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# ANNUAL REPORT

2018 - 2019

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## LETTER FROM BOARD CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

It is an honor and privilege to serve our community through the Bright Minds Foundation. It is through the dedication and commitment of our partners, board, volunteers, and community, that we are able to report new energy and progress this year. We hired a new Executive Director to run daily operations, launched a new website and marketing effort, added two new fundraising events, and invested nearly \$200,000 in HCPSS through our work. We thank those of you who supported us!

One of our goals is to see that every household in Howard County knows about Bright Minds. We are an organization of parents and community members working closely with the school system to help level the playing field and ensure all students have a chance to succeed.

We encourage you to visit us at [brightmindsfoundation.org](http://brightmindsfoundation.org) or follow us on Twitter or Facebook, to stay updated on how we are serving our schools and how you can be a part of the success. Your support for Bright Minds is an investment in the future of our children, schools, and community.

Sincerely,

*Clarissa B. Evans*

Clarissa B. Evans  
Board Chair

*Liz Crammond*

Liz Crammond  
Executive Director

# BRIGHT MINDS FOUNDATION IS THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OF THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

WE HELP LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD SO ALL STUDENTS HAVE A CHANCE TO SUCCEED.



## VISION

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Each child attending Howard County public schools has access to the education, aspirations, and opportunities needed to succeed at school and in life.

## MISSION

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Bright Minds enhances the educational experiences of all Howard County public school students by bringing together private and community support for academic initiatives and opportunities.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

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- Deliver community-supported programs that address important HCPSS student, teacher, and staff needs and align with Bright Minds mission and vision.
- Increase awareness of and support for Bright Minds work by enhancing community, private, and HCPSS partnerships.
- Develop the organizational resources needed to achieve Bright Minds mission.

## PROGRAM PRIORITIES

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Equity & Access ■ Education Innovation ■ Skills for Life

# IMPACT

## THIS YEAR

**\$10,577**

Granted to HCPSS  
staff & teachers

**124**

Computers gifted to  
students

**2,049**

Books given to Howard  
County preschoolers

**6**

Post-secondary  
scholarships given

**\$ 10,000**

Applied to outstanding  
student lunch debt

**40**

JumpStart students  
supported

## CUMULATIVE IMPACT

**\$ 1,663,587**

Raised for Howard  
County schools

**1,500**

Technology gifted to  
students over 12 years

**\$ 145,000**

Granted to HCPSS  
staff & teachers

# OUR WORK

Bright Minds programs, grants, and scholarships expand educational resources and opportunities for HCPSS students.

## COMPUTERS FOR STUDENTS

Bright Minds is working with HCPSS to bridge the digital divide for students who lack access to technology at home. We work with schools to identify students in need, and then provide them with technology, training, and resources for low cost internet. Students and staff report that the technology has been critical for school success and college preparation. With generous support from the Kahlert Foundation, Bright Minds has expanded the program this year to reach 124 students from high schools across the county.

"SINCE HAVING THE NEW TECHNOLOGY IN THEIR HANDS, OUR STUDENTS HAVE SHOWN TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS. OUR CLASS IS NOW ABLE TO USE COMPUTERS WITH LITTLE PRE-INSTRUCTION AND DIVE STRAIGHT INTO OUR ACTIVITY. EVEN AS TEACHERS, WE HAVE FELT ENCOURAGED TO DO MORE ACTIVITIES ON THE COMPUTER--OPENING ALL SORTS OF ACADEMIC DOORS!"

Mr. Greg Murach, Mt. Hebron High School Math Teacher & 2019 HCPSS nominee for Maryland State Teacher of the Year

## EMERGENCY LUNCH FUND

Responding to the economic challenges faced by Howard County families and exacerbated by the prolonged federal government shutdown, Bright Minds launched an initiative which raised nearly \$10,000 to reduce the growing deficit of outstanding school lunch balances.



# STAFF & TEACHER GRANTS

For over 12 years, Bright Minds has awarded competitive annual grants to HCPSS teachers and staff to support innovative instructional projects that build 21st century skills in areas such as health, business, fine arts, STEM, technology, and the humanities. Selected projects support Bright Minds' priorities of equity and access, education innovation, and building skills for a lifetime.



FY19 Staff and Teacher Grants			
Awardee(s)	School	Grant Amount	Project Name
Ken Brown	Applications and Research Lab	\$ 1,500.00	EMT Academy - Into the Future
Alyson Donoghue	Applications and Research Lab	\$ 1,579.00	Isolation and Analysis of Chesapeake Thraustochytrids
Charles Lidard	Atholton High School	\$ 627.00	Mr. Bucket's By-Pass Surgery
David Floyd and Elissa Hozore	Bellows Spring Elementary School	\$ 1,476.00	Bee-Gin Computer Science with Bee-Bots
Beth Ivey	Bellows Spring Elementary School	\$ 600.00	Buddy Bench
Raymond Gerstner	Glenelg High School	\$ 600.00	Glenelg First Robotics Team
Joshua Mize	Glenelg High School	\$ 1,842.00	Coding a Pathway to STEM Experiences
Anne Reis	Homewood Center	\$ 450.00	Truth and Racial Healing Book Club
Jon Hollander	Howard High School	\$ 780.00	Rho Kappa Oral History Project
Sarah McGuire	Laurel Woods Elementary School	\$ 1,123.00	We Can Code Project

# READ WITH ME

Bright Minds' newest program provides one book a month to children from birth to age five to help ensure all children in Howard County enter school ready to succeed. This year, with financial support provided by Howard County Government, we piloted the program, which is an affiliate of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, in six community school areas. More than 400 preschoolers participated in the pilot and a total of 2,049 books were mailed to homes.



# STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

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Bright Minds provides self-funded scholarships and administers third-party named and funded scholarships to students. Scholarships support students attending post-secondary institutions and HCPSS programs that charge tuition, such as summer school. These scholarships help students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend post-secondary institutions or participate in programs.

**THE SYDNEY L COUSIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IS ONE SCHOLARSHIP BRIGHT MINDS OVERSEES. THE SCHOLARSHIP WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2018 TO HONOR THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HCPSS FROM 2004-2012. THE STUDENT SELECTED FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP IS AN HCPSS GRADUATE WHO HAS DEMONSTRATED A COMMITMENT TO BECOMING A FUTURE EDUCATOR.**

# STUDENT SUPPORT FOR JUMPTSTART

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Bright Minds helps students develop skills, earn college credits, and explore career options by covering the costs of books and fees for income-eligible students participating in JumpStart, the dual-enrollment partnership between HCPSS and Howard Community College. This new Bright Minds program ensures all students have the chance to take advantage of the JumpStart program.

**JUMPTSTART GIVES STUDENTS A VALUABLE HEAD START IN EARNING A COLLEGE DEGREE OR PREPARING FOR A CAREER AT A GREATLY REDUCED COST. STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN JUMPTSTART HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EARN ENOUGH COLLEGE CREDITS TO COMPLETE ONE OR TWO YEARS OF COLLEGE BY THE TIME THEY GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL.**



# PARTNERSHIP & SUSTAINABILITY

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## STATE OF OUR SCHOOLS

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Bright Minds partnered with HCPSS to host the State of Howard County Public Schools event in September 2018. Superintendent Michael J. Martirano presented an overview of school system, progress and challenges, and shared his priorities for the year. Bright Minds Teacher Grant recipients shared the student impact of their initiative during the 2017-2018 school year. The event raised over \$7,000 for Bright Minds.

## BRIGHT MINDS CLASSIC

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The Bright Minds Foundation Golf Classic was held in October 2018 at Waverly Woods Golf Course. The Classic, which supports the work of Bright Minds, hosted 72 golfers and raised more than \$25,000 for the organization.

## STRUTTING WITH THE STAFF

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Bright Minds hosted the Strutting with the Staff dance contest in March 2019 at the Jim Rouse Theater. The Awesome 80s themed event brought together HCPSS teachers, staff, students, and community members for a fun-spirited competition. HCPSS Superintendent and Executive Leadership Team also performed at the event. Trophies were awarded based on scores from judges, audience votes, and money raised for Bright Minds.

## NIGHT OF HONOR

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Bright Minds partnered with HCPSS to honor outstanding alumni and staff at the Night of Honor event held in May 2019 at Long Reach High School. The event recognized three outstanding alumni, 19 inaugural recipients of the HCPSS Work Hard Be Kind Award. The award, created by Dr. Martirano honors HCPSS employees who go above and beyond to embody kindness while consistently doing their best work. We also celebrated the Principal of the Year and Teachers of the Year.



# SPONSORS

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We thank all of our donors and the following sponsors that support Bright Minds.

Adfinitas Health  
Alex Bounan of the Anthony Corrao Team of Long & Foster  
Bridgeway System Solutions  
Chesapeake Corporate Advisors  
Cigna  
Clearview Group  
Comcast  
Community Foundation of Howard County  
Eggspectations  
Enterprise Community Partners  
Far Corner, Inc.  
Harkins Builders  
Howard Community College  
Howard County General Hospital  
Howard County Government  
Iwanczuk and Associates  
Kahlert Foundation  
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Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City  
Kramon & Graham  
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Lincoln Tech  
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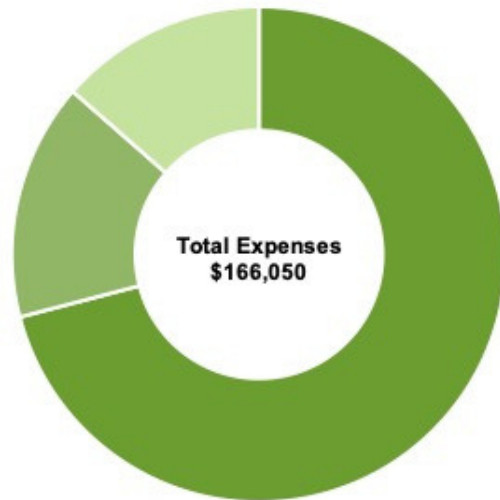
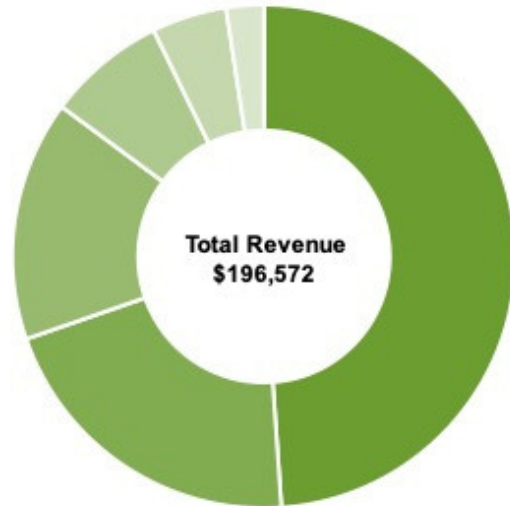
# FINANCIALS

## 2018-2019 Revenue

Grants	\$	96,117
Events	\$	40,868
Individuals	\$	30,383
HCPSS	\$	15,000
Corporate	\$	9,449
Community Groups	\$	4,755
Total	\$	196,572

## 2018-2019 Expenses

Programs	\$	117,794
Fundraising	\$	25,720
Administrative	\$	22,536
Total	\$	166,050



# OUR TEAM

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## Staff

Liz Crammond, Executive Director

Mary Peitz, Project Manager



## Officers

Chair: Dr. Clarissa B. Evans, Retired, HCPSS Executive Director

Vice Chair: Suzi Padgett, VP & Branch Manager, Long & Foster Columbia

Secretary: Julie Myers, Kinetics Dance Theatre, President Board of Directors

Treasurer: Michael Iwanczuk, CPA, Iwanczuk and Associates, P.C.

Ex Officio: Dr. Michael Martirano, Superintendent, HCPSS, delegated to Jahantab Siddiqui,  
Chief Communication, Community/Workforce Engagement Officer, HCPSS

Past President: Lisa Olivieri, VP and General Counsel, MileOne Automotive

## Directors

Leslie Barnett, Director, Community Services  
Division, Columbia Association

Lance Cook, Owner, Tino's Italian Bistro

Bradley Myers, VP, M & T Bank

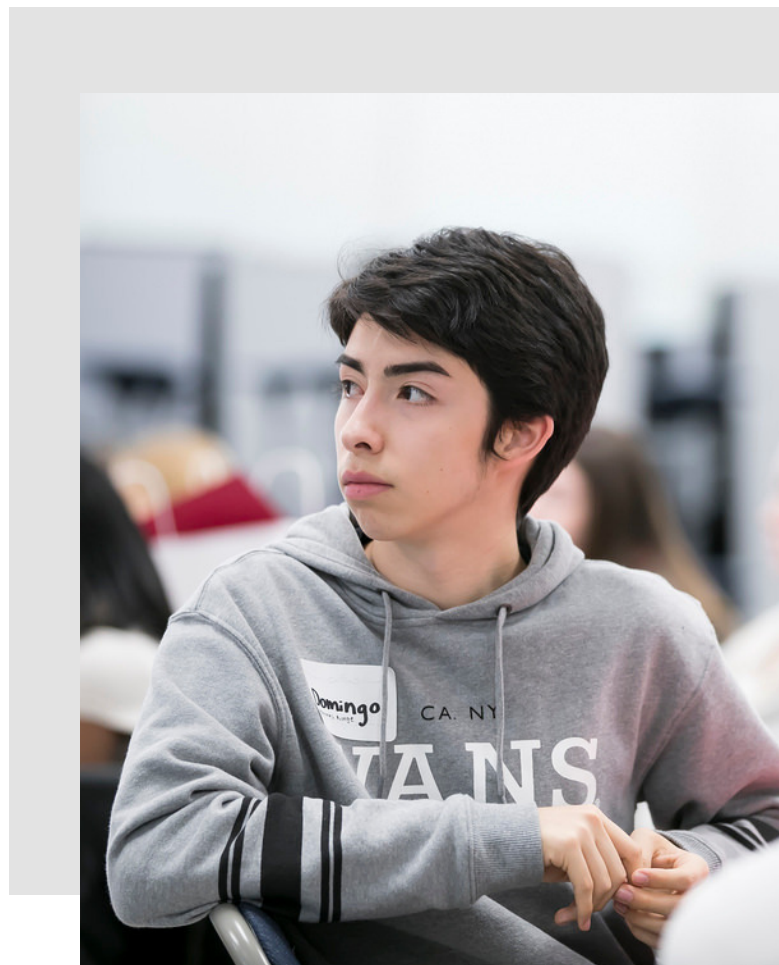
Dr. Bevin Philip, VP and General Manager, 2U Inc

Dr. Vikram Shah, Medical Director, Cigna

Lisa B. Terry, Manager, Howard County Office of  
Veterans and Military Families and Administrator,  
Howard County Commission for Veterans and  
Military Families

Jennifer Van Kirk, Marketing Consultant, Former  
Director of Corporate Partnerships, International  
Youth Foundation

Kim Young, Food Engagement Consultant, Founder,  
Flavor Uma





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