



 BELLEVUE
COLLEGE



**2019–2020
Annual Report**

**B E L L E V U E
C O L L E G E**

F O U N D A T I O N

David's journey is unique and yet the source of his success is not. Every year, students from all walks of life come to Bellevue College with aspirations of doing more for themselves and for their communities. Some come with an array of resources at their fingertips but many lean on our community to ensure their success. The BC community has helped David, and in turn, as a nurse he will help countless others.



***There are so many
who have helped me,
I'm eager to start
paying it back.***

Jialiang Wang (David)
EXPECTED CLASS OF 2021

NUMBERS CAN SAY A LOT



In a year like 2020, numbers have often brought evidence of the challenges we all have faced. A global pandemic, economic upheaval, social unrest, and destruction from forest fires have made this year perhaps the most challenging one for our community, and for Bellevue College students to thrive.

And yet, you wouldn't necessarily know it based on these numbers. That's because 239 students received their Bachelor's degree from BC in 2020. A second number also points to success. More than 1,900 students earned their associate degrees in 2020. These numbers are evidence of the intelligence, grit, and dedication of students at BC, and the community around them.

To my fellow Bellevue College community members, thank you! Thank you for your incredible support and generosity during a year in which so many of us are scrambling to support our own personal needs. In a year when students needed you most, you all stepped up to ensure that they had what they needed. Thank you!

Two more numbers. 172 and 368,000. You created 172 scholarships giving out more than \$368,000 last school year, an increase from last year's record-breaking numbers. In a year full of challenge, you have done more for students than any time in the past.

On behalf of the Bellevue College Foundation, thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim R. Chesemore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Jim R. Chesemore
BC Foundation President



“What a challenging year it has been where resources and support have meant so much, especially with COVID-19. I am looking forward to a gratifying and successful academic year. This year I will graduate, as a first-generation college student with an Alcohol and Drug Counselor Certificate from Bellevue College. Over this period of two years, I have come from being virtually homeless to an employable, confident contributor to society.”

Kevin Allen

FROM SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS TO BC

Kevin Allen is taking his life experience and turning it into a source for motivation and strength to help others. Kevin is in his second year at BC and plans to receive his Alcohol and Drug Counseling Certificate this Spring.

Through the school of hard knocks—trying to figure how to enter college, develop credit, and maintain a home—I became homeless, substance dependent and incarcerated, but have since overcome these sidetracks. As an alternative to my lifestyle and many blessings, I was advised to go to Kathy Colasurdo, Multi-Cultural Center Counselor at Bellevue College, to learn how to go to college and select my area of study. For this, I am eternally grateful.

His experiences at BC have served as opportunities to enhance his scholastic and social skills. Travelling to the East Coast, and attending an educational completion conference, have been some of the unique experiences that Kevin has enjoyed at BC. These experiences were made possible through the support received from donors. Kevin is already giving back, by spending time volunteering with the Therapeutic Health Services, where he works as a substance abuse trainee. Kevin gives presentations to families and individuals on resources for those dealing with substance abuse issues.

College offers me, as a first-generation minority student, the opportunity to access my chosen career. This enables me to not only be of service, but to earn a livable salary while serving to overcome my dependence on long term Social Security Disability. With my history of overcoming homelessness and comorbidity, which includes Substance Use Disorder, I have exclusive experience which has value in providing hope to others.

Because of the generosity of our donors, the Bellevue College Foundation awarded over \$368,000 in scholarships to 172 students last year, including 61 first-generation college students. Additionally, another 11,421 students were directly supported through grants awarded by the BC Foundation from private support and \$70,044 in athletic, childcare, and emergency need scholarships were awarded.



My dream of achieving a college education comes with financial planning and sacrifice for me and my family and every cent of this scholarship will help me to continue my education. I hope that through hard work, dedication, and a keen sense of personal and financial responsibility that I can not only complete my degree program at Bellevue College but then make the step of transferring to a local university."

Stephany Alves Ferreira

HER PURPOSE IN LIFE IS TO HELP OTHERS

Stephany Alves Ferreira is attending BC so she can make the world a better place. Stephany plans on making her impact by becoming a doctor and is taking the first steps here at Bellevue College pursuing her Associate degree.

Being the first one in my family to leave Brazil to work toward completing a college education is significant to me and my family, and makes me want to work hard to accomplish these goals.

I am happy and proud that I took the steps to further my education at Bellevue College—this institution has allowed me not only to follow my dreams but to be part of a great community that focuses on student equity, inclusion, and diversity.”

I always felt that my purpose in life was to help others, I am fortunate that I get to learn more about other cultures and that I am capable of working towards a degree that will help me accomplish my goals. I am so grateful for the scholarship awarded to me through generous contributions to the Bellevue College Foundation—and its tremendous impact on my future.



Over **66%** of all Bellevue College students graduate from BC or transfer to another school

63% of students are in courses that will lead to a degree or certificate.

Over **90%** of all transfer students from BC go on to receive at least a Bachelor's degree.

Facts about our scholarship recipients last year...

- 113 of our recipient were BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and other people of color)
- 94 were Transfer students
- 62 were vocational-technical students
- There were 61 first-generation college students

THANK YOU

2019–20 ANNUAL DONORS

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our President's Circle donors. There are many organizations that need your support and we are honored that you have chosen to invest in Bellevue College and in making quality higher education accessible.

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* Deceased

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The BC Foundation is proud to partner with businesses in our community that believe in the power of providing quality, innovative, and flexible education to anyone who dreams of achieving it.

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*Every effort is made to ensure the
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incorrect, please accept our apologies
and call us at 425-564-2776 so that we
may correct it for future lists.*



THANK YOU



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The BC Foundation is proud to partner with 91.3 KBCS, public radio supported in part by BC, grants and generous donors. Broadcasting from the BC campus, KBCS produces and airs diverse programming that speaks directly to our community.

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Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If your listing is incorrect, please accept our apologies and call us at 425-564-6162 so that we may correct it for future lists.

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