

BRIGHT FUTURES IMPACT REPORT

2022



Dear Neighbor,

The Bright Futures program benefits students, families, and businesses across Weld County, and last year was another impactful year. In 2022, Bright Futures distributed over \$1.8 million for Weld County students' tuition.

Bright Futures helps Weld County high school graduates, GED recipients, and honorably discharged veterans attend post-secondary schooling/training toward a degree or trade certification. **School/training may not be a possibility for many of these students without the tuition assistance from Bright Futures.**

Thanks to you, our generous donors, we are helping to build a more educated Weld County workforce. Your gifts truly make a difference and we greatly appreciate your support!



Roy Otto
Director of Community Impact



Lisa Taylor
Senior Program Officer

Bright Futures Staff

Jeff Carlson, Chief Executive Officer
Toni Burger, Program Administrator
Jennifer Jenkins, Exec. Administrative Asst.
Randie Lieser, Business Analyst
Kristen Mullen, College and Career Advisor
Ramon Serrano, Chief Financial Officer

Mike Bond, Chief Operating Officer
Doug Elliott, Director of Education Grants
Michelle Jensen, Sr. Program Administrator
Rhonda Morehead, Dir. of Communications
Roy Otto, Director of Community Impact
Lisa Taylor, Senior Program Officer

Bright Futures Advisory Committee

Jeff Carlson, Chief Executive Officer
Mike Bond, Chief Operating Officer
Scott James, Weld County Commissioner
Rich Werner, Member-at-Large

Weston Kurz, Committee Chair
Perry Buck, Weld County Commissioner
Chris Peterson, Member-at-Large

WHAT IS BRIGHT FUTURES?

Bright Futures was created by the Weld County Commissioners in 2015 to build a stronger workforce for Weld County. Since its inception, it has provided over 5,300 students with more than \$18.9 million in tuition costs.

Students are eligible for tuition assistance from Bright Futures toward any Title IV* school or certified training program in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma.



Students may receive up to \$2,000 per year for 4 years!



“Bright Futures has immensely helped my college experience. Going to a community college is already more appealing in the financial aspect, but Bright Futures has taken that burden off my shoulders as it aids with money toward each semester. The great thing about this scholarship is that you can apply every year by completing simple requirements such as community service. Bright Futures teaches young leaders amazing life skills and it’s incredibly rewarding. To anyone that is eligible for this opportunity, I advise that you jump on board and take advantage of this resource.”

- Kyah Grant, Aims Community College student

* Title IV schools are public, private nonprofit, and private for-profit schools that receive federal student aid.

PROPERTY TAX CREDIT

A donation to Bright Futures directly benefits you as a property owner in Weld County!

Bright Futures donors receive credit up to 50% of the donation on their Weld County property taxes.

 Your Bright Futures gift	\$500	\$750	\$1000
Weld County Property Tax Credit	\$250	\$375	\$470
Federal Charitable income tax deduction	\$160	\$240	\$320
Colorado Charitable income tax deduction	\$23	\$35	\$46
Out of pocket Cost	\$67	\$100	\$163

Weld County Property Credit calculation based on:	
Property Actual Value:	450,000
Estimated Assessed value:	31,275
Weld County Mill Levy:	15.038
Estimated Weld County Property Tax	\$470
Federal income rate:	32%
Colorado income rate:	4.63%
This is an example and not intended to be tax advice. Always consult with your tax advisor.	



FROM DONOR, JOHN DOLLARHIDE:



“My wife, Marie, and I donate to Bright Futures because we know that earning a degree or certification is directly tied to better career opportunities for an individual. Helping these students with higher education costs is imperative toward building a better community.

I also appreciate the property tax credit with my donations to Bright Futures. To get a reduction in my property taxes with my donation really is a worthwhile investment which benefits both us and Weld County.”

- John Dollarhide, CPA

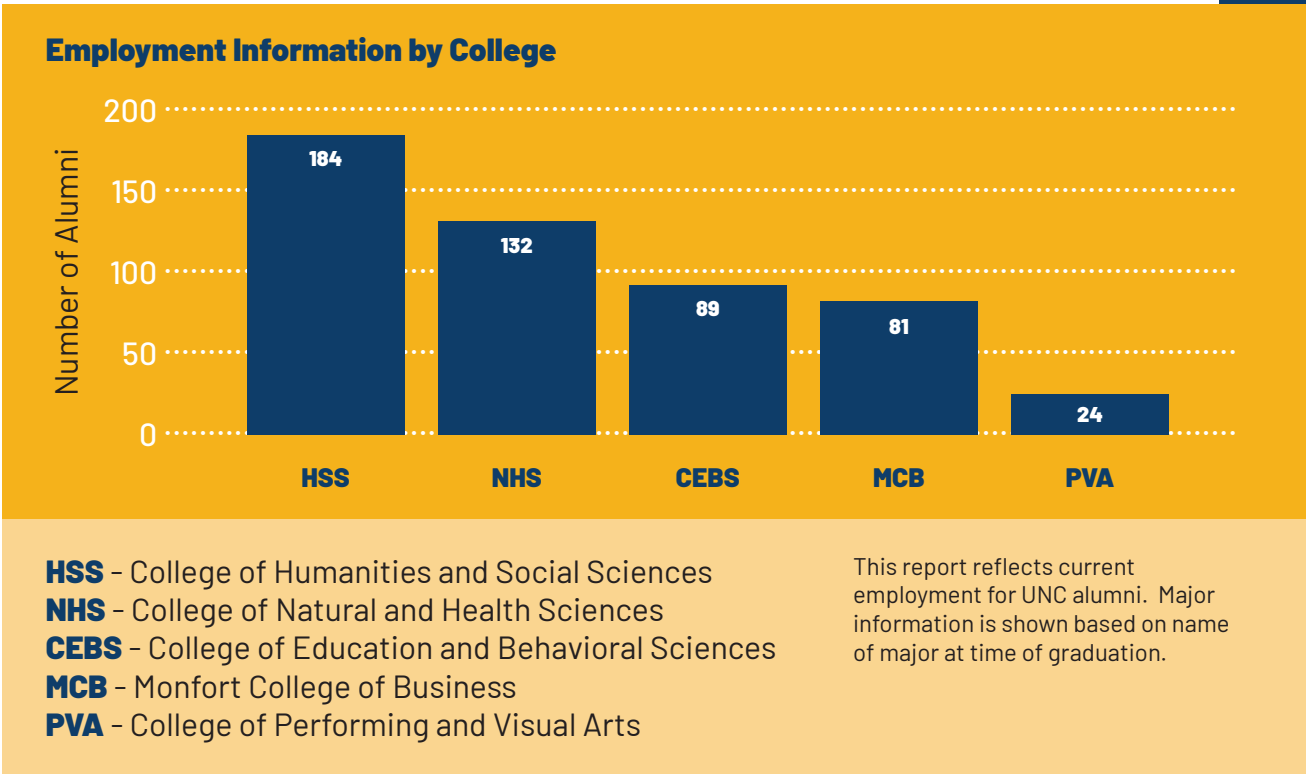
In 2022, Bright Futures raised \$458,197!
Thank you for your generosity!

# of Donors Over \$10,000:	5
# of Donors \$4,001 - \$10,000:	9
# of Donors \$2,001 - \$4,000	23
# of Donors \$1,501- \$2,000:	16
# of Donors \$1,001 - \$1,500:	49
# of Donors \$501 - \$1,000:	139
# of Donors \$1 - \$500:	105

WHAT ARE BRIGHT FUTURES STUDENTS DOING NOW?

Bright Futures scholars who earned their degree at University of Northern Colorado pursued a variety of disciplines.

What was their area of study?



Some careers of these graduates:

Artists and Designers	Facilities and Maintenance	Physicians and Surgeons
Audiologists	Food Preparation and Services	Protective Services
Business and Financial	Fundraisers	Real Estate
Computer and Math	Government and Legislators	Sales and Related Occupations
Construction	Healthcare Practitioners	Self Employed
Counselors and Therapists	Legal	Social Workers
Dieticians and Therapists	Marketing and Public Relations	Speech-Language Pathologists
Education Administrators	Nursing	Top Executives
Education Teachers	Office and Administrative Support	Transportation

Source: UNC, Department of University Advancement, Dated 9/9/2022



“My name is Rogelio Garcia Perez, and I was raised in Greeley, attended District Six Schools, and I now serve my community as a Program Coordinator and Success Coach here at UNC. What the Bright Futures grant means to me is an opportunity to provide financial support to underserved student populations. If I did not have the financial access this grant provided for me, I would have struggled to complete my undergraduate degree.”

**- Rogelio Garcia Perez,
UNC Program Coordinator**

HOW IS BRIGHT FUTURES IMPACTING WELD COUNTY?

1. Creating a more educated workforce one student at a time

- Bright Futures students receive up to \$2,000 per year toward their tuition costs.
- In the 6 ½ years since the inception of the program, Bright Futures has helped 5,331 students with tuition assistance toward their degree or certification.

2. Bringing additional dollars to Weld County

- Bright Futures was awarded two state grants from Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative “COSI” to help reduce barriers of post-secondary education.
- COSI Matching Grant – over \$1 million for the past four academic years. Bright Futures leveraged this state funding to partner with other donors for additional tuition assistance for COSI qualifying students.
- Pre-collegiate Grant – \$230,000 over the past four academic years. Bright Futures launched two College and Career Centers in Fort Lupton and Valley High Schools.

- Hosted FAFSA/CASFA workshops for high school counselors to help students/families, as well as workshops directly with families to assist them.
- Hosted a career fair with over 40 businesses and in excess of 600 students in attendance.
- Increased by 63% the number of students receiving Bright Futures tuition assistance from Fort Lupton and Valley High Schools with the majority of those students displaying exceptional financial need.
- Provided career exploration resources to high school students.

3. Ensuring students give back to Weld County

- Bright Futures students were each required to complete 16 community service hours in Weld County.
- Over 23,000 hours went toward helping the Weld County community last year!
- Since Bright Futures started, students have completed nearly 150,000 community service hours!



IMPACT REPORT 2022