

The COLLEGE BOUNDER



FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE BOUND, INC.

8101 SANDY SPRING ROAD • SUITE 230 • LAUREL, MARYLAND 20707
(301) 490-0911 • WWW.FGCB.ORG • FGCB@FGCB.ORG

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



30 YEARS OF MAKING KIDS' DREAMS COME TRUE

The Genesis of the FGCB Formula

This is an exciting year for First Generation College Bound. Thirty years ago, the Laurel Leader article headline read "Joe

Fisher Will Make Kids' Dreams Come True." While this was my dream, vision and mission for students from low-income families to attend college and graduate, I knew I had a lot of work to do. My plate was already full. I was raising a family, with my wife, Pat, while teaching full-time in the Howard County Public School System, and coaching women's cross country and track at Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. However, on a fall weekend in October 1990, I stepped out on faith, passion, and excitement and knocked on over 300 doors in the Kimberly Gardens and Cherry Branch communities to make parents aware of resources available for their sons or daughters to attend college.

Message from our CEO continued on page 11

FGCB RECEIVES SUPPORT TO ENHANCE ITS CAPACITY TO SERVE YOUTH

First Generation College Bound is one of eight nonprofits in Prince George's County to be selected by Venture Philanthropy Partners (VPP) to participate in VPP's Ready for Work Nonprofit Capacity Building Initiative. FGCB was selected in 2018 along with three other nonprofits; four additional nonprofits were selected in 2019. VPP is a philanthropic investment organization that builds strong nonprofits and strategic networks that measurably improve the lives of children and youth throughout the Greater Washington, DC area.

ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE

FGCB realizes that our direct services alone will not create the educational opportunities that we want for low-income and first generation youth in Prince George's County. Motivated by our vision that one day all Marylanders will have equal access to an affordable college education, FGCB not only provides students with college affordability advice and assistance, but also advocates for college affordability and equitable regulations that remove barriers for success.

For 30 years, FGCB has encouraged our network of students, parents, alumni, school teachers and administrators, supporters and benefactors to advocate for increased funding and institutional reforms, which will improve college affordability.

Having played critical roles in the passage of legislation supporting the College Access Outreach Pilot Program in 2016 and Next Generation Scholars program in 2017, FGCB took another leap forward in 2019 with the formation of Maryland Advocates for College Affordability and Equity that will

continue to advocate on behalf of low-income, first-generation students of color. This group successfully advocated for HB 824's passage, which empowers colleges to help students meet state verification requirements for Howard P. Rawlings Guaranteed Access Grant and the Educational Assistant Grant. The bill also requires the Financial Aid Advisory Council to study ways to improve the verification process and appoint a college access professional to the council to help ensure the accountability and transparency of the process. With the support of Advocates for Children and Youth (ACY) and a grant from the Meyer Foundation, FGCB will continue to build and strengthen the Maryland Advocates for College Affordability and Equity coalition in order to have a force of organizations committed to these issues moving together to create change.



FGCB Staff in Annapolis, MD with Maryland State Delegate and FGCB Alumnus Alonzo Washington with College Bound Foundation and Collegiate Directions staff.

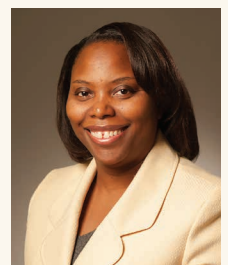


Ready for Work is a six-year, \$15 million investment to help young people in Prince George's County successfully transition to adulthood career and college ready. The Nonprofit Capacity Building initiative seeks to strengthen nonprofits to better serve youth across the County. The Prince George's County Council believes in the power of nonprofits to serve the community and has generously contributed financial support for the initiative.

FGCB was selected through a competitive process that sought to identify multi-service nonprofits that support a broad range of positive outcomes for children and youth including providing high school students with the skills, tools and support that they need to succeed in high school and prepare for a post-secondary education and careers after graduation.

Through this partnership, FGCB receives support from Arthurine Walker, a Capacity Building Specialist and Interim Program Manager with the Ready for Work Initiative at Fair Chance, a nonprofit capacity-building organization. Arthurine has over 25 years of professional experience and works with FGCB on developing its capacity in areas including effective leadership; human resource management; strategic planning; financial management; program design, implementation, and evaluation; communications; and fundraising to help the organization better serve youth.

Arthurine Walker
PROGRAM MANAGER
& CAPACITY BUILDING SPECIALIST
FAIR CHANCE



STUDENTS MOVING FORWARD

COLLEGE
Success**Makalia Joseph**

Polomac High School
Attending Coppin State University

Senior year of high school can be one of the most stressful years ever. The College Success team helped me narrow my decisions down and have a great chance at going to college to start my path to a great career. My main goal in high school was to stay focused and do everything necessary to graduate in at least the top 20% of my class. Now a college freshman, my main goal is to also stay focused on the reason I am here and not spend more than four years to get my degree and start my next chapter in life. The most memorable moment during the College Success Program for me was the school visits to motivate us and the graduation ceremony because I had a chance to speak in front of everyone and tell my story. In the next 12 years, I see myself being a future obstetrician.

**BE the
CHANGE**

**EACH DOLLAR YOU GIVE IS DIRECTLY
CORRELATED TO THE SUCCESS OF A STUDENT
IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

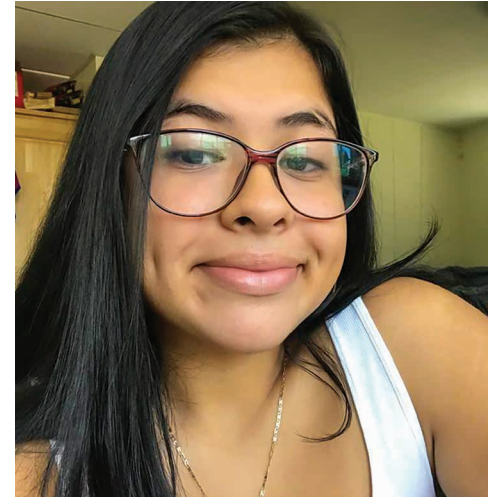
While no level of support is too small, your extended generosity **CHANGES LIVES.**

You can contribute by sending a check made out to "FGCB" in the provided envelope or by clicking the **DONATE** button on our website, www.fgcb.org.

**Chenelle Davis**

Fairmont Heights High School
Attending Bowie State University

The College Success Program assisted me in many ways. Some of these ways include: having an understanding of college, getting money for college, and always having someone there for me through the struggles. Before College Success, I knew I wanted to go to college, but I didn't know how I'd get there or even how it would be paid for. I didn't know anything about MDCAPS or FAFSA. I can say I was completely lost. The program helped me understand the importance of education and how college can benefit me. The most memorable part of participating in the College Success Program was my coach, Ms. Carter. I felt like it was easy talking to Ms. Carter when I had a problem because I knew she would always have a solution that helped me. She also assisted us in filling out the FAFSA and I didn't know why it was important, until now. My aspirations for the future are to major in Psychology and become a psychologist for teenagers. I plan to start my internships during my junior year to gain hands-on experience. After graduating, I plan to attend graduate school. My wish is to be successful and happy.

**Natalia Duran**

Central High School
Attending Towson University

I did not have a lot of help before participating in the program, I was very lost. I constantly had paperwork to send to colleges and universities and to the state which I did not understand and limited resources were available to help me. The College Success Program helped provide me with information I never knew was given to students. I learned about scholarships and grants that I could receive which could cover most of my cost for college. I also received help with applying to Towson University where I currently attend. In high school I always knew in my heart that I would be going to college but I had no clue how to get there. I knew that I was preparing myself for college and that I wanted to major in Computer Science but there were points where I was stuck because there was just so much I did not understand. In high school, my goal was to work hard enough to get good grades so that I would be able to get into college. I graduated as my high school's salutatorian. I had a lot of great moments from participating in the program. I appreciated most the workshops that gave us information on important grants and scholarships that I wouldn't have known about. Especially the Senatorial and Delegate scholarships that many students don't know about. I dream about having my own business in the future and to be able to help my family and others around me. I really want to succeed as a Computer Science major and look forward to continuing my journey in becoming a software engineer. I hope to create a translation software that could help us communicate with the world.

STUDENTS MOVING FORWARD



Jahzmyrn Copeland

Laurel High School
Attending Bowie State University

College Success assisted me and my family wonderfully. It gave me the opportunity to understand and see that I have a future ahead of me. Prior to participating in the College Success Program, my high school and college goals were not very high. I didn't really have high hopes to further my education. I knew that I wanted to graduate high school but I wasn't too sure about college. One thing that I remember the most from the College Success Program is the amount of support and help I was given. No matter how many times I wanted to give up, my coach was right there to push me further. My aspirations for the future are to graduate from Bowie State University in 2023 with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and to become a detective or a crime scene investigator.



Markel Gary

Parkdale High School
Attending Bowie State University

The College Success Program helped me plan for college. It gave me the tools and guidance I needed to get to the next stage in life. I was raised by my grandmother and worked with First Generation College Bound since I was in 8th grade. They exposed me to college life at Bowie State University where I currently attend. I always knew I wanted to go to college but never knew where to start. The College Success Program really played a key role in helping me continue on my education path. All I had to do was listen and keep up with my 3.3 GPA and college was affordable as promised. My goals in high school were to maintain or surpass a 3.0 GPA each academic year, make honors, which I did my senior year, go to college, and get ready for life after high school. The most memorable things to me while participating in the program was the time and patience from the FGCB staff, the communication I received to have a better understanding on how college would be apart of my next agenda, and the relationship I developed with my Coach, Ms. Deja, and with Mr. Fisher. I loved the family-oriented environment. The FGCB staff understood my plan and worked with me to get me what I needed to get to college. My dreams for the future are to be able to continue to play football in college and to graduate from Bowie State University with my degree in Criminal Justice. My long term goal is to become a state trooper or be part of a SWAT team.



Jordyn Desir

High Point High School
Attending University of Miami

College Success provided me with the tools necessary to make informed decisions when it came to choosing a college. Along with general knowledge, I was provided moral support at every step of the journey to college. FGCB's staff ensured that I was prepared enough to manage all that applying to college and financial aid came with. It was an absolute pleasure to participate in this program and to receive the help that I did. Prior to my involvement in College Success, my goals were to get into a decent school where I did not have to pay much. I was not one of those kids who had their heart set on a certain school or who only wanted to attend an ivy league school. What I was not aware of was the nooks and crannies in the application process and what I should look out for when applying to colleges. I value the support I received when it came to decision making time. The staff made an unusually overwhelming process very comfortable and simple for me to understand and tackle. The strategies that were provided to me when it came to applying for financial aid helped tremendously, and the decision all came down to where I was most comfortable going to school. I aspire to be a plastic surgeon with my own practice, along with involvement in cosmetology. I have a passion for science and would love to explore the opportunity to be in a position where I can continue to grow as a doctor, but most importantly as human being. I would get to help people feel better about themselves as well as do what I love.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



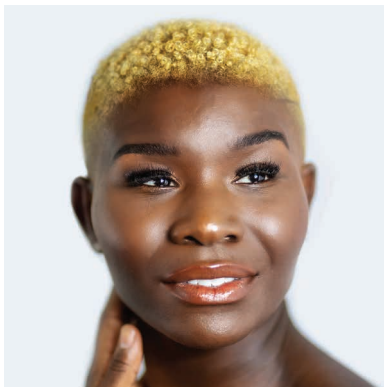
Benjamin Mbou

In 2015, I graduated from University of Maryland Eastern Shore with a B.S. in Exercise Science. Due to the circumstances of life, I had to work for a few years as a direct support professional (DSP) in a mental health day care facility particularly with autistic persons. I started a hybrid Masters program in Occupational Therapy on August 26, 2018 at Trinity Washington University, but I later switched to a traditional Doctorate Program in Occupational Therapy on July 8, 2019 simply because I quickly found out that a hybrid program does not really fit well with my style of learning. I am currently attending Touro University Nevada located in Nevada where I am 2 weeks away from completing the first trimester of my doctorate program in Occupational Therapy. I cannot be thankful enough for FGCB. I am very proud to be a FGCB alumni and I cannot wait to start supporting the next generation of FGCB students emotionally, spiritually, and more importantly financially. Once again, thank you very much to the entire FGCB family for all of your sacrifice, commitment, and service to humanity.



Akua Opoku

In 2018, I graduated from Frostburg State University with a B.S. in Psychology. After graduating I entered a Master's program at Frostburg State University and recently graduated with a M.A. in Teaching. I am currently employed by PGCPs as a ELA teacher.



Emma Hughes

I met Mr. Fisher in 2008 when he taught at my school and he was sure to keep in touch even when I graduated. With his guidance, my mother and I became aware of the college application process and continuous steps once enrolled. Most programs hold your hand to ensure you get in, but what about after? Retention rates are just as important as entry, but many first-time students get overlooked. Whether it is financial or academic reasons, they are forced to give up a dream they were so close to attaining. Not FGCB. They made sure they were by my side from care packages to calls and even occasional college visits to the mountains of Emmitsburg. All of it was and continues to be appreciated.

Why? Because even now, I see how I am still impacted by the generosity of the organization. In 2017, I graduated from Mount St. Mary's University with a B.S. in Psychology. Two weeks after graduation, I started my current job at Kennedy Krieger Institute in Downtown Baltimore. For the past 2 ½ years, I have dedicated my time to aiding families who have children with developmental disabilities and behavioral issues on the Neuro-Behavioral Unit. A large majority of the children and adults I work with are on the spectrum and I have come to build a bond with each and every one of the individuals that I encounter. While working at KKI, I have been fortunate enough to attend school full time. Last fall, I started my Master's program in Clinical Mental Health in Counseling. In the Spring, I will be starting my Practicum and will be applying for a second Master's in Forensic Psychology. I am expected to graduate from the programs next December.

In the midst of all the fun of school and work, I am currently on the path to (hopefully) becoming Miss Maryland USA 2020. My goal is to use my platform to raise awareness about the population I have encountered at Kennedy Krieger.

My journey keeps developing even after college, but I remain optimistic because I can see the ripple effects this great organization has had.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

continued from page 4



Erin Keyes

In 2017, I graduated from Regent University with a degree in Christian Ministry. I am currently enrolled as a dual Master's student at Virginia Union University pursuing a Master's of Divinity and a Master's in Christian Education. I am currently a 3rd grade teacher and CEO & Founder of A Touch of Glitter, a woman's ministry. I spend a lot of my time in school, at work, studying classwork or the Bible, or volunteering. I enjoy working with youth and young adults, as well as women, to help them reach their God-given purpose. It is fulfilling to see others achieve.



Loretta Thompson

I am a mother, artist, arts administrator and mentor. Since graduating high school in 1995, I have completed a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art from The University of the Arts in Philadelphia, 2003, and a Master's in Arts Administration from George Mason, 2007. I have been working for the past 12 years at Sitar Arts Center, where I began as an intern while working on my Master's degree. I have held titles such as Programs Coordinator, Gallery Manager, Director of Program Operations and Senior Director of Operations. I am now the Deputy Director of Programs. I have two children, 23 and 14, and have mentored over 100 teens and young adults. I also paint in acrylic and resin, create mosaic tables and large scale decorative wall art and murals. My work has been exhibited in several group shows throughout the Maryland, DC and Virginia area. I volunteer my time with FGCB, Parents Amplifying Voices in Education (PAVE), The Office of the State Superintendent for Education (OSSE) and the Community Engagement Committee - Zachary Parker, Ward 5 Representative for State Board of Education.



Maame Amoyaw

After graduating from Laurel High School, I went on to study political science and international relations at Towson University. As a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, I was moved by service-oriented roles. I then joined Teach For America, Baltimore Corps and taught first grade on the West Side of the city. While I was teaching, I earned my Master's degree from Johns Hopkins University in Early Childhood Education. I graduated in 2016 and joined Teach For America's national organization as the Manager of Landscape, Policy, and Retention. My time in the classroom inspired me to do policy and advocacy work in the state and locally in Baltimore. Organizing around educational funding led me to work with Baltimore City Council as District 13's Director of Community Engagement & Policy. Realizing that federal policy had the levers to make real change and impact, I went on to become an Economic Policy Advisor with a focus in workforce development. I recently moved into an advocacy role as the Events & Conferences Manager at the Washington Center for Equitable Growth.

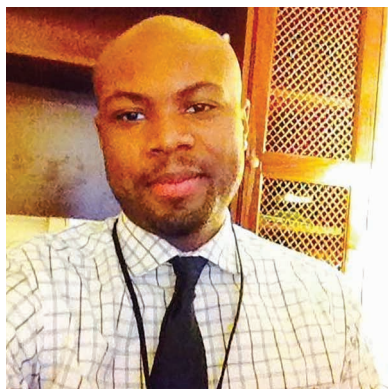


Melvina Johnson

I graduated from Laurel High School, class of 2006. Upon completing at Laurel, I went to Bowie State University. At Bowie, my initial major was Nursing, however I discovered that I had a passion for Social Work. I became a member of the illustrious Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in the Fall of 2008. In 2011, I graduated from Bowie State with my Bachelor's degree in Social Work. I moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to experience a new city and state. While in Philadelphia, I have worked for various agencies serving different people and empowering them to have better lives. In May 2017, I graduated with my Master's in Social Work from Widener University. I am a mother of one. I am currently working at a federally qualified health center, Philadelphia Fight, as the Education Department Case Manager. In the near future, I aspire to work as an International Social Worker. Thank you FGCB for preparing me for the future.

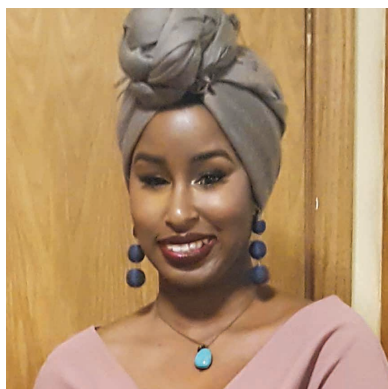
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

continued from page 5



Raemond Parrott

In 2004, I graduated from Wilde Lake High School and went on to Williams College where I earned a B.A. in English and Political Science. After graduation from college, I attended Duke University School of Law where I earned my JD in 2011. Since graduation I have worked in various legal and financial capacities in both the public and private sector. I have worked in Denver, Charlotte, Los Angeles, Boston, and all over Maryland. I am currently the Deputy Director of the Baltimore Office of Civil Rights, where I oversee the Community Relations Commission, Civilian Review Board, and Wage Commission. My work focuses on eradicating discrimination in housing, education, health and welfare services, employment, and public accommodations, as well as promoting equity and equality in the provision of government services, and serving as a watchdog for police misconduct and reform. I have two beautiful and intelligent daughters, Zahra Reign (3) and Renee Alanis (11), who keep me busy.



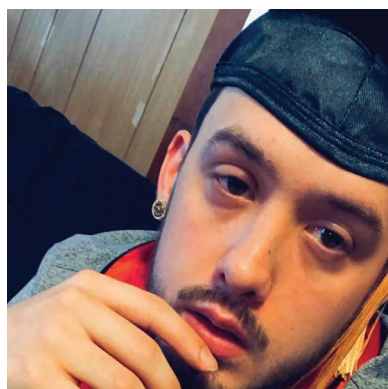
Sambo Conteh

Life after college has been interesting. I graduated from Ferrum College with a B.S. in Accounting and a minor in Business. The first two years after graduating I worked for different temp agencies doing a series of accounting jobs such as accounts payable, accounts receivable, and bookkeeping until October 2015. In October 2015, I started working at BCA WatsonRice as an auditor doing government contracts for different agencies until June 2018. In June 2018, I decided to switch to consulting which I did until August 2018. From August 2018 to February 2019, I contracted as a Brand Ambassador for Dunkin Donuts part-time. While, contracting I started my online boutique in February called Sammie Boutique, and ventured into real estate investing. I'm currently working at LaniEko and Company, an accounting firm, on a contract with USAID. It wasn't all work, I also traveled. I traveled to Sierra Leone, Wolverhampton U.K, Corpus Christi, Texas, Jamaica and several other locations. Throughout my journey after graduation, I have learned that no matter how difficult or hard things get, stay prayed up and keep moving.



Tiffaney Mills

Since graduating from Saint Augustine's College in 2008 with a B.S. in Criminal Justice and a minor in Spanish I've returned to school and earned my Master's of Social Work degree from Howard University. I graduated in 2015 and am now a fully licensed social worker working as a psychotherapist in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. My educational pursuits have afforded me the privilege of studying abroad both in Guadalajara, MX and Cape Town, South Africa and those experiences have helped shape my practice now. I'm also a new mom to a beautiful baby girl and I am pursuing advanced certification in perinatal mood disorders. FGCB served as a great launching pad for me.



Tyler Harmon

I graduated from Frostburg State University in December 2017 with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and a minor in Business Management. I graduated with a 3.803 GPA, Magna Cum Laude. During college, I started an accounting assistant internship with Revere Bank in the summer of 2014 and I continued the internship there until the end of the summer of 2017. Upon graduation, Revere Bank offered me a full-time position with benefits so I accepted it January 2018. I stayed at Revere Bank until August 2019 and I am currently employed by a real estate investment company. My new employer is covering the complete cost of graduate school so I can obtain my Master's degree in Business Management. I will be starting the program in January 2020! Upon completion of my Master's degree the company will then assist in helping me obtain my CPA (Certified Public Accountant Certification).

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

continued from page 6



Wouhib Tamrat

Since graduating from UMBC in May 2018 with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, I went on to take a gap year and worked in a Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program. I really enjoyed the work I was doing and was also successful at it so I applied to the University of Baltimore's School of Social Work and was accepted. I am now in my first semester pursuing a Master's degree in Social Work with an anticipated graduation date of May 2021.



Eric Sellers

I currently work at ESPN: the worldwide leader in sports, where I am a content producer for ESPN's Monday Night Football. My job is a dream come true, I get to travel to every Monday Night Football game and work on the sport that I love. I found out about FGCB while attending Laurel High School in 2002. Some of my favorite memories are FGCB taking me and others on college visits. I still remember our trip to visit Frostburg State University.

School wise, I transferred from Laurel High School to Eleanor Roosevelt where I graduated in 2006. I went on to attend University of Maryland Eastern Shore, where I became a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated. I graduated from UMES with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in May of 2010. I later attended Georgetown University for graduate school and graduated in 2015 with a Master of Professional Studies in Sports Industry Management.

Prior to joining ESPN I spent five years at one of the leading strategic communications/government affairs firms in DC: The Glover Park Group. I also interned with the Washington Redskins and hosted my own local sports radio show.

I currently live in Bristol, CT with my wife and one year old son. In my free time I love to volunteer and speak with the youth: share my experiences in life and give advice.

FGCB'S IMPACT ON EDUCATION

STUDENTS WHO HAVE ENTERED COLLEGE: 2,687+

TOTAL ALUMNI: 789

ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES: 95

BACHELOR DEGREE GRADUATES: 541

MASTER DEGREE GRADUATES: 137

DOCTORATE/PHD GRADUATES: 16

STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN COLLEGE: 1,314

FINANCIAL AID AWARDED TO THE CLASS OF 2019: \$1.9 MILLION

STUDENTS FROM THE CLASS OF 2019 WHO MATRICULATED TO HIGHER EDUCATION: 180

STUDENTS WE WILL SERVE DURING THE 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR: 1,884



STUDENT STORIES

HOMEWORK

Club



Dana Barnett

12th grade @ Laurel High School

Homework Club has helped me in a manifold of ways. Homework Club has helped me connect with people of all ages. It has helped me build meaningful relationships. It pushed me to want to do better in school. It has given me hope that I can get into, and graduate, college without drowning in student loan debt. While most people's favorite part of Homework Club might've been the field trips and parties, my favorite part was talking with the teachers. I grew to especially enjoy being in the presence of these people and having meaningful conversations, whether it's talking about grades, life, or just simply cracking jokes.



Jacob Bethea

6th grade @ Oakland Mills Elementary School

Homework Club has helped me in many different ways. Most importantly, you have many different teachers helping you so if you don't know the answer to your homework questions you can ask the teacher for assistance. Also, I get to be with other kids my age which has helped me make new friends. One of my favorite parts of Homework Club has been the enrichment activities we get to participate in because we get to do fun things. There are many different field trips like Zava Zone or bowling which are very fun. I have also enjoyed the end of quarter pizza parties, the Christmas party, and the paint night with Mr. Bloomfield. Thank you FGCB for a great school year!

CAREER PUPPY SUPPORTS NEXT GENERATION SCHOLARS!

For the past three years, First Generation College Bound has partnered with Career Puppy to deliver the career awareness aspect of FGCB's Great Minds Great Futures program.

The Career Puppy activities have focused on three key aspects: 1) Students take the Strong Interest Inventory assessment to learn their Holland Code or "Career Personality"; 2) Students participate in a session to dive deeper into their code and understand which occupations might be a good fit for them; and 3) Students engage in creating a Personal Career Action Plan (P-CAP) to guide their next steps, including identifying activities they might participate in now to explore career of interest, potential barriers to their success and ways to overcome them. They also write their career story as if they're already there! The culminating event of the workshop series is for students to present and share with each other. Always a fun and celebratory activity!

The evaluation component, led by Dr. Mary Ellen Kiss of Resource Development Group, also demonstrates that students are benefiting from Career Puppy activities and want the program to continue.

We look forward to the 2019-2020 Career Puppy effort to support our students!

CAREER
puppy®



WELCOME ABOARD!

FGCB WELCOMES TWO INTERNS
DURING THE 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR
FROM CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA,
MICHAEL BONDULIC AND ALYSSA BISHOP.

EDUSERC MENTORING FCGB STUDENTS

During the winter and spring months in 2019, EduSerc trained, supported and mentored students to perform industry research in order to develop solutions to solve some of the world's complex problems. Many issues involved skin care, incarceration, mental health and other areas involving the health of our society. Through this journey, students learned a lot about themselves and their surroundings. EduSerc helped the students to explore areas in health, while teaching them to become an engineer (in a way) to build their solutions within a few months.

EduSerc travelled to four schools in the area on a weekly basis over three months to educate and train students to work in teams and develop industry solutions. Each team worked hard using Microsoft technology and other resources provided by EduSerc to accomplish their tasks.

At the end of the program year, students attended the Annual Career and Professional Development Conference hosted by EduSerc and showcased the industry projects that they worked on throughout the semester. In a "Shark Tank" style format, students worked in teams as small businesses to promote an industry solution to help the community.

Students were judged by various executives, CEOs and local corporate individuals and received advice toward making their ideas a reality.



FGCB MILESTONES

30 YEARS OF GROWTH

1990 FGCB was founded by Joseph Fisher, a teacher and college track coach.

1992 The first full-time employee was hired.

1994 The first student successfully graduates from college.

1999 FGCB moves into its first office space located on Main Street in Laurel, Maryland.

2005 Maryland State Department of Education awards a GEAR UP grant, which provided access to work in Potomac High School.

2006 The first class with more than 100 college access students matriculate to college.

2007 The College Access Program is expanded to Parkdale High School.

2010 The first chairman of the Board of Directors is elected.

2010 MSDE provided another GEAR UP grant allowing the organization to expand its College Access Program to Fairmont Heights High School & Central High School.

2011 Entered into a partnership with the University System of Maryland's Way2GoMaryland Information Campaign.

2012 FGCB moves into a larger office space in Laurel, Maryland's Office Park.

2013 An official partnership is created with Prince George's County Public Schools.

2014 FGCB adds to the staff bringing the total staff count to six.

2015 FGCB advocates and helps Bill 816 Higher Education-Low Income Student Outreach-College Access Act of 2015 get passed to provide funding to college access programs across the state.

2016 First cohort of Way2GoMaryland students graduate from high school.

2017 Through MSDE's Next Generation Scholars Program, FGCB received funding to implement its newest program- Great Minds Great Futures.

2017 FGCB hires five new employees bringing the staff to a record 11 employees.

2019 FGCB expands its newly renamed College Success Program to High Point High School.



Since the doors of FGCB have opened, it has touched the lives of 2,687 students, including; Total Alumni: 789, Associate Degree Graduates: 95, Bachelor Degree Graduates: 541, Master Degree Graduates: 137, Doctorate/PhD Graduates: 16.

GROW IN YOUR LIFE PURPOSE

How many times during your life have you heard the statement “Sometimes You Win, Sometimes You Lose”? If you believe this quote, especially if you continue to lose, you will accept being a loser or be distracted from achieving your goal.

However John Maxwell says “Sometimes you win, sometimes you learn”. These words provide the ongoing encouragement as wisdom is gained from your wins and your challenges, regardless of size. Thinking, practicing, and believing in this message, you will always be a Winner growing in your life purpose.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gavin Brown* Chairperson
Lead Pastor, Lifehouse Church

Joseph Fisher Founder & CEO
Retired, Teacher, Howard County Public Schools
Retired, The Catholic University of America
Women's Cross Country & Track Coach

Stefanie B. Lomax* Treasurer
President/CEO, HRPro4You

Florence Y. Akadje*
Senior Accountant, City First Bank of DC

Janice Doyle
Retired Chief of Staff to the Chancellor and
Secretary to the Board of Regents, USM

Ray Farmer
Managing Director of Strategic partnerships
The Chronicle of Higher Education

Anil Kochhar
Lead Test & Evaluation Engineer, John Hopkins
University Applied Physics Laboratory

Carrie Quinn
Executive Vice President, Revere Bank

Rena Ross
Community Manager, Stevens Forest Apartments
FGCB Alumnus Parent

H. Walter Townshend III
Retired President & CEO, Baltimore/Washington
Corridor Chamber of Commerce

Michael Wood
Direct Mission Systems, Goodwill Industries
International

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Cary
Asst Superintendent, Retired MD State Dept of
Education

The Honorable Robert J. DiPietro
Consultant

William P. King
Assistant Vice President of Student Services and
Marketing, Edward via Virginia College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Roy Gilmore
Former FGCB Board Chair

Robert H. Levan, Esq.
Retired

Lonnie Moore*
Sales Team Trainer, IBM

Dr. G. William Troxler
Retired President, Capitol Technology University

Tico Wells
Actor/Director & President, Courtesy is
Contagious Productions, Inc.

John Wiley Sr.
Retired Director of Recruitment, Prince George's
Community College

The Honorable Alexander Williams Jr.
Judge, United States District Court

*Indicates FGCB Alumni



FGCB 2018-2019 SPONSORS

PRESENTING SPONSOR

City of Laurel

PLATINUM SPONSOR

Security Vault Works

GOLD SPONSORS

Berman Enterprises

Revere Bank

Konterra

University System of Maryland

SILVER SPONSORS

Academy Ford

Comcast

Councilmember Deni Taveras

Councilmember Tom Dernoga

McGowan & Cecil

PNC Bank

Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center

Senator Jim Rosapepe

BRONZE SPONSORS

Bay Color

Bormel, Grice & Huyett

Mr. Smith's Barber Studio

Olive Branch Community Church

Towne Centre of Laurel

MENTIONS

Ledo Pizza

Rainbow Florists

Wegmans

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO *continued from page 1*

The Genesis of the FGCB Formula

This was no easy feat. The 1990's was an era of scams, crime and the war on drugs, so parents were skeptical of anyone unexpectedly knocking on their doors and making promises about opportunities for their children. My life experiences and my Teacher Corp Training in Urban Education at Morgan State University, prepared me for the doubt I heard from parents that weekend. Maintaining my faith, passion and excitement for the mission, I was able to gain the trust of some parents and enrolled 10 of their children in the inaugural group of First Generation College Bound.

As I reflect on this 30-year journey, I realize how my education and experiences as a college student at Catholic University also prepared me for my work with FGCB. It was in my philosophy classes that I was able to comprehend the power and value of education. While my parents stressed and re-enforced the importance of attending church and getting an education, I thought acquiring life skills was more important. After attending Catholic University, I had no doubt that my parent's priorities were right. I finally understood the power of faith, prayer and knowledge as resources when facing challenges and how living in a college community with these resources provide a foundation for success.

I am passionate about the vision and mission of First Generation College Bound for our students to achieve social and economic success built on an affordable college education. FGCB strives to endow our students with a Winning Attitude for Education to achieve their educational and life goals. This commitment runs deep in my soul. I can relate to students who don't have a college dream; I didn't like school, I cut classes, and thought about dropping out in 9th grade. I thought gaining life skills to overcome community challenges was more important than education. I was definitely going in the wrong direction due to peer influence. However, thanks to my dad, who learned I had cut school, I was punished. I still believe that punishment caused me to stay the course and graduate high school. This is why parental involvement is an important component of the FGCB formula.



Coaches are also a vital part of the FGCB formula because my own coaches and mentors played a key role in my success both off and on the field. I thank God for my high school cross country and track coach, Hubert Gates, who trained me to become an outstanding athlete and encouraged me to attend Catholic University. During my years in college, my cross country and track coach, Jerry McGee; the Partnership Program founded by Thaddeous Aubry and Leon LeBuffe; and others at the university provided the ongoing advice, encouragement and support I needed to succeed as a student and as an athlete. They helped to promote a winning attitude for education in me.

It is this winning attitude for education that I was blessed to acquire from my parents, coaches and mentors that has become the cornerstone of the FGCB formula. Today, FGCB coaches promote the Winning Attitude for Education as a crucial component of the advice, encouragement and support we provide to our students to attend college and graduate. Thirty years ago, I wanted to make kids' dreams come true. Today, we celebrate those "kids," who have attended and graduated college. They have gone on to professions in education, military service, medicine, law, business, nursing, architecture, engineering, ministry, dentistry and even a Maryland State Delegate. There is no doubt that the FGCB team is excited and proud as we say thank you for your ongoing support of the mission and vision of FGCB.

FGCB 2018-2019 FUNDERS

City of Laurel

City of Laurel Youth Services Commission

Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation

Hattie M. Strong Foundation

Maryland Higher Education Commission

Maryland State Department of Education

MGM Resorts

Meyer Foundation

Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development

Prince George's County Councilmembers

Prince George's County Office of the County Executive

Prince George's County Government

Scheidel Foundation

Venture Philanthropy Partners



FIRST
GENERATION
COLLEGE
BOUND

8101 Sandy Spring Road
Suite 230
Laurel, MD 20707
www.fgcb.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Capitol Heights, MD
Permit No. 1193

SAVE THE DATE!

8th Annual **Alumni Social**

Saturday, January 4, 2020

Metro Points Hotel, Salon A/B Room
8500 Annapolis Road, New Carrollton, MD

30th Annual Celebration

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center
University of Maryland College Park

30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Fall 2020

**Join us as we celebrate and
reflect on this special milestone
in our 30 year history**

