



2010  
Annual Report  
*Families United in Educational Leadership*



# FUELing Ambition

To our Partners & Supporters:

2010 was an amazing year for Families United in Educational Leadership. The collaborative efforts of FUEL's staff, board of directors, advisory board and our partners were instrumental in our success. As a brand new organization in an economically challenging time, we showed our strength in forging ahead with our partnerships and fundraising efforts.

To aid low-income families, FUEL offers to match what they save for college. Families are required to participate in a set of innovative monthly meetings where they learn about the college admission process, with a particular focus on applying for financial aid and scholarships, and building the networks essential to college access.

We started 2011 with a bang, receiving a major grant from the Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation, and gaining recognition as a semi-finalist for Social Venture Partners Boston and the Small Business Association of New England (SBANE) Innovation Award.

We are very happy to announce continued expansion to serve low-income families in Boston and its surrounding cities through partnerships with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston's Blue Hill, Camp Harborview, and Yawkey locations.

Each time I meet with our families at Savings Circles, I am humbled by how FUEL has touched their lives. One Chelsea parent told me, "This is a fantastic program, it benefits our children. More people should know about it. The Savings Circles have educated me to later educate my children... The work FUEL is doing is very admirable."

I want to thank our partners, including the schools, churches, and community organizations, for joining FUEL in our efforts to help families. I also want to thank our funders, the early believers who have provided us with essential resources and contacts.



**Robert Hildreth**  
Founder  
Executive Director



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Director  
College Savings Initiative



## Our Mission...

*Our mission is to provide incentives to galvanize the ambition of low income families for their children's higher education.*





## Illuminating the Pathway to Higher Education

- 🔥 FUEL teaches families about the many advantages of saving for college, and empowers them to not become overwhelmed by the financial aid process. The FUEL program offers:
- 🔥 Saving Circles: FUEL families attend monthly meetings to discuss savings and learn about higher education, scholarships, and finance. The meetings offer support and encouragement from other savers.
- 🔥 Matched Savings: FUEL families save monthly for college. We match this amount, for up to a total of \$3,000 set aside for higher education during the four-year program.
- 🔥 After-School and Out-of-School Time Program Participation: FUEL families enroll their students in academic after-school programs that have partnered with FUEL. These programs provide educational support and motivate our students on their pathway to college.
- 🔥 Motivating Scholarships: FUEL created the Chelsea Compact that provides up to 25 full annual awards from UMass Amherst and Bunker Hill Community College. Currently only available for our Chelsea FUEL families, we have an agreement in principle with UMass Boston to expand the Compact throughout Massachusetts.

# 2010 Milestones

The first FUEL Savings Circle was held February 2010 in Chelsea. Families learned about the three components of the FUEL program: the Savings Circles, after-school and out of school time participation, and match savings.

In March 2010, the Chelsea Compact was launched in partnership with UMass Amherst and Bunker Hill Community College. The schools offered up to 25 full scholarships annually to qualified Chelsea FUEL students. Two brothers from Chelsea High School were the first to receive full scholarships to UMass Amherst through the Chelsea Compact.

As part of the ongoing expansion into Boston, FUEL formed partnerships with Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center and Trinity Education for Excellence Program.

FUEL was invited to participate in the Trinity Boston Foundation Bostonians for Youth event in April 2010. The event celebrated innovative approaches to keeping at-risk youth on track and empowered through educational opportunity and achievement.

FUEL was acknowledged as a finalist for the 2011 **Social Innovator** Award for Financial Capability.



In April 2010, The Boston Foundation awarded FUEL a significant grant in support of the expansion of FUEL's College Savings Program in Boston.

Throughout 2010, FUEL was in the press, including The Boston Globe, Boston Herald, The Wall Street Journal, The Chronicle of Philanthropy, and the Boston Business Journal.

The inaugural 12 high school graduates, from Lynn, were the first in their family to attend a four-year college, with \$2.6 million in scholarships and 60 college acceptances.

More than 300 families from Chelsea, Boston, and Lynn are now participating in FUEL.

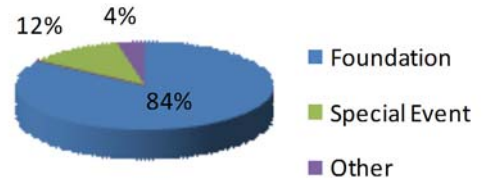
FUEL began advocating for the creation of a special legislative commission to examine changes to the current college scholarship system that would better prepare Massachusetts families who have little or no history of college attainment. The commission passed the House in its first try, and was passed in budget section 190.

In October, FUEL families and staff visited UMASS Amherst. Senior Associate Director of Admissions John Westover explained college selection, the application process, and the Chelsea Compact Scholarships. They also attended a UMASS football game!

# 2010 FUEL Financial Report

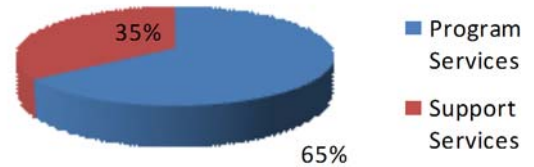
## Revenue & Support

Foundation:	\$	400,500
Interest income:	\$	2
Special events:	\$	56,991
Other:	\$	16,863
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>474,356</b>



## Expenses

Program services:	\$	274,021
Support services:	\$	147,036
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>421,057</b>



# 2010 Community Support

FUEL and the FUEL families would like to thank all of our friends for your support and generosity in 2010. We look forward to your continued support in 2011 and beyond!

## Grants

Paul & Edith Babson Foundation  
The Boston Foundation  
Cabot Family Charitable Trust  
Citizens Bank Foundation  
Jane B. Cook 1992 Charitable Trust  
Hildreth Stewart Charitable Foundation

Ludcke Foundation  
Saul Pannell & Sally Currier  
Harold Whitworth Pierce Charitable Trust  
Mabel Louise Riley Foundation  
State Street Foundation  
John H. and H. Naomi Tomfohrde Foundation

## Partnerships

### **Sites**

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center  
La Vida Inc  
Trinity Education for Excellence Program

### **Financial Institutions**

Citizens Bank  
Metro Credit Union  
Wainwright Bank

### **Higher Education**

Boston University  
Bunker Hill Community College  
UMass Amherst  
UMass Boston  
Wheelock College

### **Community Organizations and Educational Programs**

ACCESS  
Boys and Girls Club of Boston  
Centro Latino  
The Chelsea Collaborative  
Chelsea Community Schools  
The Chelsea Education Foundation  
Chelsea Neighborhood Developers  
Chelsea Public Schools  
Choice Thru Education  
Excel Academy  
MIRA Coalition  
Northeast Metropolitan Vocational School  
Phoenix Charter Academy  
REACH  
ROCA  
TERI Center

