



# SUPPORTING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

United is the Way we help students succeed.



## » Why Partner?

Education is a path to economic opportunity, but basic needs can stand in the way of success. United Way of King County is committed to breaking down these barriers and supporting students from early learning through postsecondary graduation. We believe income, ZIP code, and race shouldn't determine a student's future. Your partnership can help transform lives, strengthen our future workforce, and create a more equitable education system for all.

### EARLY LEARNING:

Through our **ParentChild+** program, in collaboration with 13 King County community partners, we help low-income, refugee, and immigrant families prepare their children for kindergarten. By fostering critical language and early literacy skills and strengthening parent-child interactions, we ensure kids enter the classroom ready to learn and thrive.



ParentChild+ graduates have **30%** higher high school graduation rates than their peers!

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION:

We fund the **Racial Equity Coalition (REC)**, a group of 14 organizations of color that offer in- and out-of-school programs that celebrate children's cultural identities, foster curiosity, nurture a love for community and learning, and address the unique challenges of being a student of color—equipping them with the tools to stay engaged and succeed in school.



Last year, **5,300+** students received over 21,935 critical supports that helped them stay in college!

### COLLEGE COMPLETION:

Over half of Washington college students report experiencing one or more forms of basic needs insecurity, according to a [survey and report](#) led by Western Washington University and the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC). With our **Bridge to Finish** program, we help community college students stay in school by providing emergency grants, housing support, food, and free tax services through Benefits Hubs, easily accessible centers on 10 campuses across King County.

In 2024,

we secured \$767,000 to fund college navigators, connecting students to essential resources so they can focus on learning—not just surviving.



## ADVOCACY IN ACTION

We're not just addressing students' critical needs—we're advocating to transform the policies that create them. Our partnership-driven advocacy, modeled on Bridge to Finish infrastructure led to the passage of the Student Basic Needs Act (House Bill 1559), securing funding for Washington's public colleges to hire Benefits Navigators who connect students to vital resources.

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[Racial Equity Coalition (REC) programming] has done so much for us, especially with school supplies, homework help, forming groups that help students do their homework, leadership classes, drop-out prevention, and drug prevention. It also makes it possible for their parents to learn the same classes so they can work together to be successful at any school.”

–**Yusuf Bashir**, founder and executive director, Falis Community Services

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### » Opportunity

Our goal is to help each student reach their full learning and career potential and have access to improved opportunities to thrive. With your partnership, we can disrupt the status quo, make these resources available to more underserved families, and champion advocacy efforts to support student-centered, equity-focused policies. You'll have the opportunity to set more kids up on the path to educational success.

### » Want to Learn More?

Do you have space, supplies, or resources to share? We'd love to hear from you about your interest in helping students access education and overcome poverty. For more information about these programs and their impact, please contact **Carrie Bates** at [cbates@uwkc.org](mailto:cbates@uwkc.org) or 206.461.8501.

