



Annual Report

2019

Fast Facts

Over 1,000 scholars

295 new first year scholars

- 79% students of color
- 75% first generation
- Average family taxable income: \$20,800

45 Opportunity Pathways scholars

First year class of students attending community college

- 93% students of color
- 81% first generation
- Average family taxable income: \$9,180



Greetings,

The past year can be summarized in one word – partnership. Working together with many who share our belief in the transformative power of education, 2019 was a year of growth and program enhancement. Wallin Education Partners’ model of financial aid combined with wide-ranging and robust support for lower income students is highly effective. The six-year graduation rate of the most recent cohort of students attending a four-year college is 91%.

Collaboration played a central role in program growth and helped us launch a new scholarship, Opportunity Pathways (OP.) In its first year, we awarded scholarships to 47 students who are choosing a career path that requires a two-year degree from a community college. A shout out to AchieveMpls, Genesys Works, Saint Paul Public Schools and Burnsville High School who helped us share the opportunity with their students and assisted in the application process. Minneapolis College, Saint Paul College and Normandale Community College have been great partners and colleagues. Wallin EP was fortunate to receive generous funding from NorthStar Education Finance that allowed us to progress from an initial idea, to model design, to the launch of a new program.

The forty-seven OP students are among over 1000 students who were awarded scholarships in 2019. We look forward to supporting them through college and into a career. The impact on students and their families is immediate; the impact of a highly skilled, diverse workforce on our community will continue well into the future.

Through the support of generous foundations like the Otto Bremer Trust and Thrivent Foundation, we increased the capacity of our organization to serve additional students. With their support we have awarded more scholarships, enhanced our curriculum, and for the first time we have a member of our staff who is dedicated to identifying internships and career opportunities through new partnerships with community leaders, local businesses and corporations.

Finally, in recognition of our strong results and commitment to scholars, Wallin EP was named Scholarship Provider of the Year by the National Scholarship Providers Association. We were thrilled to have been selected for this award by our peers throughout the country, and we share this honor with our donors, high school and college partners and especially our scholars and their families.

Thank you for all you do to support our mission and our organization.

Susan Basil King, EdD
Executive Director

Sibling Stories

Davis and Brady Johnson are twins. Davis attended the University of Minnesota and received a Bachelor's degree in Finance, while Brady received his B.A. in Actuarial Science from University of St. Thomas. Davis and Brady had very different college experiences with the exception that they were both Wallin EP scholars. Davis tells us: "When we heard that both Brady and I received the Wallin EP awards, a huge burden was lifted off my parents' shoulders. For me, it was great to have access to an advisor, all kinds of resources, and dozens of other students going through the exact same thing we were going through. And the financial support was huge. Both Brady and I graduated with no debt, which gave my whole family a piece of mind." Davis works as an Investment Associate with RBC Wealth Management, while Brady is a Healthcare Economics Consultant with Optum.



Ra'wi Mahamud says: "Wallin EP has been a significant support, not just for me, but for my brother and sister as well. We are deeply grateful to be Wallin Education Partners Scholars. The scholarship allowed us to pursue our college degrees without worrying about the financial burden." Ra'wi recently graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Strategic Communications and Political Science. Her sister Saida graduated from the University of Minnesota in 2017, and is currently an MPH Global Health student at the University of Washington. Their brother Yusuf is a part of our first Opportunity Pathways class. He is attending Minneapolis College and pursuing a career in Business.

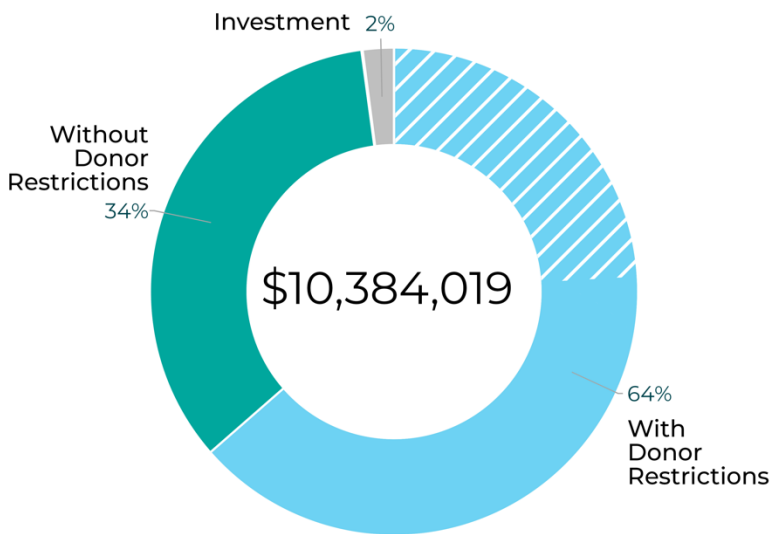
Pa Nhia works for CliftonLarsonAllen as a Benefits Associate. Her brother Tsimua Khang will be completing his degree in health sciences from the University of Minnesota-Rochester this Spring. The third sibling, Tsimeng Khang is a sophomore at the University of Minnesota. He recently secured an internship with US Bank, a Wallin EP donor partner. Nhia Khang, who serves on the Wallin EP Alumni Board shared: "Giving back to Wallin EP is something I want to do because it's not just me who benefited from this program. I have two brothers currently in college who are also Wallin EP scholars. I was the first to go to college in my family, so when it was the time for my brothers to apply to college, I told them about Wallin right away. I knew that my brothers would benefit not just from the financial help, but also from having advisors and other support along the way. I would always be there for my brothers, but I felt like I couldn't be as helpful to them as having a Wallin advisor would be."



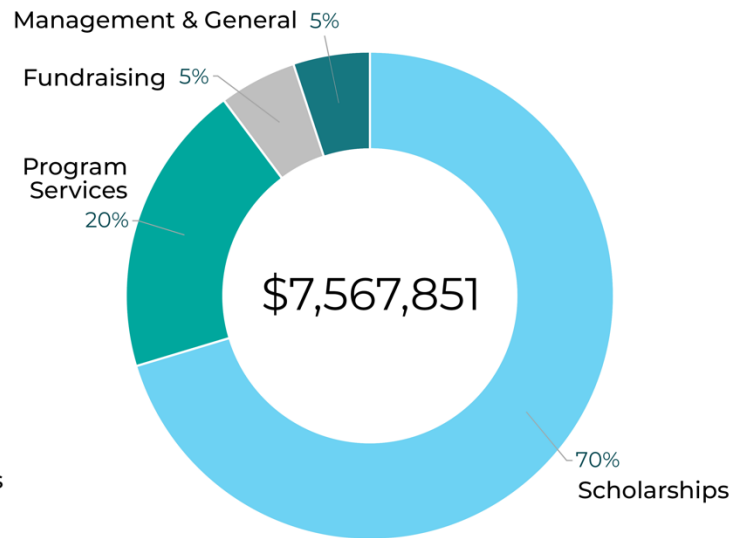
Statement of Financial Activity

Source: Fiscal Year 2018-2019 audited financial statements

Income



Expense



 \$2.5 million is restricted to scholarship commitments distributed over four to six years

90% of all funds used for financial aid and scholar support

“What does being a Wallin EP Scholar mean to you?” Here is what some of our 2019 scholars had to say

“Getting this scholarship means a lot to me because as the oldest and the first in my family to attend college, this scholarship can show me and my younger siblings that true dedication does pay off. Being a part of the Wallin Education Partners Scholars is critical to me because of its unique support, advising, and overall heartwarming welcome.”

–Nhia Chang

“The impact of Wallin Education Partners’ has opened another door of opportunities for me to keep succeeding in life. It not only provides financial support, but other important support services that could turn into lifelong connections.”

–Lily Yang

“The Wallin Education Partners scholarship to me means having an opportunity that not many students have like having a mentor to learn great career and life skills from. It also means being able to get connected beyond the limits of my university and to make a network with possible employers and other scholars.”

–Maddie Sieben



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