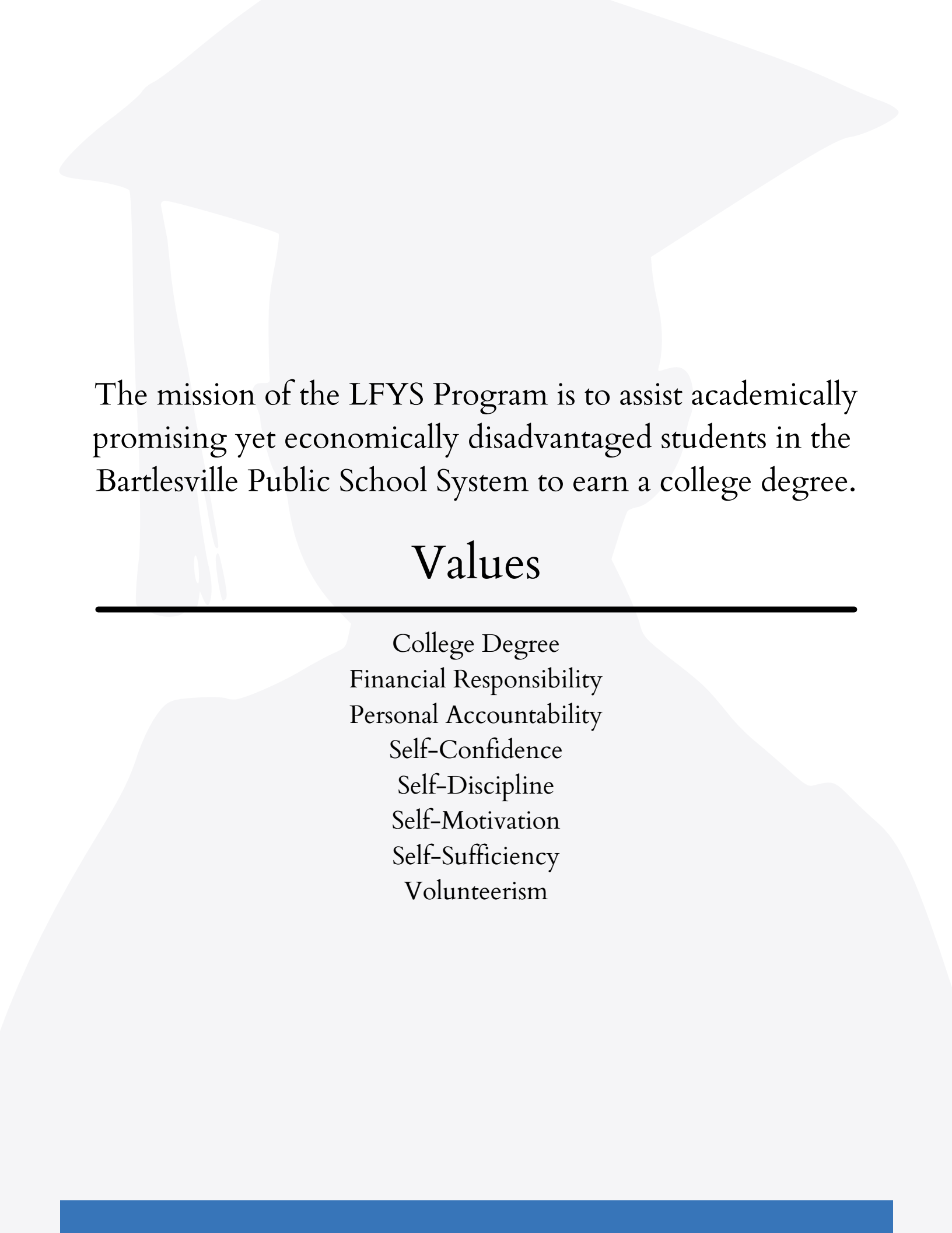


# Annual Report 2020

## The Lowe Family Young Scholars Program






The mission of the LFYS Program is to assist academically promising yet economically disadvantaged students in the Bartlesville Public School System to earn a college degree.

## Values

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College Degree  
Financial Responsibility  
Personal Accountability  
Self-Confidence  
Self-Discipline  
Self-Motivation  
Self-Sufficiency  
Volunteerism



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

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What a difference a year makes! The year 2020 will stand out in our memories as one requiring out-of-the-box thinking to accomplish our goals for our students. Even through all the months of inactivity in most of the city, we were still able to have our students strive to do quarterly meetings and service projects. It may not have been a perfect year but it was one that we can be proud of. Most of us had probably never really heard of Zoom before but most of us can now profess that we have used it extensively in 2020. From having pen pals in nursing homes to writing projects, we were able to keep our students engaged thanks to our staff, Michael Secora and Kristin Towns. It was double duty for students using computers for school, meetings, and activities. Our students, mentors, and volunteers are very resilient and we can thank them all for a productive year. We certainly appreciate all of you for continuing to support us during such a trying time! Thank you so much for helping us have a successful year in 2020 – we could not have done it without you.

As a result of the effort that everyone put forth this past year, we had 3 students graduate from high school and enter college. We had 2 students graduate from college to embark on a career. Not bad for a year that was not “normal” in any stretch of the imagination.

The LFYS Program is now entering its fifteenth year. With your help, we will continue with the mission of our program. Our goal is to provide programs that will help our students achieve a college degree. Hopefully, 2021 will be a year that will be marked by continued support of you and all the community. We are looking forward to working with you again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy Dronyk".

Cindy Dronyk  
2020 LFYS Program President

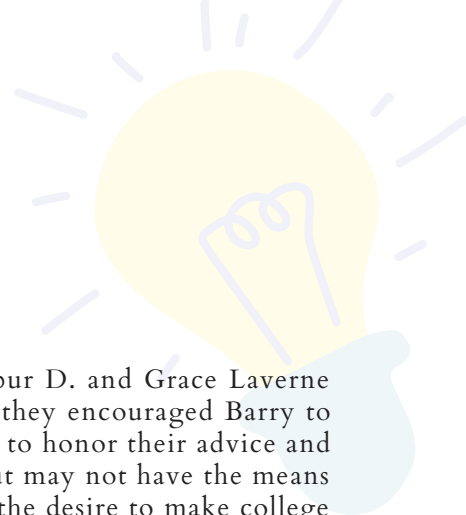
### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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(President) Cindy Dronyk	Stacey Foresman
(Vice President) Richard Mitchell	George Halkiades
(Secretary) Karen Lowe-Alton	Julie Pranger
(Treasurer) Megan Proctor	Jane Sears
Bill Beierschmitt	

# MENTORING FOR SUCCESS

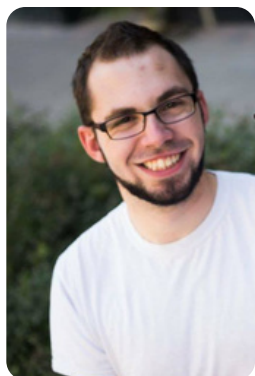
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The LFYS Program was created in honor of Barry's parents, Wilbur D. and Grace Laverne Snyder-Lowe. Though they did not have a college degree themselves, they encouraged Barry to better his life through higher education. Barry and Karen Lowe wished to honor their advice and impact motivated students who need help obtaining a college degree but may not have the means or knowledge to enable them to receive college degrees. Created from the desire to make college more accessible to students, the LFYS Program provides education, experiences, and opportunities for local Bartlesville students.

It is of great joy when we get to see our students graduate from college. It is, of course, with greater joy to hear of how those graduates had began to use that education to make a better life for themselves and their families. Even after only being around for 15 years, the LFYS Program early graduates are beginning to have children. These graduates have persevered through hardships and have been made stronger by their dedication to their education.

Mentors are crucial to the success of the LFYS Program and to the success of the students preparing to go to college. They are the encouragement that the students need, patiently guiding the students toward their goal of college graduation. Mentors are one of Bartlesville's precious resources that often choose to remain out of the limelight. Our mentors are the interface between the expectations of the LFYS Program and the practice of education in the lives of the program students. Many mentors have established life-long relationships with their mentees.



**DALLAS LEWIS**  
**B.S. 2012**  
**Math, Chemistry Minor**  
**Currently works for Phillips 66**

Shortly after graduating college, Dallas reflected:

"Thank you for your help in all aspects of my undergraduate studies. By your patient endurance and willingness to help a student with resources, you have not only blessed me, but my family, my community, and yourselves. May God continue to bless the Lowe Family Young Scholars, the Board, and all those associated with the program. Carpe Diem Coram Deo."



Randy Thompson  
Started mentoring in 2007

Randy and Dallas started meeting when Dallas was a junior in high school. One thing that stood out to Randy was an interest in professional wrestling. They did many fun activities together including doing some basic home renovations. Dallas began to gain confidence on his construction skills so much so that they began to design and build a wrestling platform. They still joke 'til this day when the structure lost integrity and collapsed on Dallas. Dallas graduated from OKWU with math major and chemistry minor which helped him get an IT job at the Phillips 66 Research Center. Randy said that it was a pinnacle of their relationship when Dallas invited him to lunch a few years ago out at the Research Center. They still keep in touch often.



"Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oklahoma supports one-to-one mentors for youth in our community. Mentors stand in the gap, putting youth on a path to their best possible future. We are happy to partner with the LFYS Program, providing and supporting the mentoring relationships while the LFYS Program supports the academic achievement." – Charlene Dew



## MENTORS OF 2020



Mary Beth  
Buchanan



Cherie  
Carrington



Joel  
Carrington



Sheri  
Doe



Elise  
Enterkin



Stacey  
Foresman



Cheryl  
Fregin



Jason  
Hardy



Rod  
Harwood



Raj  
Kailasam



David  
Lewis



Lisa  
Martinez



Barbara  
McMahon



Mariana  
Obradovic



Kendra  
Rakes



Donna  
Skelly



Randy  
Thompson



Diana  
Weaver



Rachelle  
Wilson



### RACHELLE

"Samantha is the most unique component of our match. She is optimistic, generous, motivated and open to new experiences and ideas."

"As a mentor, I have gained respect for a remarkable young woman and camaraderie. Samantha and I were matched midway through her 7th grade year and she is now a junior in high school. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to observe her continuing development as a daughter, a sister, a friend, a student, a musician, a leader, a volunteer and an employee."

### SAMANTHA

"Rachelle has been a great mentor to not only me, but some of my friends as well. She is very understanding, honest, and knowledgeable about how to handle things like friendship disputes, family issues and just people in general. Rachelle helps me study for things that I struggle with and tries to encourage me to do my best even when I know the future outcomes looks like it could be gloomy."

## COLLEGE GRADUATES

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KANDACE  
DUKE

UCO

Bachelor's Degree,  
Vocal Performance



JOSUÉ  
CARRENO

UCO

Bachelor's Degree,  
Accounting

## UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

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Current number of students  
receiving a scholarship.



- 6 students



- 3 students



- 1 student

## ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY



### **Rogers State University and The Lowe Family Young Scholars Program**

Rogers State University is proud to partner with the Lowe Family Young Scholars Program to reach students during their formidable years and guide them on a path toward a college education. The LFYS Program delivers on their mission to make higher education obtainable and the RSU Bartlesville campus makes higher education accessible. At RSU 67 percent of students are first in their family to earn a college degree. Currently, RSU Bartlesville students can begin and complete all requirements for bachelor's degrees in a dozen different majors without having to leave town. Students who wish to have the full traditional college experience can attend RSU's residential campus in Claremore.

### **About Rogers State University**

Rogers State University is a four-year regional university accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. The university is widely recognized for high quality academic programs that include bachelor's and associate degrees, along with an accelerated MBA program now available online and a Master in Community Counseling. The university is noted for its student-focused approach to creating a supportive learning environment that cultivates student success. Tracing its roots back to 1909, RSU operates its main residential campus in Claremore, with additional campuses in Bartlesville, Pryor and its nationally recognized online program. RSU has been a leader in distance learning and was the first Oklahoma university to offer degree programs entirely online. RSU consistently is recognized as one of the region's most affordable colleges, with almost half of last year's graduates earning their degree without taking a student loan.

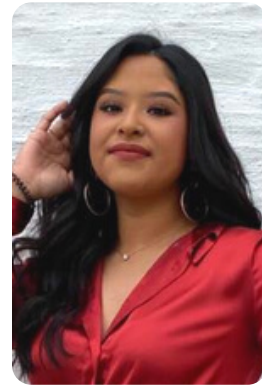
# HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Guadalupe  
OKWU  
Nursing



Abril  
UCO  
Nursing



Mariel  
OKWU  
Business

Senior Average GPA - 3.28  
Senior Hours Volunteered - 64.5

## Comparative GPA Stats

Historical program GPA	3.51
Average 2020 GPA	3.50
Oklahoma 2018 GPA	2.57
National 2016 GPA	3.00

## Other Program Stats

Students enrolled	19
1st generation	89%
Total hours volunteered	5,445

## College Stats

College students	13
College graduates	12
Historical college GPA	3.11
College avg GPA 2020	3.08
College graduation rate	75%
College students retention	74%

## Economic Impact

The LFYS Program is proud to say that with reduced tuition through scholarships, work-study, and other revenue, many LFYS students graduate with little to no debt.

	Full Tuition	Scholarships	Reduced Tuition
OSU	\$28,500	\$12,000	\$16,500
OKWU	\$38,000	\$14,000	\$24,000
RSU	\$25,000	\$12,000	\$13,000

Estimated cost for the Academic year 2021-2022.

Estimated cost of attending university - estimated scholarship from National, State, and LFYS = total estimated cost for LFYS students with no extra aid.



# CLASSES, VOLUNTEERING, MEETINGS

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## Steps 4 Success, W.E. Pro\$per, Finance for Your Future

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The students are required to attend classes once a month during the school year. The three classes are broken up into different age groups and are designed to teach different values as the students age.

- Steps 4 Success teaches the LFYS Program values
- W.E. Pro\$per teaches professionalism
- Finance for Your Future teaches financial management



W.E. Pro\$per

## Volunteering

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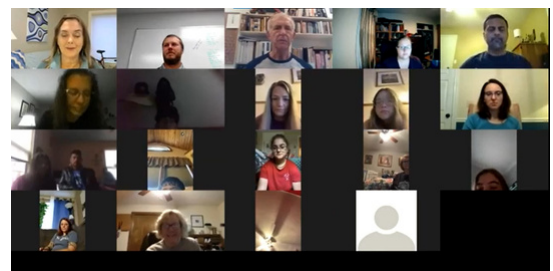
Pen Pals

Students, parents, and mentors are required to get involved in the community together. Because of COVID-19 safety regulations, we were unable to meet together for volunteer projects. However, we did find a way to connect to individuals that were isolated from friends and family for a long time. Some of our students became pen pals with a few of Elder Care's Day Break attendees. Students and their pen pals alternated between letter and video correspondence.

## LFYS Program Meetings

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Students, parents, and mentors are required to get involved in the LFYS Program through quarterly meetings. This is a time where students get together, mentors get together, and parents likewise. These interactive and educational sessions are designed to present helpful material, encourage students to keep pursuing college and professional options, and present ways to overcome barriers to school and life stresses. This year we had Lisa Roll show us techniques for managing stress from COVID, Savannah Hayman showed us what a college looks for in successful students, and Matt Moore from P66 showed us how to be safe from cyber criminals.



Zoom Meetings



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

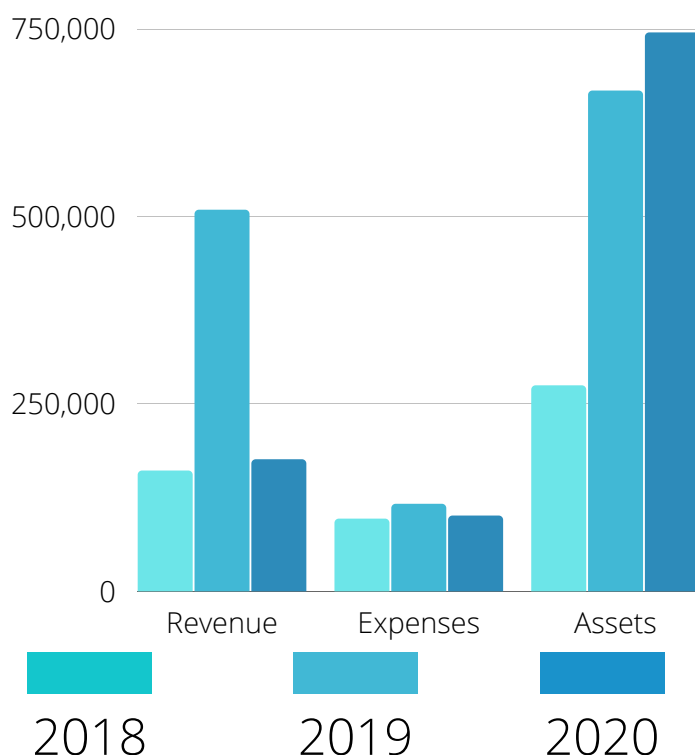
December 31, 2020

Cash	\$244,098
Other Assets	\$500,940
Liabilities	\$2,643
Total Assets	\$745,039

Revenue	
Contributions	\$17,434
Grants	\$64,700
Fundraisers	\$26,170
Gain (loss) on Investments	\$36,953
Other	\$30,777
Total Operating Revenue	\$176,034

Expense	
Programs	\$16,641
Administration	\$80,262
Fundraisers	\$3,703
Total Operating Expense	\$100,608

## OVERVIEW



## Contributors

### Sustainer

BWL & KSL Foundation for Education

### Associate level

Scott & Pam Bilger  
Charles & Coralea Bowerman  
Judith Cannon  
Caroline Casselberry  
Troy & Patricia Chisum  
Chris & Deb Cook  
Denis & Sheri Doe  
Ford & Vanessa Drummond  
Warren & Joleen Ewert  
Gil & Meg Greenwood  
Mark & Debbie Haskell  
Don & Susan Lauffer  
Steve & Cindy Secora  
Donna Shipman  
Anonymous

### Bachelor level

T. Doyle & Nancy Armstrong  
Maurice & Cathy Casad  
Charles & Sharon Danley  
Bill & Charlotte Dausse  
Mike & Cindy Dronyk  
Stacey Foresman  
Rod Harwood & Lisa Roll  
Hood & Associates  
Jane Phillips Society  
Raj Kailasam & Molly Collins  
Joan Matthews  
Terry & Lynn Potts  
Earl & Jane Sears  
Jay & Rona Shoopack  
St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
Stroman & Associates Counsel  
in Resource Development  
Truity Credit Union  
Wilbur Fund  
Anonymous

### Master level

David & Summer Austin  
Service League Fund (BCF)  
Bartlesville Regional United  
Way  
Bartlesville Rotary Club  
Ralph & Lois Bergstad  
Joel & Cherie Carrington  
Bill & Gail Chamlee  
Tim & Laurie Collins  
Community Enrichment  
Black Scholarship Fund Inc  
Darek & Denise Jarmola  
Malcolm Joyce  
K.S. Adams Foundation  
Gary & Sheila Kilpatrick  
Joel & Shirley Martin  
Steve & Terri Meyer  
Nic & Julie Pranger  
Dan & Pam Schultes  
Keith Sheffield & Bobbi  
Sexson  
Terry & Cheri Spears  
Gordon & Fran Stallings  
Walmart Corporation  
Bo & Rachelle Wilson  
Anonymous

### Doctorate level

Arvest Foundation  
ConocoPhillips  
Oklahoma Wesleyan University  
Phillips 66



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

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I am convinced more and more of the importance of mentors in our lives. Education can happen in many forms, but mentors have a unique role in the application of knowledge. Knowledge is not just the recollection or recitation of an idea, rather it is the practice of the idea. Mentors can give direction for applying the knowledge we all have, to use it more effectively, and to use it for good.

Often, mentors have a greater impact than they ever realized. Social isolation due to COVID-19 health concerns made me learn many things, but most importantly it underlined our need for communal relationships, especially like those found in mentor-mentee relationships. To those who have supported our students with their time and expertise, gently guiding and shaping, I thank you. To those who might consider mentoring, I encourage you to take the chance to make a difference in the life of a young person. You won't regret it!

Thank you to all the organizations and individuals that have contributed to the success of our students. Their lives and ours will be forever touched by your contributions of your presence, skills, and finances. I am so very grateful to be a part of a community that jumped at the opportunity to lend a hand when times got tough. The Bartlesville community flexed its charitable arm, giving both time and money to furthering the safety, security, and well-being of our students.

We are all anxiously looking forward to the re-engagement of our students with the community through volunteering, mentoring, and occupational exploration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael Secora".

Michael Secora  
Executive Director



**BE A MENTOR**

**BE A DONOR**

**BE AN ADVOCATE**

Share your experiences with mentorship.  
Share the opportunity to get involved with  
the LFYS Program with friends, neighbors,  
and co-workers.

“Being a mentor is much like being a friend. While I have life experiences to offer, there are many opportunities for me to learn from my mentee as well.” Mary Beth

“I adore my Little. She's a good person, she's kind, fun. She's the best part of the "job." Stacey

“We began mentoring Felix when he was in the eighth grade. He is now a student at OKWU and is an outstanding young man. We're proud to be able to call him a friend.” David & Summer





MARK D. UNRUH, D.D.S., M.S

THE BRACE PLACE

Barry W. Lowe & Karen Sue Lowe  
**EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION**

