Donors Making an Impact by supporting our Annual Fund

Many of the VCU School of Education’s key initiatives and programs are driven by the generosity of annual contributions. By supporting the School of Education Annual Fund, donors enhance the day-to-day life of our institution and impact both the long-term goals and mission of the school. Here are some highlights of the impact that annual contributions made between 2019–2021:

**Student Success**
Gifts provide scholarships and other support for students. One such example is the **Innovative Teacher Pipeline (ITP) Program**. It prepares teachers to best support educational excellence and equity, particularly for Black and Latinx school children. Students in the ITP program receive a $1,000 scholarship, professional development opportunities, and learning initiatives to prepare them for the classroom. Starting with 17 students in 2019, due to donor support, we will enroll 40 students in the fall of 2021.
Faculty and Student Success
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and systemic racism, faculty and students initiated research to examine and mitigate effects on individuals and groups who have been disproportionately impacted (e.g., people with disabilities and racial minorities). The research is intended to have an immediate impact in informing interventions, research and policy.

Appreciation for mentoring our students
Annually, we have shown our appreciation for Richmond area educators who mentor our students and help them aspire to be the next generations of teachers. We’ve been able to do this virtually, through the mail, and through remarkable in-person events.

Connecting Students with Alumni is central to our alumni and student Engagement efforts.

- **Partnerships** We’ve partnered with the VEA’s Teachers of Color Conference.
- **Collaborations** **Share Your Why** — the SOE Office of Enrollment Engagement, in collaboration with the Education Alumni Council (EAC), launched a campaign for alumni to share why they chose VCU.
- **RTR Residency Program** Funds have shown support to our students.
- **The Student Experience** Student Leadership Council (SLC) sponsored events and activities to engage students in virtual events.
- **Transitioning to Alumni** Donors have celebrated with our new grads with special recognition events and a keepsake.

Donors to the Annual Fund make it possible for us to attract guest lecturers and panelists, to provide opportunities for students and faculty beyond what the school offers. It provides awards and seed funds for research and helps create successful academic programs.

Donors invest in our students, our faculty, and the community we serve. We can’t do it without our generous donors.