



## Letter from Terri Forman First Graduate Executive Director,

Dear Friends.

Organizations, like people, have phases and life cycles: infancy, toddler, youth, adolescence, young adult, maturity, and graceful senior. In FY2018-19, 18 years after our founding, First Graduate experienced some growing pains, not unlike many of the adolescents we work with.

As we transitioned into the new school year with fewer staff and a reduced budget, we focused on high impact outcomes for our students through high touch engagement, even though the touch points were less frequent. And, we put on hold some of our larger public facing events until we can add staff to manage them; we hope to bring these programs back in FY2020-21. As of June 1, after serving as Senior Director of Philanthropy and Marketing for eight years, I became Executive Director of First Graduate.

We have worked to strengthen our operations and have been brought into compliance with all city, state, and federal requirements for 501 c (3) organizations. We are fortunate to have pro bono legal counsel from Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe.

A few highlights from the year included launching a partnership with the University of San Francisco (USF) and SEO Scholars to host a 1st Generation College Summit at USF for more than 100 students and their parents. We also initiated a career exposure program for our middle students through a partnership with San Francisco's Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families. (Please see page 12 of this Annual Report for more highlights.) Additionally, we are thrilled to report we now have more than 100 alumni, who are working or in graduate school! We have recently added three new staff and three new board members—all first-generation college graduates and wonderful role models for our students!

We hope that, like our teens, we have come out of this phase stronger, re-committed to our mission, and with a growing board of directors, volunteers, donors, and staff eager to give our students the future they deserve.

We are grateful for your encouragement and support and look forward to continuing this exciting journey with you.

In community,

Terri Forman, MSOD, CFRE

**Executive Director** 

### First Graduate. 2018-19 Annual Report. www.firstgraduate.org

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99%

99%

90%

72%

of First Graduate seniors graduated from high school compared to 84% of all SFUSD seniors (between 2011 and 2017). of First Graduate students enroll into college immediately after graduating high school. Currently the national average is only 46%. of First Graduate students complete the required coursework to be eligible for California four-year public colleges. This is compared to the 60% of SFUSD students from the same category.

of First Graduate students enrolled in four-year colleges and universities graduate within six years, compared to the 11% national average success rate.

## **OUR APPROACH**

### **Academic Support**

Each student receives free academic advising and/or homework help each year through both school-year and summer academic sessions.

### **Family Engagement**

We offer parent workshops in multiple languages that focus on applications to high school, college, and financial aid. Additionally, we work with parents on how best to support their children while they are on their way to build their college profile.

### **Career Exploration**

Our students participate in career panels and events, resume writing and networking workshops, and mock interviews to gain exposure to career opportunities available to degree holders.

#### Mentoring

Students gain insight into college choices and professional careers from college educated volunteers. Younger First Graduate students connect with older students and benefit from peer mentoring.

### Coaching & Guidance

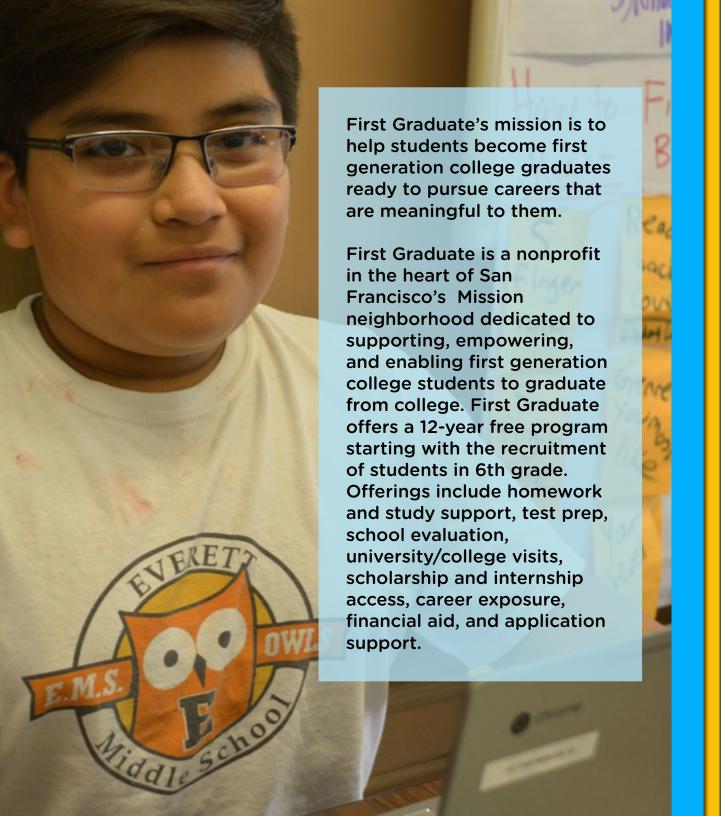
Our team tracks progress and works closely with students, families, mentors, teachers, and partner organizations to make sure that our students are successfully completing each step on the way to becoming college graduates.

### **College Support**

We communicate with students consistently to ensure they are persisting through college and connecting with resources on campus. We also help our college students find paid summer internships.

### **School Counseling**

We help students with the rigorous high school application process, private school applications, and support their successful transition into 9th grade. We also provide intensive college counseling, standardized test preparation, college application planning, financial aid workshops for students and parents, access to summer enrichment programs, college visits, and help researching and finding college scholarships.



## **FG Parent Story**



"I didn't think it was possible for my daughter go to college; it's so expensive. Over time, I saw the academic and the financial help she

received from First Graduate. When she came home with the news that she was accepted to college, we were afraid that we could not afford to send her. The scholarships she received mean that she can go to the college she wants to attend. That wouldn't have happened without First Graduate.

I am happy that she will be the first to graduate and become a nurse or a doctor; the scholarships will help her get through school. She is a motivator for my son who is 9 years old; he says if she becomes a nurse or a doctor, then he wants to be a lawyer. Lupe has inspired him.

I am grateful for all the help that Lupe has received—the scholarships and the tutoring... I recommend First Graduate to families who dream of sending their children to college!"

~ Maria Mother of Lupe, FG College Student



# PROGRAMS OVERVIEW | 512 FG STUDENTS

# Middle School | 113 Students

## High School | 168 Students

## College | 231 Students

Middle school students focus on applying to high schools, learning about different careers accessible with a college degree, and thinking about what it means to be a college-bound student.

Throughout the year, students explore potential careers that they will be able to obtain with a college degree.

We coach our high school students to ensure their completion of college preparatory coursework to achieve CSU and UC eligibility. We also provide standardized test preparation, college application preparation, financial aid workshops and support, and access to summer enrichment opportunities and internships.

We engage our college students in three key ways to ensure their college + career success: academic advising, accessing campus resources and career coaching.

We support our students to persist in college year after year, help them find summer internships, and support their general well-being while adjusting to the college environment.

# FG13 STATISTICS | 30 STUDENTS

(High school graduating class of 2019)

100%

83%

of FG13 students matriculated to college or had postsecondary plans for the fall of 2019 of seniors were accepted into at least one four-year college/university

61%

\$42,174

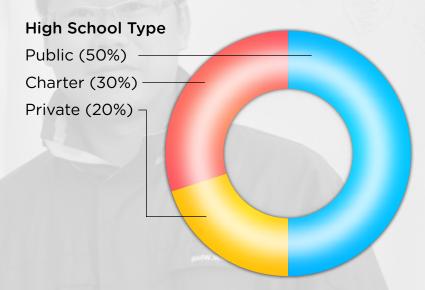
of FG13 students held a GPA of 3.0\* or higher cumulative, unweighted Average annual income for a family of four

20

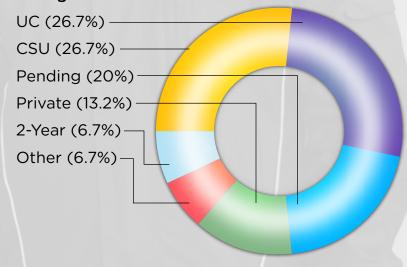
13-28

was the average FG13
ACT score

was the FG13 ACT score range







## HIGH SCHOOLS ATTENDING

Balboa High School
Bay Area Technology School
Burton High School
City Arts & Tech High School
Deer Valley High School
Galileo High School
Gateway High School
Immaculate Conception
Academy
International High School
John O'Connell High School
June Jordan High School
KIPP San Francisco College Preparatory
Leadership High School

Lick-Wilmerding High School
Lincoln High School
Lowell High School
Mercy High School
Mission High School
Riordan High School
Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep
Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of
The Arts
Summit Shasta High School
The Academy of Arts & Sciences
Urban High School
Wallenberg High School
Washington High School

## **COLLEGES ATTENDING**

Air Force Academy **Baylor University Berkeley City College** California State University, Cal Poly Pomona California State University, Cal Poly SLO California State University, Chico California State University, East Bay California State University, Long Beach California State University, Northridge California State University, Sacramento California State University, San Franscisco California State University, San Jose California State University, Sonoma California State University, Stanislaus Carnegie Mellon University **Chabot Community College** City College of San Francisco City College of San Francsisco - ARMY City College of San Mateo Clark University **Denison University George Washington University Georgetown University** 

Johns Hopkins University Kalamazoo College Los Medanos Community College Mills College **New York University** Ohio Wesleyan Simmons College Skyline Community College **Smith College** Sonoma State University **United States Naval Academy** University of California at Berkeley University of California at Davis University of California at Irvine University of California at Los Angeles University of California at Merced University of California at Riverside University of California at San Diego University of California at Santa Barbara University of California at Santa Cruz University of Portland University of San Francisco University of the Pacific Whittier College

### Regina's Story



"Hello, my name is Regina. I'm in the eighth grade at Everett Middle School, and I'm 13 years old. I joined First Graduate in sixth grade

because I wanted to be the first in my family to graduate from college. I also want somebody to help me, and guide me from middle school all the way through college, because it will be hard. And I want support and encouragement to say, "You can do this."

"First Graduate has helped me find summer programs, with school work, even with things at home. I would tell younger students to join because you'll have new experiences, open new ways of learning, and your life will be easier. I'll be going to high school at Immaculate Conception Academy in the fall. It's a new chapter to my story and I'll be more focused on my academics. My advice is that no matter what it takes to go for your dreams. But don't get too ahead of yourself and remember where you are right now. Thank you."

~ Regina, 9<sup>th</sup> Grader Speach from Cap & Gown 2019

## FG VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Over 100+ dedicated volunteers come together each year to support First Graduate students on their path to college. Working side by side with First Graduate staff, our volunteers support our students the moment they become part of the First Graduate family. A First Graduate volunteer wears many hats; however, all are working towards the same goal-helping FG students become first generation college graduates. What connects them is their passion for a more equitable learning environment for San Francisco students.

# 2018-19 FG VOLUNTEER SNAPSHOT

412.5

190

\$7,883

TOTAL voluteer hours logged

volunteers supporting

TOTAL value of volunteer hours logged

69%

58

\$36,915

of FG volunteers participated in more than one event

FG students were supported by FG volunteers

donations made by FG volunteers in the last 6 months

## 2018-19 FG VOLUNTEER AWARDS



FG Volunteer of the Year: Dan Hardy

FG Volunteer Organization of the Year:



## Vicky's Story



"As a first generation college graduate, I realize the value of having a strong and knowledgeable support system. Having the right resources to help you navigate the college application process

and transition from high school to college can make a huge difference in your individual success. I experienced this firsthand having gone through the program myself. First Graduate is near and dear to my heart, and I want to play my part in giving back to this community by helping other first-generation students succeed...

...Don't hesitate to reach out to people who have helped you in the past, even if some time has passed since you last spoke with them. Whether it is me, FG advisors or volunteers, or previous teachers you had good relationships with, your community wants you to succeed and will help if you ask...

... This year is my third year in the Coach 3.0 program and I have continued as a coach because it is extremely rewarding to see a student's growth in their first year of college. From the time of our first meeting before college begins to the time my student take their last final of the first year, I get to share in my student's successes and concerns, see how their goals change, and learn about their passion. The highlight of my experience is when we get a chance to reflect at the end of the semester/quarter, and year so that my student can also see how much they've changed and grown."

~ Vicky Rosen FG Volunteer

### **Board of Directors**

Founder

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Danesha Mead *McKinsey & Company* 

**Board Vice President** 

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Tucker Serenbetz *KPMG* 

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Stefan Zorn *Deloitte* 

Founding Board Member Anaflor Graham

**Executive Director**Terri Forman

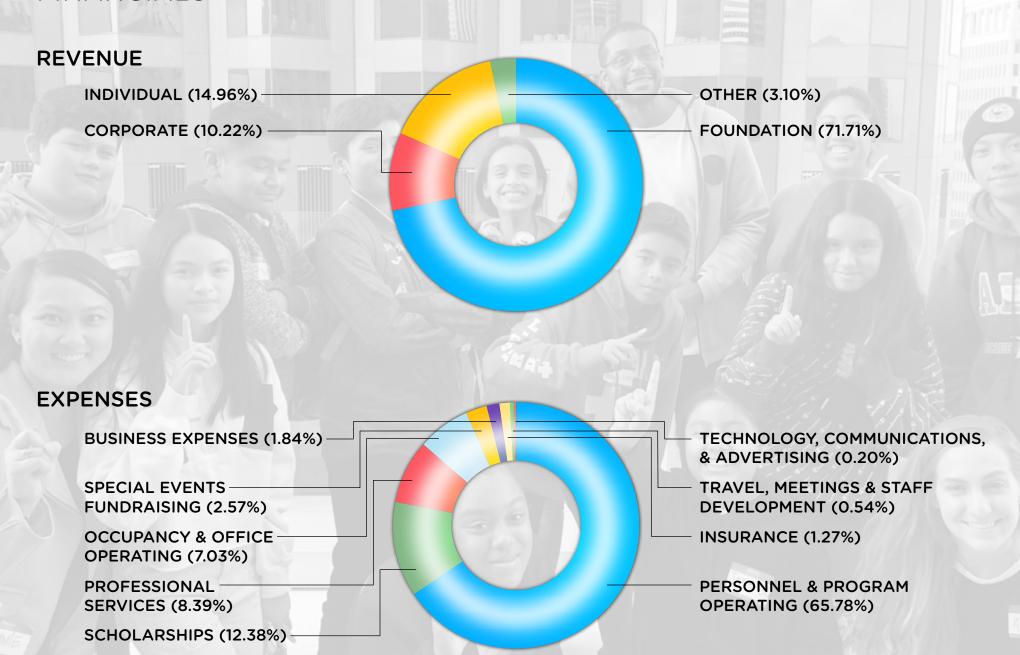
### **Board Member Profile**

Marvell C. Allen is Owner and Principal, of Millennium Career Advantage, LLC, a professional leadership development and coaching practice, started in 2010. Current and past clients have included Twitter, LinkedIn, Contra Costa County, The Bureau of Indian Affairs (U.S. Department of the Interior), Marin County, UC Davis, Marriott International, City of Mountain View, Kaiser Permanente, SanDisk, Watermark, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, and Genentech, to name a few.

Marvell is an expert at delivering executive, management, and staff development programs that support organizational objectives. Moreover, she has a solid track record as a training leader for dynamic organizations to resolve complex business issues. Marvell is known as a key strategic partner for senior executives and cross-functional teams to help achieve business imperatives.

"First Graduate is one of those organizations that gets into your heart and into your soul; and you decide, I want to be part of the success of these young people as they start off on their life."

# **FINANCIALS**



## **FG 2018-19 DONORS**

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Woodward Family Foundation

Workday Foundation Meredith Wright Jack Yusko

Yusko Family Foundation Maxine & Jack Zarrow Familly

Foundatoin Mimi Zhang Zog Sports

## FG 2018-19 HIGHLIGHTS

In partnership with the University of San Francisco and SEO Scholars, First Graduate hosted a 1st Generation College Summit at USF. More than 100 students and their parents visited the campus (for many, the first time on a college campus) and participated in a series of workshops.

Four college students lead a workshop at the Global Minded conference in Denver designed to "close the equity gap through education, entrepreneurship, employment and economic mobility to create a capable, diverse talent pipeline."

We launched a partnership with San Francisco's Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families focused on career exposure for middle school students. Some of the activities included: College Day, Career Day; a 1st generation speaker series; resume writing; mock interviews; and creating their own First Graduate roadmap. So far we have had nine college and career events.

We hosted the only All Access Admissions Fair in San Francisco for first generation college students. 150 students and their parents participated (including middle school students from partner organizations). Representatives from 23 colleges participated and three workshops helped students and parents learn more about the college application process, finding scholarships, and finding the right college fit.

For the first time, we counted and measured services provided to students not in the cohort; for example, we included college information in packets for all 6th graders at the two middle schools in which we are embedded; we included students and parents from community partners in our All Access Admissions Fair as we did for Exploring the Possibilities (workshop introducing students to different career professionals) which was open to our partner organizations and students from Leadership High School.

We also provided career coaching to Immigrants Rising Fellows.

## **OUR HISTORY**

Philanthropist Ann-Eve Hazen founded First Graduate (formerly b.a.y. fund) in November 2001. Her vision was to seed the creation of a San Francisco-based nonprofit organization dedicated to improving college access for low-income youth. She was soon joined by founding board member Anaflor Graham. Programming began in 2002 with 24 8th graders recruited from two middle schools. Our work is based on the premise that helping the first child of a family to graduate from college will result in exponential benefits for the family as a whole — both economically and by spawning a college-going tradition.

The challenge was great, but clear — to provide guidance for aspiring first-generation college graduates that would replicate the advantages enjoyed by students with college educated parents. In 2019, we enrolled our 19th class of rising seventh graders ready to begin the 12-year journey on the path to college graduation. Today, First Graduate coaches almost 500 students who are striving to attain a college degree.

### **FG Staff**

**Executive Director**Terri Forman

Marcel Glover
Karina Gutierrez
Katlin Kane
Nelly Olivo-Luna
Aileen Pagdanganan
Ann Schnuer
Mubeenah Shaikh
Mark White Jr.
Dave Yap

#### **FG Vision**

Our vision is to establish a college-going tradition for every family in San Francisco.

#### **FG Values**

Our values drive our work, inform our organizational culture, and hold us accountable to our mission and the communities we serve:

- ~ Student-Centered Approach
- ~ Long-View Perspective
- ~ Shared Ownership
- ~ Meaningful Relationships
- ~ Mindful Flexibility

