

BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE IMPACT REPORT 2022-23



*Transformative
Moments at BCC*



From left to right: State Senator Paul Mark, President Ellen Kennedy, Edson Chipalo '15, Kaitlyn Barry '23, Ashton Bird '23, Julia Bowen, Board Chair, and Cynthia Brown, Dept. of Higher Ed.

DEAR FRIENDS,

As I reflect on the past year and the year ahead, I'm drawn to a compelling concept: transformation. It's a word so full of potential and promise. At BCC, we've had many transformative moments. Our campus is well on its way to physical transformation, with a redesigned quad taking shape, new plumbing and HVAC systems, new windows in the library and a beautifully renovated Koussevitzky lobby. These projects and others in the pipeline allow us to continually reimagine our campus.

Our academic opportunities are expanding in exciting ways. We introduced an associate degree in natural and physical sciences and in mechatronics and a certificate in water quality monitoring — all areas of study that will fill specific needs in the Berkshire County workforce. And with the introduction of online degrees in liberal arts and business, BCC is expanding its commitment to making higher education accessible to all.

But the most important transformation is happening within our student body. With the recent passage of the Commonwealth's MassReconnect program, free community college for eligible students ages 25 and over is within reach. The Tuition Equity Bill now allows undocumented students living in Massachusetts to pay in-state tuition and fees. It's clear that Massachusetts places great value in community colleges, and we are proud to offer these amazing opportunities to our students.

The accomplishments in this report are too numerous to list, but I'd like to highlight a few. Of a total of 1,367 students enrolled at BCC, 44.7% are non-traditional students (ages 23 and up), and 29.4% are Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) students. As we continue to prioritize equity, we still have work to do, but we celebrate our increasingly diverse student body. In a pilot program we launched in the spring, we enrolled 20 Afghan evacuees to teach them English and help assimilate them into American life, with 80% completing the course and more than half now employed at local businesses. And, over the past year, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at BCC offered 1,758 courses and lectures, plus 65 author talks, special events, open houses and Distinguished Speaker lectures, with a total attendance of 9,762. It's clear that BCC is a vital part of our community.

We are truly grateful for your generous support, and I hope your enthusiasm matches ours as you read this report. Together, we can build the future of the Berkshires community we hold so dear.

Warmly,

Ellen Kennedy, President

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CELEBRATING KEYE HOLLISTER '74

The BCC community was saddened to learn of Keye Hollister's sudden passing on September 22, 2023 while this publication went to press. She will be deeply missed at BCC and in the Berkshires she called home.

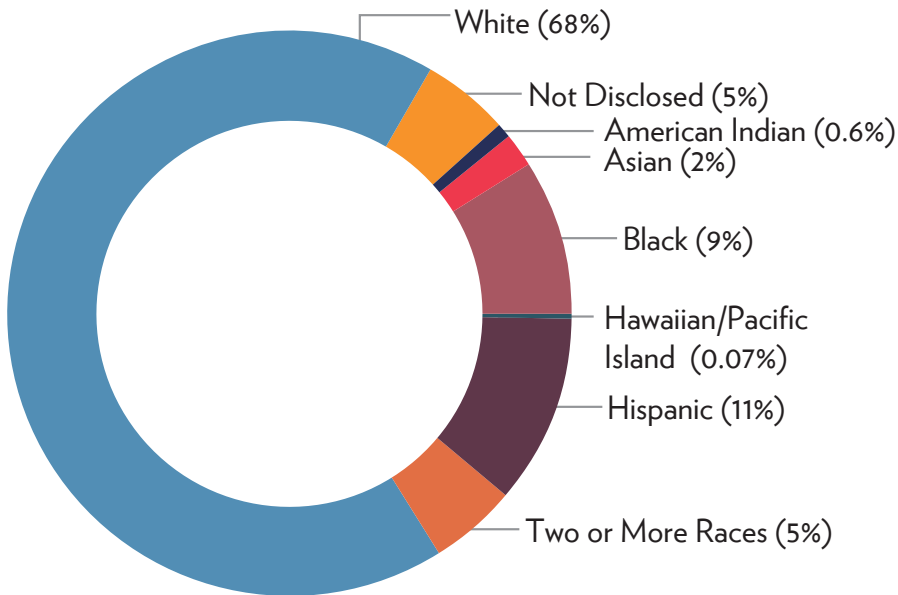
Keye Hollister (left), class of '74, together with past BCC President Jonathan Daube, created the Berkshire Community College Foundation more than 40 years ago, holding the very first meeting on September 3, 1980. That moment forever changed the lives of our students. Today, the Foundation awards scholarships totaling more than \$400,000 per year. Keye is a proud 1974 graduate of BCC and has practiced law since 1978. As an integral part of BCC's first capital campaign, Keye helped surpass the goal by \$200,000. She also served as chair of the board of trustees. Most of all, Keye is a champion for BCC students and a passionate advocate for those who call the Berkshires home.

BCC BY THE NUMBERS

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

1,367

TOTAL STUDENTS



67%

FEMALE

33%

MALE

29.4%

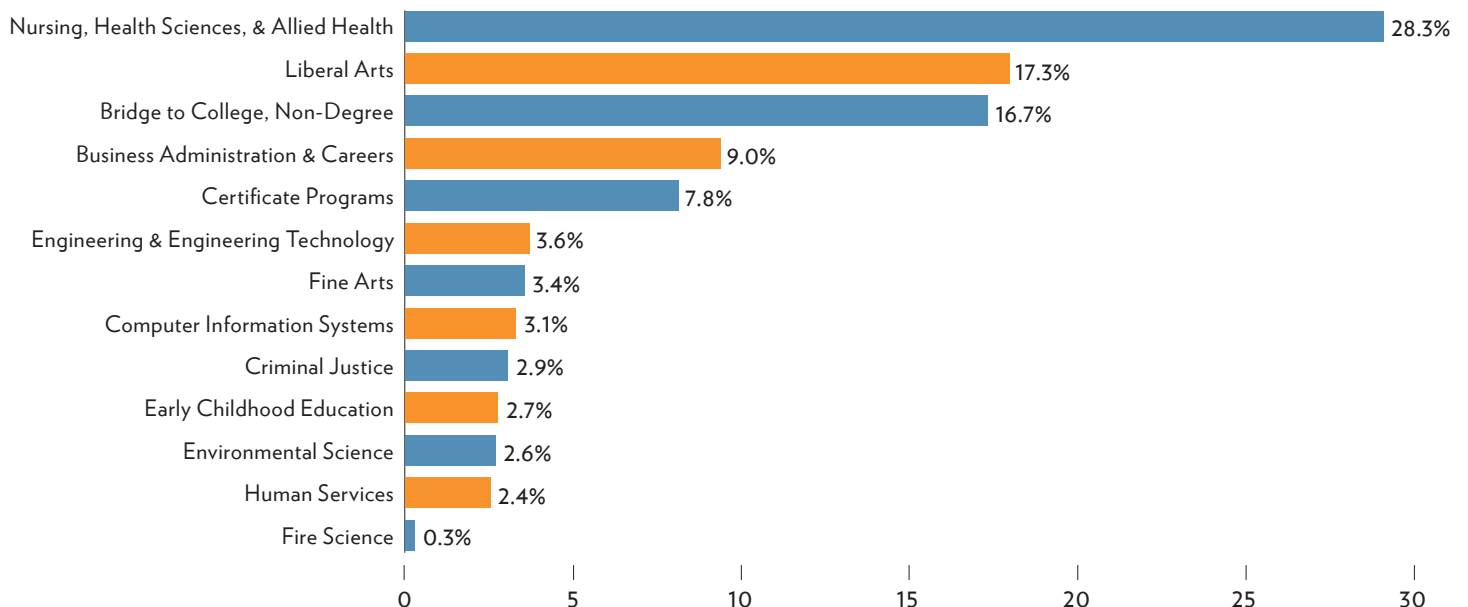
BIPOC STUDENTS
(BLACK, INDIGENOUS, PEOPLE OF COLOR)

55.3% **44.7%**

TRADITIONAL STUDENTS
(AGE 22 OR LESS)

NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS
(AGE 23 OR MORE)

FALL 2022 ENROLLMENT BY PROGRAM



IMPACTING STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH SUPPORT SERVICES

The Supporting Urgent Community College Equity through Student Services (SUCCESS) program provides wraparound supports and services to improve outcomes for BCC's most vulnerable populations.

352

SUCCESS STUDENTS

61%

SUCCESS STUDENTS PERSISTED FROM YEAR TO YEAR

Talent, Resources, Initiative, Opportunity (TRIO) Student Support Services is a federally funded program established to assist students from first-generation, low-income backgrounds, and students with disabilities, to find college success.

92%

TRIO STUDENTS ARE IN GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING

81%

TRIO STUDENTS PERSISTED FROM FALL 2021-FALL 2022

In recognition of the growing rate of suicide among college students, BCC offered students, faculty and staff the opportunity to enroll in an online course to learn how to recognize the signs of suicidal ideation and how to take action. The training focuses on the three steps of Question, Persuade and Refer (QPR) that anyone can employ to help someone who is thinking of suicide.

234

FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS COMPLETED QPR TRAINING



Kenny Newberry, Clerk IV, at the One Stop Enrollment Center helping a student.

ONE STOP ENROLLMENT CENTER

One Stop staff hold high standards for providing support for students' academic progress, and they collect data that helps them to continually improve their services by tracking student visits with a check-in and check-out procedure. The check-out form collects information about which services students used and peak usage times in order to help staff optimize scheduling. It also collects feedback about student satisfaction with services.

Since the One Stop opened in November 2022:

- 1,018 visits have been logged (with Advising, Financial Aid, Admissions, the Registrar, and Student Billing).
- 96% of students reported being "Satisfied" or "Very Satisfied" for the metrics the One Stop tracks (wait time, answers to my questions, helpfulness, and interactions with staff), and staff have a process for following up with students who report dissatisfaction.
- Students are also invited to include open-ended feedback, and many of these comments focus either on the approach of the staff who helped them (friendliness, how they helped them solve a problem) or the overall experience (convenience, ease, comfortable environment).

OLLI AT BCC

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at BCC is a dynamic membership organization in the Berkshires that offers over 200 terrific programs per year, including five semesters of courses, lectures, special events and trips, shared interest groups, and more.

1,546

MEMBERS WITH AN ADDITIONAL
2,800 NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING PROGRAMS

3,462

COURSE ENROLLMENTS

20%

OF MEMBERS LIVE MORE THAN
50 MILES FROM PITTSFIELD

45

AUTHOR TALKS, SPECIAL EVENTS, OPEN HOUSES,
AND DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER LECTURES WITH A
TOTAL ATTENDANCE OF OVER 8,000

1,000+

PEOPLE ATTENDED UNIVERSITY DAYS
WHICH INCLUDED 18 PROGRAMS AND TWO ART SHOWS

FY23 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Expanded the core curriculum of literature, arts, science and social science classes by adding more “active living” courses and workshops. New courses explore topics such as dance, cooking, meditation and more. OLLI at BCC offers programs that range from small and interactive workshops on topics like decoupage and writing to large online lectures with over 1,000 attendees, such as those offering updates on Supreme Court decisions and the war in Ukraine.
- Partnered with OLLI at the University of Richmond to offer an online program about the founding of a National Park honoring Julius Rosenwald and the Rosenwald Schools, featuring, among other notable speakers, Robert G. Stanton, the first African American Director of the National Park Service. Over 700 people from around the country registered, and 1,400+ have watched the recording on our YouTube channel (@olliatbcc).
- Sponsored three art exhibits. Two featured Indigenous artists and were part of University Days programming at Shakespeare and Company in Lenox and at the Lichtenstein Gallery in Pittsfield. The OLLI Art Show showcased the work of OLLI member artists and was on view at the Berkshire Museum for one month.
- The annual Mona Sherman Lecture in May 2023 sold out the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, offering a free and open-to-the-public opportunity to hear Rep. Jamie Raskin discuss the January 6 Commission report and a history of the interpretation of the 14th Amendment. This lecture was also shared on local public access television and is available on our YouTube channel.
- The OLLI at BCC board completed a three-year strategic planning process, in parallel with BCC planning, and began implementation. Some highlights include expanded training and resources for our instructors, a deeper commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in our programming and operations, and expanded collaboration with educational partners and other local organizations.
- The Michael and Nancy Vale Performing Arts Program Endowment Fund was established through their generous bequest. This fund will support future theater-based programming.



OLLI members at the Elizabeth Freeman Center's Rise Together for Safety & Justice event.

SAVE THE DATE

40 UNDER FORTY THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024, AT BCC

The 40 Under Forty awards are an annual celebration of talented millennials and Generation Z professionals in the Berkshires who have shown their support for the region through leadership, community service and a deep dedication to improving the quality of life for those living and working in the community. Visit berkshirecc.edu/40underforty to purchase tickets today!



The 2022 40 Under Forty awards in the Boland Theatre



Nursing students using the SIM lab as part of their education at BCC.

LPN ACCREDITATION

The Accreditation Commission of Education in Nursing (ACEN) has approved our Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program for accreditation. The BCC nursing program is the only accredited LPN program in Berkshire County. Berkshire Community College's nursing program is a sequence of lecture, laboratory and clinical courses. Graduates are eligible to take the licensing examination to become LPN. Licensed Practical Nurses are employed in hospitals, nursing homes, home care, clinics, health centers, physicians' offices and the military.

BCC RECEIVES GRANT TO ADDRESS COLLEGE HUNGER

BCC, in partnership with Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA), has been awarded a multi-year Community College Campus Hunger Program Grant for \$180,000. The grant is designed to increase access to academic opportunities for students of color and students experiencing food insecurity. Celia Norcross, Dean of Students, said: "BCC is committed to offering access to all, not only to a high level of education but accessing what is needed to succeed both in and outside of the classroom. Supporting essential needs of our students creates the opportunity to invest in their future at a basic level with food security. This generous grant allows us to address the seriousness of food insecurity and proactively impact the lives of our students that have been disproportionately served. With this support we are able to help students identify the need and take active steps to creating a solution towards their goals and success."



PHILANTHROPY IN ACTION

THANK YOU, DONORS!



BCC student Kathaleen Mogul at the Awards Night celebration with Alumni Chair Melissa Myers '89 and Dean of Students Celia Norcross

Our donors' investments make the Berkshires a better place by helping BCC deliver on its mission to provide access to affordable, high quality education for all. When we pool together the gifts from our alumni and friends, we can do so much to support teaching and the learning experience at BCC. Donations have an immediate impact on students' success in the form of lab equipment, state-of-the-art classrooms, Emergency Financial Aid and student scholarship support.

More than 80% of today's BCC students receive some form of financial aid, and scholarships are a wonderful way to invest in their future. With your generosity, there are more than 200 scholarships, totaling \$400,000, available to BCC students. Thank you for helping to ensure the residents of the Berkshires and beyond have the support they need to transform their own lives through BCC.

To make a gift to the BCC Annual Fund, go to berkshirecc.edu/give to make a difference today! To view all of our incredible donors, please go to berkshirecc.edu/donors.

\$400,000+
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING AWARDED

144
STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIPS



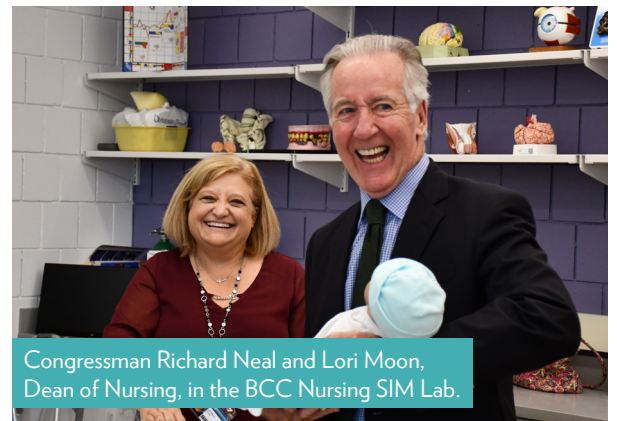
Halina and Tadeusz Baginski

\$583,000 BAGINSKI GIFT

The Halina and Tadeusz Baginski Memorial scholarship, endowed through the vision and generosity of Halina and Tadeusz Baginski, awards funds on an annual basis to students pursuing a degree in the field of engineering. The fund was established with a gift of \$583,000 to the Foundation. Scholarship funds may also be used for the cost of attendance of students transferring from BCC to other higher education institutions in pursuit of careers in engineering.

\$350K GIFT FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Congressman Richard E. Neal, Chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means, visited Berkshire Community College to announce a \$350,000 earmark for upgrades to the nursing program's simulation (SIM) equipment. "I was proud to fight for this funding for BCC that will allow for the first substantive upgrade to this important nursing training equipment since 2009. This equipment will enhance the technical skill level of students and prepare them to adequately meet the workforce needs of the Berkshire County healthcare community," Congressman Neal said.



Congressman Richard Neal and Lori Moon, Dean of Nursing, in the BCC Nursing SIM Lab.

FINANCIALS

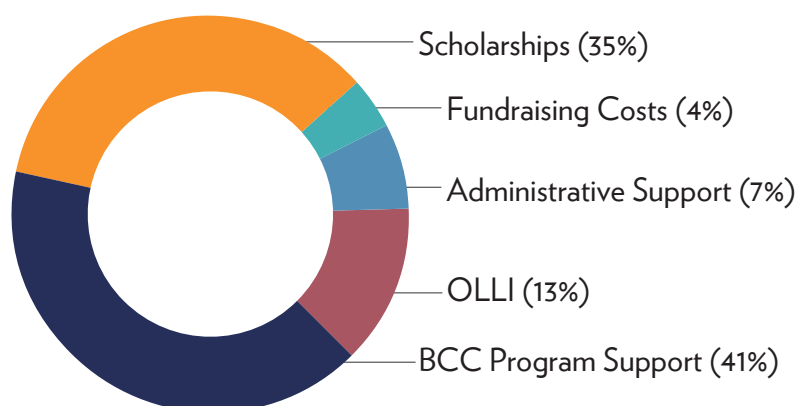
BCC FOUNDATION FINANCIALS STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Cash and Equivalents	\$1,304,912	\$1,492,640
Accounts Receivable	-	\$19,171
Funding from MA State Endowment Incentive Program	\$280,930	-
Prepaid Expenses	\$1,050	\$1,050
Marketable Securities	\$13,333,334	\$11,777,690
Total Assets	\$14,920,226	\$13,290,551
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$39,384	\$33,412
Total Liabilities	\$39,384	\$33,412
NET ASSETS		
Without Donor Restrictions	\$1,185,175	\$1,492,212
With Donor Restrictions	\$13,695,667	\$11,764,927
Total Net Assets	\$14,880,842	\$13,257,139
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$14,920,226	\$13,290,551

Audited Financial Statement - July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

EXPENDITURES

Scholarships	\$378,950
BCC Program Support	\$448,193
OLLI	\$143,981
Administrative Support	\$79,332
Fundraising Costs	\$48,674
Total	\$1,099,130



UPDATES FROM BCC

COMMUNITY EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Berkshire Community College has received a \$735,000 workforce training grant, part of a total of \$15 million awarded to the Commonwealth's 15 community colleges. The grant supports "the creation and expansion of training programs in high-demand industries, such as healthcare, education, manufacturing, information technology and cybersecurity." Ellen Kennedy, President of BCC, said of the new grant: "This award represents a direct opportunity to bolster educational training for the jobs Berkshire County needs. It also serves as an important channel for reaching our underemployed population as we strive to provide the skills employers look for. We are thrilled to receive such a generous award."



BCC awarded certificates to 16 students who completed the Phlebotomy Technician program.



Afghan evacuees enrolled in the Adult Learning Program at BCC visit the Norman Rockwell Museum.

THE ADULT LEARNING PROGRAM

In the spring of 2022, Berkshire Community College enrolled 20 Afghan evacuees in a pilot program designed to teach them English and help assimilate them into American life. The program, which offered free morning and evening classes at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Pittsfield as well as asynchronous instruction, met with success. Sixteen of the 20 students (80%) completed the course, and more than half the students were employed at local businesses. Those students who did not complete the course had found jobs, and the class schedule conflicted with their work schedule, according to Ana Suffish, director of the BCC Adult Learning Program. "All the students improved their English skills, as evidenced not only by assessments, but also by their confidence levels. Through class, they developed a sense of community and a support network with each other," Suffish said. "Learning English is an important factor in successfully integrating into a new community, but creating a support network and building relationships is equally important." The class was funded by a grant from Jewish Family Services of Western Massachusetts and private donations.

GENE DELLEA COMMUNITY TURF FIELD USAGE

In 2022-2023, the Gene Dellea Community Turf Field was rented 141 times and 108 teams played on the field – including football, soccer, lacrosse games and other sports. In the last year, 6,470 players were on the field and 8,510 spectators cheered from the stands. In addition, since its reopening in the late spring of 2023, the Paterson Field House has reported 440 active members who are utilizing the Fitness Center, the tennis and pickleball courts, the swimming pool, club sports activities, or the fitness and strength classes offered regularly. Of the 440 active members, BCC students comprise 211 memberships, of which 78 are faculty or staff, and 151 are community members.



BCC alumni at the BCC Alumni Soccer game on the Gene Dellea Community Turf Field

NAPS PROGRAM

BCC has added a new associate in science degree in Natural and Physical Sciences (NAPS), available beginning in the fall 2023 semester. The NAPS program was developed as an opportunity to offer students studying the sciences an associate in science degree that included meta-major style pathways in biology, biotechnology, chemistry and physics.

“When I discuss the future with my students, they often tell me they are unsure about what they want to do, but they like science. The new NAPS program provides students with a unique opportunity to explore the sciences while working toward a fully transferrable associate in science degree within the UMass system,” Gina Foley, Associate Professor of Life Sciences and NAPS program advisor, said.



Gina Foley, Associate Professor of Life Sciences and NAPS program advisor teaching students.



BCC student Christabel Morkeh at Framework in Downtown Pittsfield.

ONLINE DEGREES

Berkshire Community College offers a completely online option for associate degrees and certificates in Business and Liberal Arts. The two programs, which are available as of this fall, support the MassTransfer program — allowing easy, seamless transfer from BCC to a four-year state school.

The online offerings align with the College’s vision of providing “equitable, accessible and transformative learning opportunities focused on the current and evolving needs of our diverse community,” explained Laurie Gordy, Vice President of Academic Affairs. “Offering these programs online allows BCC to provide the same high-quality and student-centered experience in ways that are more accessible and flexible in meeting students where they are.”

Students who earn their education online can schedule advising, registration and financial aid appointments remotely, eliminating the need to come to campus. Online students also enjoy the same support services as in-person students, including virtual counseling, coaching, access to the Writing Center, library resources and tutoring services.

MECHATRONICS PROGRAM

Berkshire Community College launched a new associate of science degree in mechatronics, a field that combines industrial machinery operation and maintenance skills with 21st-century automation electronics and robotics. The new degree is available as of fall 2023.

Students enrolled in BCC’s newly created Advanced Manufacturing Technician (AMT) certificate program may “stack” credits towards a degree. Essentially, students can complete the AMT certificate in one year, followed by a second year in mechatronics, and graduate with an associate degree.



Jose Colmenares, Associate Professor of Engineering, showing BCC students the Berkshire Science Commons.



Edson Chipalo '15 gives the keynote address at BCC's 2023 Commencement Ceremony.