



STEPS TO SUCCESS

**2020
IMPACT
REPORT**

**WHEN OUR
STUDENTS
SUCCEED, OUR
COMMUNITY
THRIVES.
TOGETHER.**

The year called for resilience.

What a year it has been. How we learn, work, and lead our lives are drastically different right now. **But one thing remains the same: Steps to Success' fierce commitment to our students and educational equity in Brookline.**

We have encountered unforeseen challenges these last several months. **From the shift to remote learning that affected all 300 of our Steps students, to the racial inequity that impacts our students of color daily,** our resolve was tested more than ever. None of that could keep us down, though. Our Steps family of supporters powered us forward.



JEFF PIERRE

Lawrence School, 2005

Brookline High School,
2009

UMass Boston, 2014

Simmons University
(MSW), 2020

In that spirit of resiliency, we are honored to feature Jeff Pierre, a fixture at the core of Steps' work since he was in the 4th grade. **Now 29 years old, his story is one of resilience and illustrates the positive impact Steps has on our students as we walk with them on their journeys.**

As Jeff and others can tell you, **we have continued to meet our mission over the past several months.** The new challenges before us have proved no match for the commitment and passion of our community.

You saw us through.

We do very important work right here in Brookline, and for it to continue, we need you. **By donating to Steps, you will help us build on our successes this year, as you have for the last 19 years.** Please keep reading to learn more about Jeff, our year at Steps, and how you can help today.

With deep gratitude for all that you do,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shoma Haque'.

Shoma Haque, Executive Director

“ STEPS GUIDED ME, CLARIFIED MY CAREER INTERESTS,
AND INSPIRED ME TO BECOME A SOCIAL WORKER.

JEFF PIERRE

19 years later, Steps remains an important part of Jeff's life.

Joining Steps in 2001, Jeff has benefitted from several of our programs along his journey...



Participated in After Hours University (AHU), Summer Connections, Work Connections, and the College Success Initiative (CSI).



Interned at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and the Children's English Learning Institute.



Maximized his CSI experience, receiving individual attention and personalized support from advisors during the application and financial aid processes.



Returned to Steps as an AHU Director.



Frequently attends Steps functions to this day, as a friendly face and proud volunteer.

Let's follow Jeff's example by giving back.

By giving to Steps, you do more than simply give money; you empower us to sustain our impact in Brookline by providing the individualized support and resources that allow our students to write their own success stories, just like Jeff has done.



As Jeff's story illustrates, Steps is there for our students.

At Steps, we promote equity for **over 300 students** from low-income families in Brookline by expanding their horizons, building upon their skills, and **supporting their educational journeys** in order to maximize their life choices.

We help Brookline students living in public housing **thrive academically** in grade school, matriculate in college, and earn a college degree. Since 2001, Steps has served **over 4,000 students** through out-of-school time programs such as afterschool, vacation programs and camp access, career readiness through paid internships and workshops, and college success through advising, mentoring, and financial aid access.

Even if we cannot support our students' journeys in person, we are still doing so virtually, as well as making sure they have the tools and resources they need to meet new challenges.

To support Steps is to:

Invest in our Steps students, from 4th grade through college graduation

Unlock life-changing opportunities

Promote educational equity in Brookline

Strengthen our family of supporters

In 2020, Steps students continue to achieve.

96%

of students stayed in regular contact with their Steps advisor since school closure in March.

156

students were engaged through enriching virtual summer programming.

7

more of our College Success Initiative students redefined the word "perseverance" by graduating college this past spring.

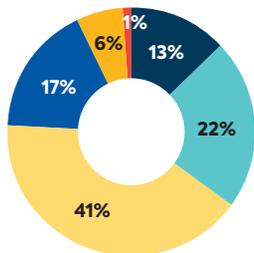
95%

of our students are on track to graduate college in 4-6 years—over eight times the national average for low-income students.

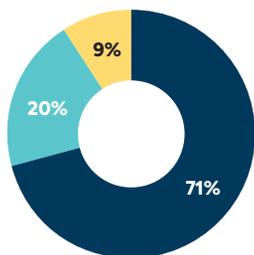


Success in Fiscal Year 2020— thanks to you!

FY20 Revenues



■ Individual Contributions	\$104,429
■ Government	\$180,693
■ Foundations & Corporate	\$339,565
■ Event Income	\$140,832
■ In-Kind Income	\$50,000
■ Misc. & Investment Income	\$8,467
	<hr/>
	\$823,986



FY20 Expenses

■ Programs	\$575,788
■ General Administration	\$165,228
■ Fundraising	\$68,904
	<hr/>
	\$809,920

Your gifts turn dreams into realities.

Some examples of what your gifts do for Steps students:

\$2,500 buys an entire year's worth of **enrichment supplies** for our afterschool programs

\$1,000 supports stipends for **2 middle schoolers** in our Career Connections program

\$500 covers the cost of **college visits** for high school students

\$250 sends a child to **summer camp for free**

\$100 supports the cost of **a mentor for a college student**

Thank you to our foundation supporters!

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DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Alicia Hsu & Phil Chernin

As our donors will tell you, giving to Steps is a gratifying experience, one that empowers you to generate real change in your community. Just ask Alicia and Phil.

This Brookline couple proudly supports Steps every month, and we are especially grateful because this sustained generosity represents a reliable source of support all year long.



“IT IS AN HONOR FOR US TO SUPPORT STEPS. WE’VE SEEN HOW THE PROGRAM HAS ENRICHED LIVES—OUR OWN KIDS HAVE DEVELOPED LONG-LASTING FRIENDSHIPS WITH STEPS GRADS.

ALICIA HSU & PHIL CHERNIN

Especially now, our staff are still walking hand-in-hand with our students. Now it’s your turn.

Your contribution to Steps shows our students that you are with them and helps us achieve educational equity in Brookline, together. When times get tough, we do not give up. **We step up.** It’s critical for you to take your commitment to Steps to the next level. An investment in today’s Steps students will pay off for years to come in Brookline and beyond. Making a donation to Steps is a powerful step toward that end.



GIVE ONLINE

stepstosuccessbrookline.org/donate



SEND A CHECK

PO Box 470421
Brookline, MA 02447



RECOMMEND A DAF GRANT

Steps to Success, Inc.
Federal ID #47-1641692

Shoma Haque, Executive Director
PO Box 470421, Brookline, MA 02447
sts@stepstosuccessbrookline.org
stepstosuccessbrookline.org
617-713-5310 | [f](#) [i](#) [in](#)



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