



2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT

CHANGING LIVES...
ONE STUDENT AT A TIME



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Shepherd's Friends,

With the benefit of hindsight, we bring you a perspective on the accomplishments for the 2021–2022 academic and fiscal year at Shepherd's.



I think most of us can agree it was a good year, not the least because it was a year in which we moved past the pandemic-induced isolation and fear that had consumed so much of our lives for the prior two years.

In the first part of the year, July – December, 2021, we were just getting used to seeing each other again, engaging in group activities, and most importantly, getting back to normal school days and weeks.

We had persevered and overcome the challenges and begun the recovery. This was a testament to the dedication of many people, particularly our two school partners and our 62 Shepherd's Mentors. You are the bedrock of our mission, the two most critical parts of Shepherd's three-part program. We owe much recognition and appreciation to each and all of you.

Despite the two plus years of our extraordinary circumstances, our students had great success. I am specifically pointing to the 15 Shepherd's students who graduated in May/June – another year of 100% graduation rate and 100% of college acceptances with generous financial resources to support matriculation. The list of acceptances was likewise extraordinary this year. A hearty and deserved congratulations to all the students who graduated and succeeded to the next level in their education.

What may not come through clearly in the abundance of numbers presented here is the breadth and depth of generosity of the people and organizations who support Shepherd's mission. Over 65% of Shepherd's Mentors contribute towards the cost of supporting their student in the program. Over 25 private and civic foundations generously underwrite many of our activities and tuition expenses, and members of Shepherd's Board of Directors contribute substantially in support of the Shepherd's overall mission, student programming and administrative expenses. Thank you to all of you as well!

Lastly, a note of appreciation and admiration to the staff of Shepherd's who kept the work of our mission focused on our students and Mentors this past year. Shepherd's is a team effort and each and everyone involved came through because we believe in our mission and produced the results to prove it!

We look forward to continued success and to building on the renewed momentum of Shepherd's mission as we enter our 24th year of *"Changing Lives...One Student at a Time."*

Gratefully,

Dan McAuliffe
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Shepherd's mission is to empower under-served, inner-city Connecticut youth with the tools necessary to build a foundation for their future success.

Shepherd's accomplishes its mission by providing tuition support to attend a private, college preparatory high school, academic and life skills workshops, and the invaluable wisdom and guidance of an adult mentor.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lisette Currier-Martinez, *Chair*

Barnet Phillips IV, Esq.,
Vice Chairman and Founder

Louis Taylor, *Treasurer*

Hugh McCrory, *Secretary*

Timothy J. Stuart, *Founding Partner*

Gregory Dillon

Gina Garzon

Daniel R. McAuliffe, Jr.

Frederick A. McMullen

Jim O'Neil

Jane Albano Purcell

Carrie Sindelar

Sara Tieke

Thomas W. Wynne

Glenn F. Xavier, MSW

STAFF

Daniel R. McAuliffe, Jr.
Executive Director

Martie Giammatteo
Notre Dame School Liaison

Jane MacDonald
Director of Development

Lisa Matson
Kolbe Cathedral School Liaison

Kimberly Plunkett
Director of Administration

Colleen Phelan
Social Media Consultant

SHEPHERDS BY THE NUMBERS



62

total students attending two high schools (Kolbe Cathedral Bridgeport and Notre Dame West Haven)



68%

on honor roll during the 2021-22 academic year



300+

community service hours were completed



15

students graduated in June 2022 (9 at Kolbe Cathedral and 6 at Notre Dame)



100%

received acceptances and financial aid at multiple colleges and universities.



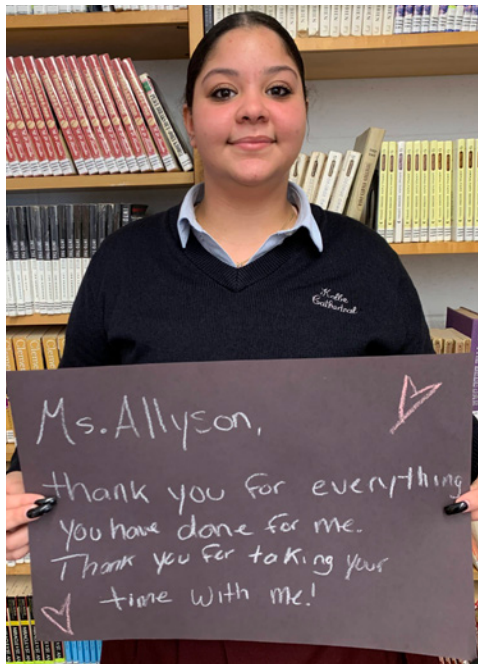
College acceptances included:

Harvard, Brown, Colgate, Trinity, Holy Cross, Fairfield, UCONN, University of New Haven, Sacred Heart, Stonehill, Assumption, Morehouse, Temple, Xavier, Mercy, University of Scranton, Quinnipiac, St. Peters, Dominican, LeMoyne, Eastern Connecticut, Southern Connecticut and Western Connecticut.

2021-22 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

ACADEMIC AND LIFE SKILLS

Cougar Camp Orientation Program
Financial Literacy Workshop
Creative Writing Workshop
Resume Writing
College Tours
Chromebooks and Calculators



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Merton Center Food Bank
New Canaan Exchange Club
Christmas Tree Sale

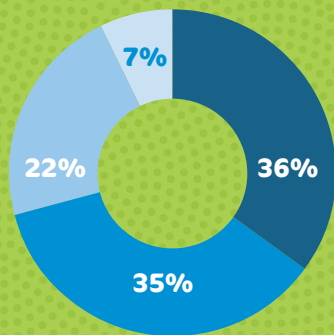
STUDENT/MENTOR EVENTS

Shelton Sports Center
Corn Maze
Halloween Happening



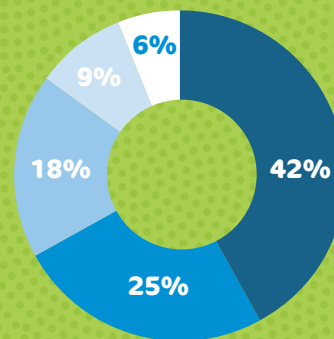
2021-22 FINANCIALS

SHEPHERDS ALLOCATION OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES, 2021-2022



REVENUE

Individuals	\$ 238,178
Foundations/Corporations	\$ 241,271
Board of Directors	\$ 151,511
Other	\$ 45,179
Total	\$ 676,139



EXPENSES

Tuition Support	\$ 242,345
Mentor Program	\$ 143,692
College/Prep/Life Skills	\$ 101,444
Development	\$ 52,391
Management/Other	\$ 34,793
Total	\$574,665

FINANCIAL POSITION, JUNE 30, 2022

TOTAL ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 459,624
Investments	\$ 45,589
Promises to give	\$ 11,000
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 3,000
Total	\$ 519,213

LIABILITIES/NET ASSETS

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 6,190
Without donor restrictions	\$ 433,603
With donor restrictions	\$ 79,420
Total net assets	\$ 513,023
Total	\$ 519,213

This financial data is derived from the audited financial statements of Shepherds, Inc. for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. The complete audited financial statements, notes to the financial statements, and the auditor's report may be obtained from Shepherds, Inc.

SHEPHERDS WELCOMES FIRST ALUMNI BOARD MEMBER

Shepherds proudly elected Gina Garzon to its Board of Directors in January 2022. Gina is a graduate of the Shepherds' Class in 2005 from Trinity High School/Stamford. She obtained her undergraduate degree (2009) and her MBA (2014) at UCONN/Storrs. Gina now works at TD Bank as a Vice President/ Credit Portfolio Manager.

Barney Phillips, a co-Founder of Shepherds, is delighted to be serving on the board with a Shepherds alum, "This is historic!!! Never when Shepherds began did I ever even dream that this could or would happen... What a validation of our mission and execution of that mission." Welcome back to the Shepherds' family, Gina!



Recently Gina said this about her Shepherds experience. "I am very thankful to have been part of the Shepherds program. It opened many doors for me and presented opportunities that I might not have had."

— GINA GARZON,
SHEPHERDS ALUMNI



MENTOR APPRECIATION PARTY

Shepherds hosted a Mentor Appreciation Party on February 10, 2022 at the Country Club of Fairfield to thank its Mentors for their service and introduce prospective volunteers to the organization.

STUDENT/MENTOR SPOTLIGHT

MAUREEN DUGGAN AND NARIYZA DOUGLAS-JONES, KOLBE CATHEDRAL, 2023

When Maureen and Nariyza first met in the beginning of Nariyza's freshman year at Kolbe Cathedral High School, they shared a common bond, but they didn't know it at the time: both were nervous, unsure and at the same time excited. Now that shared anxiety has blossomed into a bond of enduring and mature friendship.



Building on their mutual adventurous spirits, Nariyza and Maureen have found many common interests and have explored new ones outside their comfort zones to build a foundation of respect and admiration.

Nariyza comments, "I didn't expect to bond so quickly with Maureen but now we have a great relationship. I know I can go to her and ask her how to handle different situations with friends, teachers, and other things like that."

Maureen claims, "To Nariyza's credit, she has done so well in school and has made high honors. She has a bright future and a lot to look forward to."

Nariyza wraps it up, "Maureen and Shepherds have helped me strive to do my very best. I want to be a traveling nurse and travel the world and I know I need good grades to do that." Maureen sums up what Shepherds hears from many mentors, "I know I am here to help Nariyza, but I am overwhelmed at how much it she has been a gift to ME. I simply adore her."

MIKE DECHELLO, NOTRE DAME'11 AND ALAN LOPEZ, NOTRE DAME'22

Mike had previously mentored a Notre Dame student and when Shepherds asked him to mentor Alan, Mike was thrilled to say yes! Alan, on the other hand, was a bit nervous and wasn't sure what a mentor actually did, "I thought Mike would be a lot older but we clicked very quickly."

I've learned so much from Mike. The number one thing is that I need to figure out what I want and then give it 100%."

Mike has learned from Alan too, "One of our first activities was playing soccer with his friends. I don't play soccer, but Alan coached me and we had a great time together."

Alan appreciated the support that the ND/Shepherds Liaison Martie Giammatteo gave him, "She helped me figure out what colleges and scholarships to reach out to." Mike agrees and adds that the combination of Notre Dame, Shepherds, and Alan's family all worked together to help Alan. "Alan comes from a great family and we were all aligned with the same goal: helping Alan be the best he can be and achieve his goals."



2021-22 MENTORS

Abel Alvarez
Michael Bentivegna
Andrew Blevin
Bill Bruno
Allyson Burns
Laura Canning
Michael Celentano
Kevin Coles
Kathy Colucci
Neil Corcoran
Colby Cretella
Nils Dahl
Mike DeChello
Michael Donahue
Michael Donoghue
Erika Duffy
Maureen Duggan
Virginia Dwyer-Aoyama
Larry Ellman
Jim Finnerty
Charles Galante
Bill Gardella
Sean Gleason
Stephen Gruppo
Cecilia Hatton
James Johnsen
Cindy Johnston
Sadhana Joliet
Marlene Kimberly
Runa Knapp
Justin Kopcik
Kevin Lynyak
John Marson
Eileen McDonagh
Jamie McLaughlin
Vivian McMullen
Nancy Mitchell
Julie Murphy
Hetty Nerod
Ryan Nobile
Adam Novak
Jim Nugent
Tom O'Keefe
Jim O'Neil
Colleen Phelan
Onnie Pucel
Jane Purcell
Joe Purcell
Frank Quadrino
Andrew Rankowitz
Joe Sarbinowski
Carrie Sindelar
Andre Sofair
Susan Terry
Wayne Theriault
Sara Tieke
Ruben Valencia
Carolyn Vermont
Janet Wells
Thomas Wynne

TESTIMONIALS FROM OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

“NewAlliance Foundation is a proud sponsor of the Shepherds program as we believe every child should have access to a high-quality education. We have long supported St. Martin de Porres Academy which provides tuition-free education to underserved middle schoolers in New Haven. The Shepherds program is a natural extension of support of that program as it provides continuity and stability for many of those same students as they navigate through high school. Shepherds enables us to have an impact on these young people from 6th grade through graduation.”

—KIM HEALY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
NEWALLIANCE FOUNDATION



“The committee and I were impressed with Shepherds Mentors dedication to serving at risk youth in the community. The organization is passionate about ensuring that their students receive the necessary skills to be successful not just academically, but in the real world as well. The mentor program is unique in that each child receives individual attention which makes all the difference as they begin their paths into adulthood, ensuring that no student is left behind. The BFSRF is proud to support this meaningful and important mission.”

— ANJALI MCCORMICK, CEO, WESTPORT WESTON FAMILY YMCA
ON BEHALF OF THE BEDFORD FAMILY SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FUND




Shepherds

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