

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Yakima Valley Community Foundation Supports College Success Foundation with \$150,000 Three-Year Grant for College Readiness and Career Exploration

YAKIMA, WASH., August 20, 2018—The Yakima Valley Community Foundation is investing \$150,000 in the College Success Foundation-Yakima’s college and career readiness programs, supports and scholarships. The three-year grant from Yakima Valley Community Foundation will support CSF-Yakima’s programs, college and career readiness activities, college campus visits and parent engagement strategies. It will also fund College Ready Packs (college care packages) for graduating seniors of the classes of 2019, 2020 and 2021.

College Success Foundation provides college preparatory programs to more than 550 students annually at three middle schools and two high schools in the Yakima School District, and this investment will positively impact thousands of students over the three-year grant cycle. CSF makes college accessible and affordable to underserved students—those from low-income families, foster youth, students of color and first-generation college students who are less likely to graduate from college without our support.

“The Yakima Valley Community Foundation is honored to be partners with College Success Foundation in Yakima,” said Yakima Valley Community Foundation Senior Program Officer Lindsay Boswell. “We share the belief that students in Yakima are talented, bright, determined, and capable of great things. CSF’s comprehensive set of programs for success in college is so important for the future leaders of Yakima; it’s an investment that will yield long-term returns.”

“The need for college preparation and career exploration, especially for first-generation college students, is immense,” said CSF Regional Executive Director Susan Joseph Nielsen. “More than 92 percent of our scholars in Yakima are the first in their family to go to college, and more than 89 percent identify as students of color. Our College Prep Advisors at A.C. Davis and Eisenhower High Schools help demystify and navigate the college application process for students and their families. College Prep Advisors provide proactive academic advising, college planning, financial aid and scholarship search assistance, FAFSA completion, college readiness support and high school-to-college transition support.”

CSF has been a partner with the Yakima School District since 2000 and does everything in their power to help students succeed.

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About Yakima Valley Community Foundation: *The Foundation’s mission is to connect people, resources and ideas so people and communities thrive. Their vision is as a community leader in education, civic vitality and health supporting equitable access to opportunity with*

special attention to those who are frequently left out and left behind. For more information about the Yakima Valley Community Foundation visit yakimavalleycf.org.

About College Success Foundation: *College Success Foundation provides a unique integrated system of supports and scholarships to inspire underserved, low-income students to finish high school, graduate from college and succeed in life. More than 9,500 CSF Scholars have graduated from college. CSF is a nonprofit headquartered in Bellevue, Washington that serves students in Washington state, Washington, D.C. and colleges in every state of the nation. For more information, visit collegesuccessfoundation.org.*