesses run primarily by women of color who are preparing their community's children for their own educational journeys.

The ability to choose a center may have other pluses for our families, like free transportation and meals, or offer proximity to their children's elementary schools or a college campus. After-school programs also offer an engaging curricula for school-age kids. Frequently, these centers are run by nonprofits or government agencies that can offer additional discounts for low-income families.

As we work to increase our connections in the community, we find that partnering with other funders allows us to increase the number of families we support, preparing even more children for kindergarten and beyond. Together, we are helping to create change for this generation and the next.



1 in 4 of our student parents choose an in-home care facility for their children.*



Our families can receive **up to \$2,200 in childcare or preschool tuition** per child, per quarter.



On average, we help cover **more than 70%** of childcare costs for our families each year.*



School-age childcare costs have **more than doubled** for our families since the pandemic.*



63% of families in Washington state **live in a childcare desert**.**



For every **\$1 invested** in single mothers for childcare, society would **get back \$4.30**.**

*Based on fall quarter 2020 childcare data for families in our program.

**Center for American Progress, ChildcareDeserts.org, 2019 data.

++Reichlin Cruse et al, 2019, Investing in Single Mother's Higher Education: National and State Estimates.

