

NEWFUTURES 

# 2019

## Impact Report



## **New Futures** has always fulfilled a crucial need in the Washington, DC region: removing the barriers for under-resourced young people pursuing the shorter-term path through education on their way to rewarding careers.

Through flexible financial scholarships, personalized academic and career advising, and access to skills and networks in in-demand career fields like IT, Construction, and Health Sciences, New Futures supports the dreams and goals of an incredible, yet often overlooked population of young leaders: community college students.

We believe deeply in our Scholars. We stand with them as they navigate a cascading set of challenges related to COVID-19 and its economic crisis, on top of the centuries-old systemic injustices they must also overcome. From pivoting our advising and workshops for our new virtual reality, to launching and funding a Scholar Emergency Fund to help individuals and families cover basic

expenses like rent and utilities, New Futures continues to identify and meet our Scholars' emerging needs while continuing to tackle the issues which have impacted them and their families for generations: the structural racism on which America was founded.

As we stand with our Scholars, we thank our coalition of supporters who have stood with us. Thank you for investing in our unique and personalized approach to college, career, and financial security; your partnership helps us sustain and strengthen our program at a time when our region needs New Futures more than ever before.



# THE NEW FUTURES APPROACH





# COMMUNITY COLLEGE FIRST

## Disrupting the Conversation about Higher Education



New Futures values community college and certificates as the best first step for many to launch rewarding careers quickly and affordably with minimal debt and maximum flexibility.



# FLEXIBILITY, NOT ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL

**Our flexible scholarships help Scholars save more and borrow less. And our flexible academic plans and course requirements let Scholars forge the path that works best for them.**

"I have always wanted to become a teacher, and to teach those who are going to change the world. And as a future teacher, I want to make a positive impact on future generations. I want to radiate inspiration for those who feel stuck or cannot find a way to success, just like New Futures did with me."

—Cristian, pursuing an Associate of Arts in Teaching at Montgomery College



*Left: Scholar Cristian with Program Director Griselda Macias.*

*Right: Scholar Najmah speaking at a biannual Scholar Award Dinner, quoted on Page 6.*





# PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS:

## ACADEMIC AND CAREER ADVISING, WITH HEART



**Each Scholar has a champion and cheerleader with extensive college advising expertise to help navigate campus resources, manage priorities, establish career plans, and build networks.**

"Our incredible young people achieve great things academically and professionally, and it is a true privilege to be a part of their journey as an Advisor."

–Allie Sirrine, Scholars Program Manager

"College can be hard sometimes, but what helps me keep going is the encouragement and support I receive from my Advisor, Ms. Silvana. I can depend on her for guidance, connections, or just someone to talk to when life gets tough. As an indecisive person, it truly helps to talk to my Advisor, who understands me and my career goals, for advice on decisions that can affect my future."

–Najmah, New Futures Scholar pursuing an associate degree in Civil Engineering from Montgomery College (pictured on Page 5)



# LAUNCHING THE CAREERS OF TOMORROW IN IT, CONSTRUCTION, AND HEALTH SCIENCES

“Michelle Obama said, ‘Through my education, I didn’t just develop skills, I didn’t just develop the ability to learn, but I developed confidence.’ That’s what New Futures’ Career Pathways Program does.

In partnership with industry leaders and employers, we provide our Scholars with the resources they need to feel confident in their dream career: exposure, networks, and skills. We all know the power of an associate degree in high-growth fields like IT, Construction, and Health Sciences. And what sets New Futures Scholars apart even more is what they get from our industry partners: opportunities and access from professionals who believe in them and dream big with them.”

–Jamila Williams, New Futures Career Pathways Program Manager



*Left: New Futures Scholars on a site visit with Davis Construction in March 2019.*

*Right: Second-Time Scholar Austin at a site visit with Forrester Construction in June 2019.*





# BEYOND THE CREDENTIAL



**New Futures extends support for Alumni as they graduate, pursue bachelor's degrees, and launch careers. Alumni give back by mentoring newer Scholars entering their career fields.**

*Left: The Alumni Committee formally welcomes Scholars to the New Futures Alumni community in a special pinning exercise at the annual Graduation Celebration*



# PRIANCA, NATHALIA, & KARISHMA PARVEZ

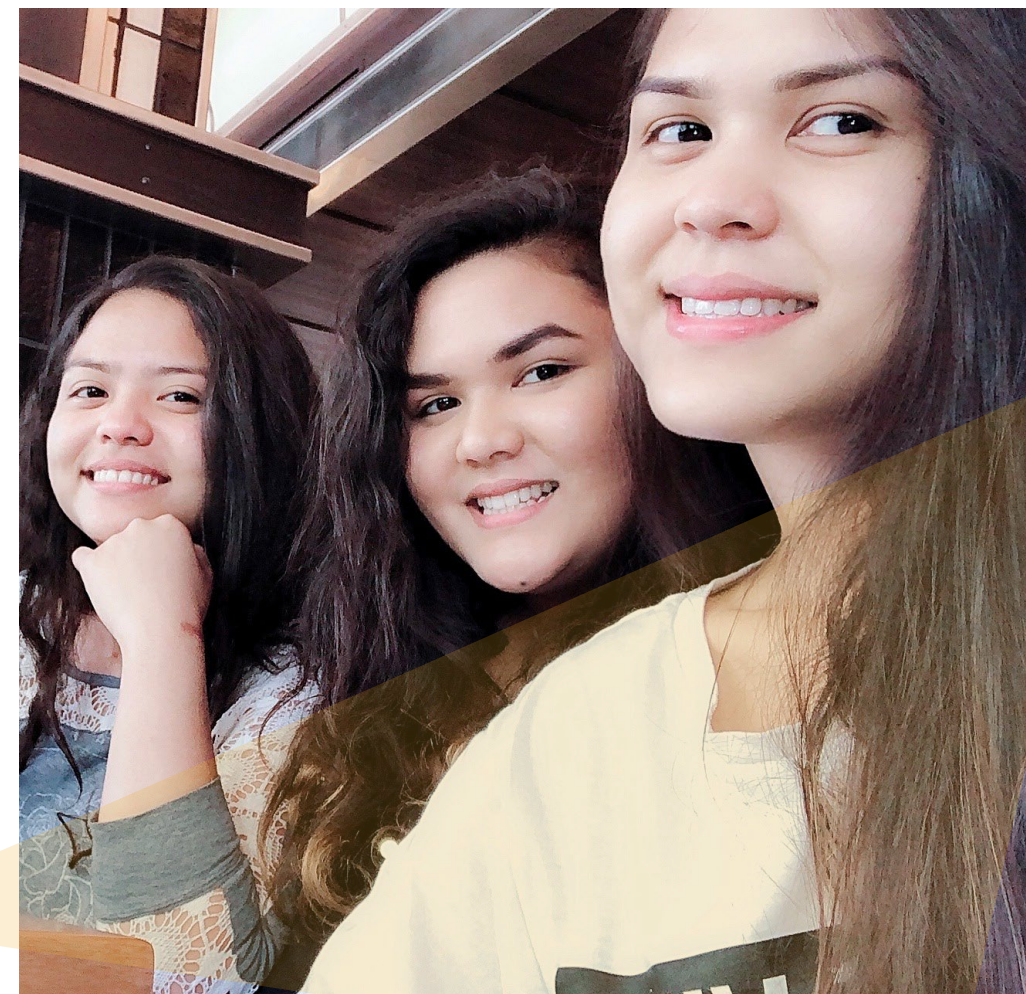
Sisters. Changemakers.  
New Futures Scholars.

**FOR THE PARVEZ SISTERS,** work in the medical field is a family affair. They grew up visiting the hospital in Bangladesh where their father and mother worked as a doctor and a nurse. Years later, each of the Parvez sisters are launching nursing careers of their own, leveraging New Futures scholarships to start their studies at Montgomery College.

Karishma, approaching her final semester at MC, is also a recipient of a Board of Trustees scholarship, which covers her tuition. But for Karishma and so many young adults, tuition is only one piece of the higher education puzzle. The flexibility of her New Futures scholarship has covered the costs of transportation, books, exams, fees, and other costs beyond tuition, so she can focus on her coursework instead of its financial toll.

And the Parvez sisters all agree that the emotional support they receive from their Advisor, Ms. Silvana, and the rest of the New Futures Family is even more critical than their financial awards.

*continued on next page ▶*





Prianca remembers her first New Futures workshop:

**“We met other Scholars and discovered that a lot of us are first generation immigrants and college students in the US. In high school, most classmates weren’t having the same experience as my sisters and me. But with New Futures, we got to form bonds with others just like us. And now as a Second-Time Scholar pursuing my bachelor’s, I can talk to other students who are going through the same thing I did, and I can support them like those who helped me.”**

Nathalia reflects on the career connections she has made through New Futures:

**“Last year, I attended New Futures’ site visit with MedStar Washington Hospital. I got to shadow a nurse in the trauma unit and could learn what the job was really like.”**

And Prianca, who may want to become a travel nurse someday, has connected with a travel occupational therapist through New Futures.

We know that Prianca, Nathalia, and Karishma have bright futures ahead of them. And we know that New Futures’ deliberate combination of flexible scholarships, heart-led academic advising, and innovative career networking opportunities removes barriers, opens doors, and instills confidence as they forge their paths.



# 2019 IN REVIEW

Our most pivotal year to date: wider impact, deeper support, and new career pathways.



**64**  
New Scholars  
selected; more than  
any previous year



**365**  
Scholars and  
Alumni served



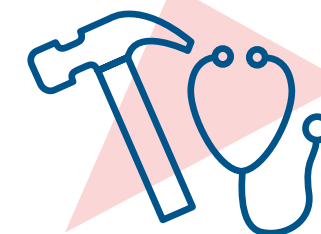
**\$543,997**  
Awarded in  
Scholarships



**37**  
Scholars celebrated  
walking across the  
graduation stage



**16**  
Workshops and  
Career Pathways  
opportunities



**Launched**  
new Career Pathways  
programming in  
Construction and  
Health Sciences



**Established**  
an evaluation program  
to improve effectiveness  
and outcomes



**Strengthened**  
Community Partnerships  
and collaborative  
recruitment





MedStar Wash  
Hospital Center  
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New Futures launched  
our Health Sciences  
Career Pathway in  
October 2019 with a site  
visit and shadow day for  
25 Scholars and Alumni  
at MedStar Washington  
Hospital Center, a crucial  
new industry partner.



# OUR RESPONSE TO COVID-19

**NEW FUTURES SCHOLARS**, like so many under-resourced young people, felt the impacts of COVID-19 and its economic shutdown first and most deeply. Many experienced sudden lay-offs and devastating financial disruptions. Most had to navigate challenging transitions to distance learning in their community college coursework. All face uncertainty in a rapidly changing work environment. New Futures stands with our Scholars as we approach these questions together.

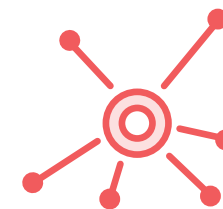


*Scholar Miguel on a virtual advising appointment with Advisor Griselda.*

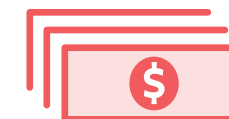
## New Futures' Response to COVID-19



**Advisors pivoted seamlessly to FaceTime, Zoom, and phone appointments** for our personalized academic and career advising, supporting Scholars through a host of questions and challenges.



**We are innovating the way we connect Scholars and Alumni with career connections and networks**, relying less on workshops and networking opportunities and more on the strength of our relationships with industry partners, regional employers, and professionals in the fields.



**New Futures established and funded a \$150,000 Scholar Emergency Fund** to help Scholars cover basic needs like rent, utilities, medical bills, and other expenses. By ensuring Scholars can meet their emerging short-term needs, we help the mitigate the long-term ramifications on their educational pursuits, career plans, and lifelong financial security.



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