



Timex Career Day, Nov. 2019



Shepherds

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 – 2020

“The Shepherds community has pushed me to be the best version of myself. As a student and a person.”

— Jason, Class of 2021



Graduation 2020



Freshman Orientation, Sept. 2020



Mentor/Student Zoom, Dec. 2020



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Adapt, Innovate, and Overcome

Dear Shepherds Friends,

Coming off a successful 2018–19 year, we started our 2019-20 academic and fiscal year with great momentum, optimism and enthusiasm. Then the pandemic hit, and we turned our energy towards new priorities. Our motto became “adapt, innovate, and overcome.”



Shepherds not only survived the health, financial and social crises of the past 18 months, we came out of it smarter, more dynamic, and most importantly, and perhaps surprisingly, more connected. Our mentors, students and alumni have all shown an admirable willingness to fulfill their mentoring commitments and support one another throughout these past months. It has been a distinct honor to witness this strength in our Shepherds community.

This year, some of our accomplishments include:

- 60 Shepherds students successfully completed their 2019-20 school year
- 10 Shepherds students graduated with college acceptances
- \$279,000 of tuition support provided to our partner schools
- 66% of Shepherds mentors contributed to tuition and programming expenses
- Re-designed student and mentor recruiting, training, and interaction to accommodate a virtual environment.

In late spring 2020, we received an outpouring of inquiries from people who felt inspired to connect with Shepherds to make a difference in the lives of local disadvantaged youths.

They told us they wanted to “be part of the solution.” With new resources, the incoming Class of 2024 was increased to 16 students, all with committed mentors and funded with mentor and sponsor support.

.....

Shepherds empowers inner-city Connecticut teens to build a foundation for success by providing a college preparatory education at a private high school, academic and life skills programs, and the positive influence and support of a committed Shepherds Mentor.

.....

In this particularly challenging year, we are grateful for what we were able to accomplish with the support and encouragement of so many people. We acknowledge our new friends, loyal supporters, and colleagues, as well as our school partners, Shepherds students and alumni, and Shepherds staff. Your many contributions of time, talent and resources to the collective success of Shepherds’ mission this past year are greatly appreciated, and to you we say, Thank YOU!

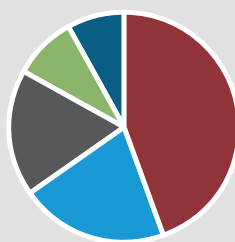
Daniel McAuliffe, Executive Director

INCOME AND EXPENSES, JULY 1, 2019- JUNE 30, 2020



REVENUE

Individuals	\$237,345	45%
Foundations/Corporate	\$118,913	23%
Board	\$123,208	23%
Other	\$47,997	9%
Totals	\$527,463	100%



EXPENSES

Tuition Support	\$279,000	45%
Mentor Program	\$130,425	21%
College Prep/Life Skills	\$110,569	18%
Development	\$57,146	9%
Management/Other	\$48,474	8%
Totals	\$625,614	100%

STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

Valentina, Kolbe Cathedral Class of 2022

Valentina is an honor student and a competitive soccer player. She has a bright smile, and is a terrific example of the KCHS motto, “work hard and be nice!”

Mentor: Sara Tieke

What words would you use to describe yourself? Honest, wise, dedicated, helpful.

What do you think your strengths are?

I’m observant, a good communicator and listener.

What are some lessons you’ve learned in 2020?

I’ve had a lot of personal challenges that have opened my eyes to the idea that life is short, it’s important to stay in touch with the ones you love, and it’s helpful to let yourself feel your emotions rather than hide them away.

What does the Shepherds community mean to you? It means a lot. I wouldn’t be where I am today without this community. I feel so supported not only by my mentor, but also by the programming.

What positive changes do you want to see in the world? I want to see people come together and be unified. Everyone needs to start to listen to each other and try to understand people that are different from them.



Jamar, Notre Dame Class of 2021

Jamar is a diligent and hardworking student who as Senior Class President, peer minister, member of the Black Student Union, and valued ND athlete gives back to his community in significant ways.

Mentor: Andre Sofair

What words would you use to describe yourself? Creative, outgoing, friendly, happy, a leader.

What do you think your strengths are? Not giving up, pushing forward, facing adversity.

What are some lessons you’ve learned in 2020? A lot of things have been really hard in my personal life this year, but I’ve learned that even when life doesn’t go your way, it’s how you react to the hard things that can say a lot about you.

What does the Shepherds community mean to you? It means everything. I wouldn’t be where I am if it weren’t for Shepherds.

What positive changes do you want to see in the world?

I want to see more unity in the world. Less division.



FINANCIAL POSITION, JUNE 30, 2020

TOTAL ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$298,093
Investments	\$131,147
Short-term promises to give	\$27,500
Long-term promises to give	\$7,000
Totals	\$463,740

LIABILITIES/NET ASSETS

Accounts payable/accrued liabilities	\$13,370
Current portion of long-term debt	\$15,786
Long-term debt	\$25,231
Net Assets without donor restrictions	\$323,954
Net assets with donor restrictions	\$85,399
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$463,740

ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE

Jessica Ramos, Kolbe Cathedral Class of 2014

Jessica graduated from Fairfield University and is now a registered nurse at Bridgeport Hospital.

What words would you use to describe your Shepherds experience? Mentorship, support, opportunities, and gratitude.

What did/does the Shepherds community mean to you?

I will be forever grateful for the Shepherds community. From a young age I knew that my mom, as a single parent, didn't have the financial means to send me to a private high school, and college didn't seem like a reasonable goal for me. But Shepherds helped make it all possible. Once in the program, the community kept me motivated and on track, and taught me how important it is to give back and be generous.

What does the word community mean to you? A group of interwoven people that despite race, beliefs, or background come together for a greater purpose. Each person plays a unique role to better the whole group. No one is bigger or smaller, we are all equally important.



MENTOR & SPONSOR PERSPECTIVE

John Murphy, Mentor & Sponsor

Mentee: Jason. Kolbe Cathedral, Class of 2021.

What words would you use to describe your experience as a mentor? Positive, gratifying, and powerful.

Is it what you expected? At the beginning, I was nervous about the age and generation gap of Jason and I. I am 75, and when I met Jason, he was only 14. But we eased into the friendship and found things that connected us, like baseball. It's been fun to find ways to get to know each other better, and to show him there is a bigger world out there. I feel very fortunate that I got matched with Jason. It's been an excellent fit and a good match.

What does the word community mean to you? Simply, we are all engaged in things that involve us but there are bigger things than ourselves.

What has changed since freshman year? Jason has really opened up. I've realized that people are more similar than you might at first recognize. Our relationship has developed a great rhythm.



OUR 2019-2021 MENTORS: WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR COMMITMENT

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Andre Sofair

*Class of 2020 Mentors
**In memory: Mr. Patry passed away October 2019 and mentored three Shepherds students at NDWH.

FY2020 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

On behalf of all of us at Shepherds, we thank our generous donors for their overwhelming support and commitment to ensuring Shepherds' transformative impact on young people's lives in our local communities.

\$10,000-\$25,000

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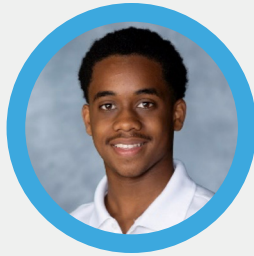
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Lisa Matson Liaison to KCHS

Martie Giammatteo Liaison to NDWH

Alexis Lawton Director of Development

Colleen Phelan Social Media Consultant



“Shepherds has been a community I can always lean on if I ever need help with something. A community that always wants the best for me and provides opportunities to help me and my future.”

.....
SEBASTIAN, STUDENT



“It really does take a community to raise children. Shepherds has been that community for us. Right now, with the process of applying to college, John (mentor) has been such a big help.”

.....
CHRISTINA HERNANDEZ, PARENT OF TWO STUDENTS



“My mentor helped me get my first banking job... she has impacted my life and inspired me to do the same for others.”

.....
GINA GARZON, ALUMNA



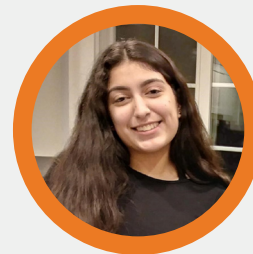
“Shepherds has allowed me to close my eyes and enjoy the warm feeling of a good deed. My experience as a mentor has been both heartwarming and worthwhile.”

.....
THOMAS O'KEEFE, 2X MENTOR & DONOR



“I identify very personally with Shepherds in my desire to make an impact locally.”

.....
JIM O'NEIL, SPONSOR, MENTOR & BOARD MEMBER



“The Shepherds community is very caring and has been a positive, encouraging influence in my life. I appreciate it so much, especially now during a very difficult year.”

.....
ANNACLAUDIA, STUDENT



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OR SCAN TO DONATE NOW!**

SHEPHERDSMENTORS.ORG 203.367.4273



Shepherds

Changing Lives... One Student at a Time.