



2021-2022

IMPACT REPORT

THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY



2021-22 felt like a year of re-emergence as we eased back into in-person work and welcomed more students back to rejoin their educational pathways. While young people still remain disconnected from school at higher rates than before COVID, NWEA served 9% more students this year than the previous year, giving us hope that youth and young adults are slowly beginning to reconnect with their education goals.

NWEA held community and youth listening sessions and surveyed over 300 students to learn how we could better meet their needs and leverage partnerships. In response we've been strengthening our navigation services around mental health supports and learning differences. We deepened our presence in Tacoma as we added new Education Advocates to support the Pierce County community. We officially launched our presence in Snohomish County with a new partnership with Edmonds College. We've been busy!

The fullness of this past year reflects the unwavering commitment of the NWEA community. How we show up at the organizational level is a reverberation of how individuals show up for each other in our day to day relationships. A young person shows courage in setting a goal to go back to school. An Education Advocate takes time to learn and share a range of program options. School staff grapple with how to establish welcoming environments. Volunteers share time by providing tutoring or mentoring. Community members offer resources of time, expertise, advocacy, and funding. Policymakers challenge the status quo by centering community needs in reimagining public systems. We are all connected and interdependent.

As we continue to re-emerge, I want to express my deep gratitude for the part that each of you holds in moving us all forward toward greater joy, thriving, and liberation.

Thank you!

Laura DiZazzo
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Northwest Education Access provides comprehensive and individualized support to help low-income young people, ages 16-29, build their own path to higher education and beyond.

“

I feel like the relationship has always been one of compassion, empathy, and support from day one. and that hasn't changed. It's just grown.

- CLARISSA, student



“



{My Education Advocate} helped me figure out what kind of degree I wanted. And {that} helped me realize I really do like science and really do want to pursue optometry and she's very supportive with that. She really paved the way. I had an idea, and she directed me to it.

-MIZPAJOY, Student

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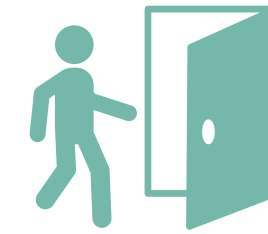
Honestly, I had never heard of financial aid before. I was under the impression that I would have to take a loan or I would have to work two jobs to pay everything out of pocket. Thankfully that was not the case. Konto and Northwest Education Access gave me all the knowledge I needed about it, and it really made me feel more confident.

-JOSHUA, student



CHANGING STUDENT LIVES

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS



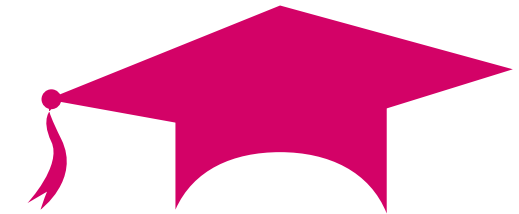
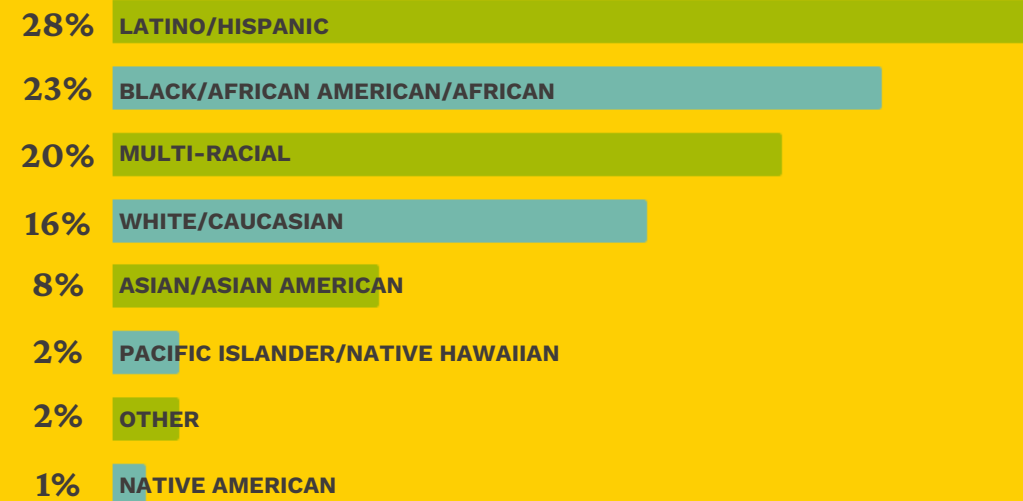
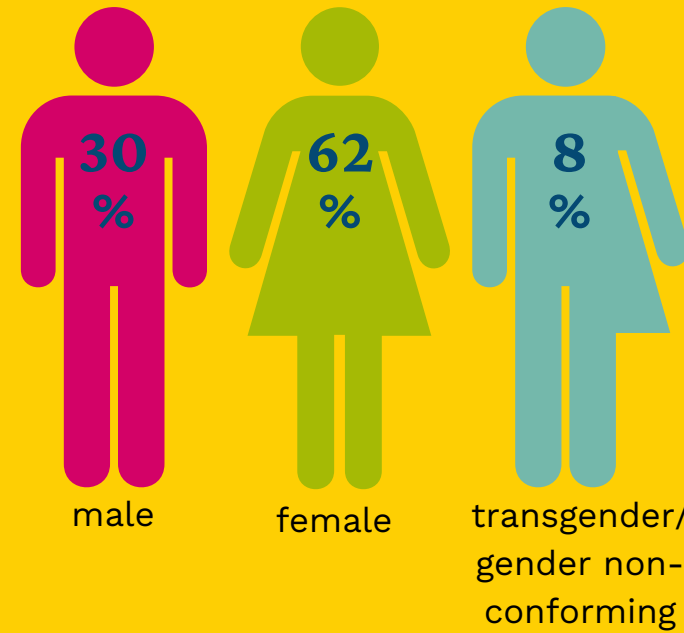
107 Students started college

Student Body



893

Total # of students served



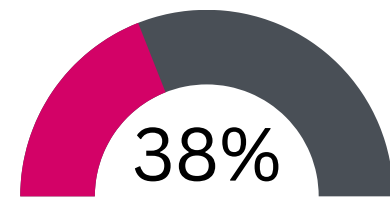
66

Students graduated with a degree

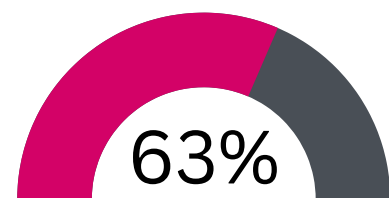


101

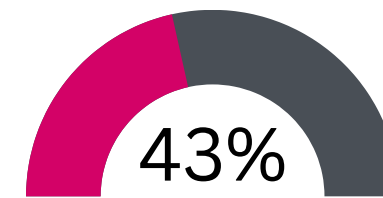
students were awarded scholarships, thanks to your support!



have experienced homelessness



1st gen college attendee



1st gen high school graduate

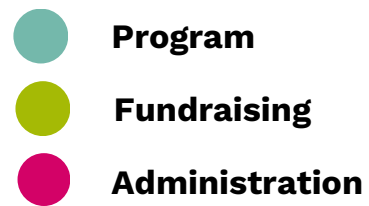
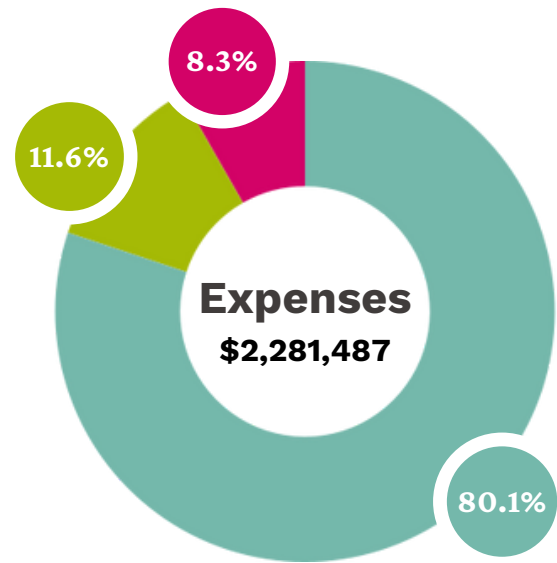
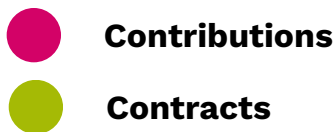
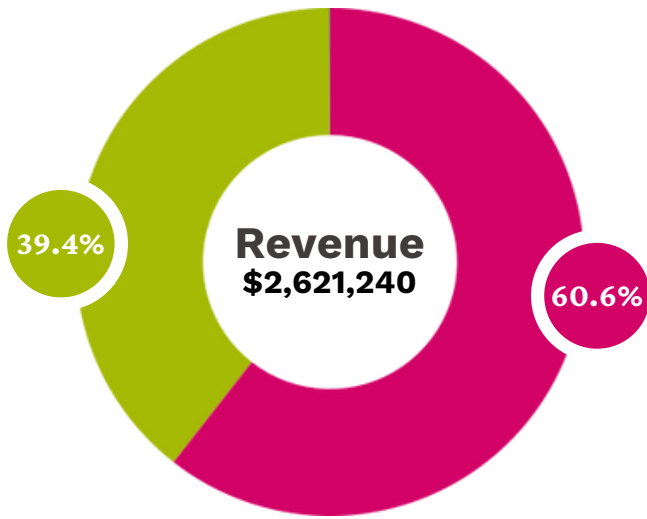
70



active volunteers



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