



**EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**
OF SARASOTA COUNTY

Supporting Student Success Through Intentional Support Services

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Wednesday, July 23rd, 2025
Regional Scholarship Providers Network



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- 01.** Background and personal journey
- 02.** Importance of student support services
- 03.** Theoretical frameworks for student success
- 04.** Levels of engagement for scholarship providers
- 05.** Practical strategies
- 06.** Q&A



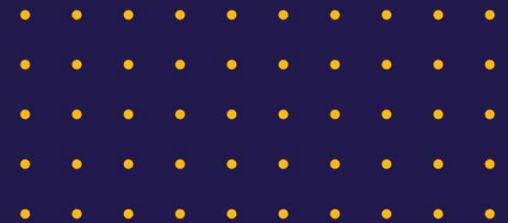


OUR VISION

Our vision is to unite the community to prepare **each and every student** for life.

OUR MISSION

To **enhance** the potential of students, **promote** excellence in teaching, and **inspire** innovation in education, guided by strategic philanthropy.



BACKGROUND AND PERSONAL JOURNEY



High-Achieving Student

- Private, college prep middle and high school
- Strong family and community support
- IB Diploma

First-Generation College Student

- USF College Reach Out Program (CROP)
- FSU CARE Program
 - CARE Summer Bridge Program

Educational Background

- B.S. in Family and Child Science, FSU
- M.A. in Educational Leadership, UCF
- Ed.D. in Educational Program Development, USF



IMPORTANCE OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES



- The gap between access and success
- The needs of first-gen, low-income, and minority students
- Key student outcomes improved such as:
 - Retention
 - Graduation
 - Well-being
 - Postsecondary education
- Moving beyond financial support

“The learning supports provided by student services professionals reduce a wide array of barriers to learning that arise across the student population” (FDOE, n.d.)



THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

- 01.** College Student Sense of Belonging
(Strayhorn, 2012)
- 02.** Maslow's Theory of Human Motivation
(Maslow, 1962)
- 03.** EPOCH Measure of Adolescent Wellbeing
(Kern et al., 2016)
- 04.** Theory of Change
(Weiss, 1995)



LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

Tier 1 - Financial Support Only

- Baseline support
- Transactional
- Student engagement not expected
- Uncertain of the scholarship impact

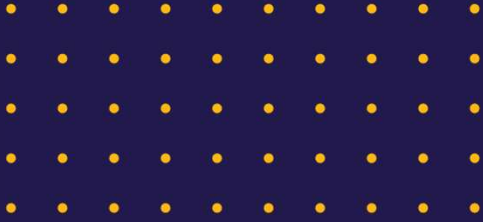
Tier 2 - Targeted Support

- Scholarship “cohorts”
- Workshops, webinars, and events offered
- Regular check-ins
- Expected engagement with the program and/or other recipients

Tier 3 - Intensive, Individualized Support

- Holistic support and/ or wraparound services
- More structure and requirements
- Frequent check-ins
- Ongoing relationships (i.e. alumni support)





DESIGN YOUR NEXT STEP

- What is one new idea you want to implement in your scholarship program?
- What level of engagement (Tier 1-3) does it fall under?
 - Tier 1: Universal Support (financial support only)
 - Tier 2: Targeted Support
 - Tier 3: Intensive, Individualized Support
- What's one resource or partnership you need to make it happen?

PRACTICAL STRATEGIES

- Host an orientation or welcome event
- Provide clear guidelines and expectations (e.g. checklist)
- Collect feedback from students, families, and alumni
- Create peer-to-peer engagement
- Collaborate with community partners and institutions
- Create a digital resource hub:
 - Group Chat/GroupMe
 - Social Media
 - Website
 - Google Classroom
- Measure impact consistently
- Share impact results with stakeholders
- Celebrate your scholars



Future-Ready empowers Sarasota County high school students with the support and skills they need for college, career, and life, meeting them at every level of need.

Universal Support

- Available to all students through school and community programs, including college fairs, scholarships, and planning tools.

Targeted Support

- Extra guidance through workshops on SAT/ACT prep, financial aid, and FAFSA.

Individualized Support

- One-on-one coaching tailored to student goals, with select students invited to join the Future-Ready Scholars Program.

Future-Ready Scholars Program

- Personalized programming that blends academic support, well-being, and future planning to prepare students for life after high school.



KEY OUTCOMES

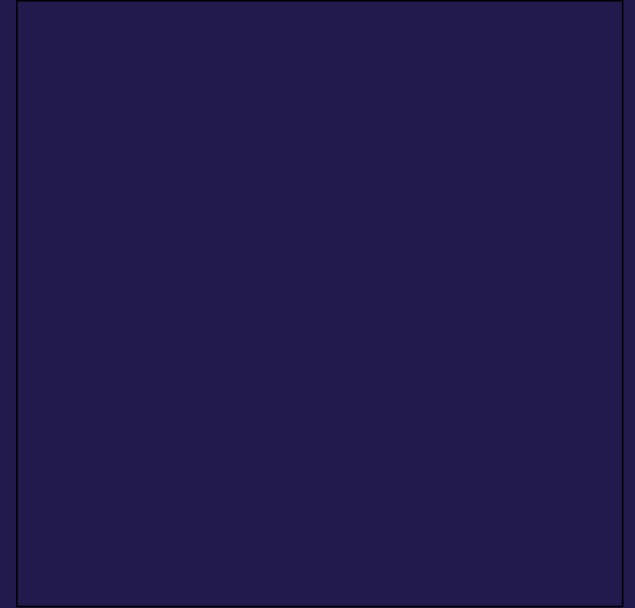
- 01.** Personal agency and well-being.
- 02.** Access to resources, support, and relationships that make a difference.
- 03.** A plan for next steps after high school.





FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

- Recruited a cohort
- Hosted an orientation (Jan) and round ups (March)
- Implemented a flexible, point-based system
- Collected and implemented feedback consistently
- Personalized guidance from coaches
- Collaborated with the community
 - Monthly workshops
 - Career chats
 - College tour
 - Future-Ready Summer Bridge Program
- Established an emergency grant
- Developed clear scholarship expectations
- Shared impact results
- Celebrated scholars



SO WHAT?


“The piece of knowledge that I gained from the program would be how I could apply my perseverance to any obstacles that I may face and continue to face them no matter how hard it may be” - **Venice HS, Class of 2025**

“The most helpful part of the Future-Ready Scholars Program was being able to get hands on assistance with filling out college applications” - **Booker HS, Class of 2025**

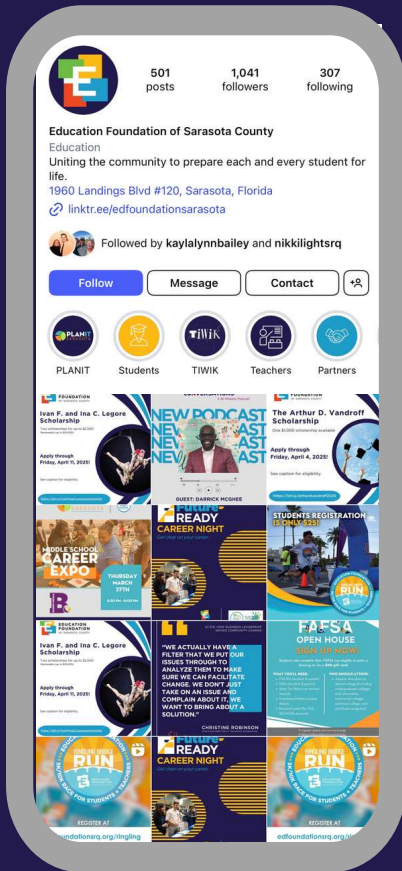
“Going on a college tour helped me know what questions to ask at different colleges” - **North Port HS, Class of 2026**

“The point system helped me to gain a grasp of getting involved in a program and genuinely having stake in a project for the better of myself and my school...” - **Sarasota HS, Class of 2025**

“The encouragement and access to scholarships has motivated me to hone my writing not just for current opportunities, but also future ones, which in turn has made me really sit down to define clear goals and how to reach them” - **Pine View HS, Class of 2025**



91 actively engaged Future-Ready Scholars (65%)
22 attended the FGCU college tour
24 visited NPHS students visited Coke FL
44 seniors earned a Future-Ready Scholarship
9 seniors earned a DeLynn Foundation Future-Ready Scholarship
8 participated in the Future-Ready Summer Bridge Program
30 end-of-year surveys collected



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