

# CAMPUS BOUND SCHOLARS

## 2020 SUMMARY



We are proud to introduce our newest Campus Bound Scholars, currently in their first year of college. Look inside to see the smiling faces behind their masks.

*Photographs by John Halpern who took individual student portraits then digitally created safe group images.*

## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to mentor and support first-generation students for college success.

## THE NEED

One-third of all college students in the US are the first in their families to attend college. These 'first-gen' students face enormous challenges during their college years. The sad fact is that over 25% of low income, first-gen students drop out by the end of their first year and only 56% graduate within six years. With no family experience of college, issues large and small defeat these vulnerable students. In the end, they may simply feel overwhelmed and leave school.

## OUR SOLUTION

Students selected as Campus Bound Scholars are matched with trained adult mentors who provide support, guidance, information and friendship starting the summer prior to departure and continuing through to college graduation. Mentors keep in touch regularly with students and guide them on topics such as time management, academic issues, handling finances, homesickness, and other challenges encountered by college students. In addition, students receive a financial award valued at \$1,200 their first year which includes dorm and school supplies to ensure they arrive on campus prepared for life away from home. They also receive \$1,000 yearly from sophomore through senior year to help defray book costs, travel and other incidental expenses.





In fall 2020 we are actively mentoring and supporting 39 college students, with 62% living on campus, and 38% attending virtually while living home. Both scenarios present challenges, especially for these First Year students trying to adjust to college life.

## PAST GROWTH

CBS has continually instituted changes to the program after careful consideration of potential impact on our students. Our program emphasizes relational mentoring and therefore quality is of paramount importance. We have been able to grow and steadily enrich the program as follows:

1. CBS has grown from mentoring two students in 2013 during their first year of college to accepting 10 new students each year and supporting them from freshman year through to graduation. For 2020-2021, CBS is supporting and mentoring a total of 39 students (see table below).
2. In 2018, we began providing career-building opportunities. We now assist students with their resumes using a professional career counselor. We also provide networking and career-building events including workshops with executives from Google, IBM, Pepsi and Wells Fargo.
3. In 2019, we formed an Advisory Council, and recently expanded the council by welcoming a long-term professional educator and a psychologist who specializes in college-age students.
4. In 2020, given the additional difficulties created by the COVID-19 pandemic, CBS established an Emergency Fund including Rapid Response Awards for unexpected student expenses including food insecurity, transportation home from school and tech support.
5. In 2020, CBS held the first in a series of workshops for students and mentors to discuss issues of racial injustice.

## HISTORY OF SUCCESS

From our start mentoring two students in 2013, we are very proud that to date we have mentored a total of **65** Campus Bound Scholars, **22** of whom have already earned their diploma and the rest are successfully moving through college on track to reach graduation in the coming years.

SCHOOL YEAR	LENGTH OF PROGRAM	# OF STUDENTS IN PROGRAM	% COMPLETED PROGRAM
2013-2014	First Year	2	100%
2014-2015	First Year	5	100%
2015-2016	First Year	9	100%
2016-2017	First Year	9	100%
2017-2018	Through Sophomore Year	10 First Year 8 Sophomores	100%
2018-2019	Through Junior Year	10 First Year 10 Sophomores 7 Juniors	100%
2019-2020	Through Senior Year	10 First Year 10 Sophomores 10 Juniors 7 Seniors	90% 100% 100% 100%
<b>2020-2021</b>	<b>Through Senior Year</b>	<b>9 First Year 9 Sophomores 10 Juniors 11 Seniors</b>	<b>New Students On Track On Track On Track</b>

## FUTURE PLANS

As with all organizations, CBS has had to adjust our future plans due to Coronavirus. In the short-term, we are focused on staying close to our students and helping them problem-solve unexpected issues such as studying remotely in a crowded apartment or feeling disconnected from college life.

**In the long term, CBS will focus on three priorities:**

- (1)** To ensure sustained financial stability
- (2)** To expand our career counseling and networking
- (3)** To build an alumni network so graduates can expand their network, become mentors and help shape the future of CBS.





Campus Bound Scholars Anisia Figueroa (left) and Eileen Becerra (right) at their recent graduation ceremonies.

## SOURCES OF FUNDS

CBS is funded primarily through “friends and family” fundraising efforts. We receive no government funding. Larger donations from institutional sponsors have been crucial in accomplishing our growth.

During the 2019 end-of-year fundraising campaign, CBS was challenged, for the first time, by an anonymous donor to match a gift of \$10,000. Our dedicated supporters met and exceeded the challenge, providing CBS with a stronger financial position going forward.

## ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK

CBS is a grassroots effort. It is run by an Executive Director, a six person Board of Directors and an Advisory Council. No one takes a salary. In 2020, we trained and supported 29 mentors who volunteer and donate their time, talent and counsel. Other than minor administrative and legal expenses, all funds are devoted to directly supporting our low income, first-generation college students.

## THANK YOU

We thank you for your consideration. We would be pleased to discuss our program in greater detail and answer any questions you may have.



Baffour Amponsah-Antwi with his CBS mentor, Rob Fraiman.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michelle Fatibene, Robert Fraiman, Jr,  
Doreen Gadigian, Laura Jaffe, Amy Peck,  
Karen Talmadge

## ADVISORY COUNCIL

Stephen Skillman, Laura Vraney, Carroll Welch,  
Peggy Williams, Nicole Moore

“Life through college has not been easy. And as the first one in my family to have ever chosen to embark on this journey en route to medical school and, as a black male on this journey, it has not been easy.

But, there is one thing I know, this organization, Campus Bound Scholars, has been there. When times got tough, my designated Mentor, Rob Fraiman, was and has been there. When times got merry, they were there to celebrate with me. The impact from this community isn't one that is easily expressed in words. Results. We measure their impact on the lives of students like myself by results.

I am proud to say that as a third year pre-med student, I am currently mentoring twenty-five other students who happen to be on the road to medical school, some who are freshmen, and others who happen to be upperclassmen. It has been an honor of my life being a part of this support system.

As I always say, my words cannot encompass the magnitude of how impactful you have all been in my life, thank you Rob, and thank you Campus Bound Scholars. You are really the best. Thank you for everything you've done for me and for how far I have come in this journey and in this process. Thank you everyone. I am really grateful.”

**Baffour Amponsah-Antwi,**  
Lehman College, Class of 2022

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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