Connecting Students to their Future
What Began With A Community's Desire to Invest in Teachers...

Champions For Learning is working with Collier County Public Schools, Community Foundation of Collier County, the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, Guadalupe Center, Naples Children and Education Foundation, United Way and more than 20 other organizations to build a “pipeline for talent”.

This initiative in the context of Collier’s Opportunity Naples, and the regional FutureMakers initiative, is bringing the community together to identify and work toward shared goals around early learning and college and career readiness. Through its unique role as a trusted convener, Champions For Learning is serving our community by facilitating this collective impact initiative.

98% of participants say they will share something they learned.

more than $3M contributed to support the mission

500+ volunteers

...Became An Organization That Innovates and Collaborates for Student Learning.
Our Board of Directors is committed to the success of our community through education. Champions For Learning makes it possible for the community to support and engage teachers and to enhance a multitude of student outcomes.

— William R. Barker, President and Publisher, Naples Daily News
“My experience with the programs of Champions For Learning has been life-changing,” said China Pierrelus. “My preparation for college and my time as a student would not be possible without this help from the community supporting me through motivation, accountability and commitment to helping me reach my goals.”

Our collective investment in China, combined with her hard work and family support, has resulted in a young woman who has graduated from Florida Gulf Coast University, and is back in our community working full time serving families through the work of the Healthcare Network of Southwest Florida. “Not only have I learned what it means to be part of a community, I am also looking forward to giving back and helping the next generation of champions,” said China.

2,200+ students served directly.

$1.46M in scholarship offers for 60 students (not including Pell Grants)

500 students & families completing FAFSA

Student and Family Programs include:
- Take Stock in Children
- Real World Learning Model

...Created Opportunities For Students To Gain the Skills and Vision for Their Future.
Being able to share my experience with a young person is fundamentally life-changing for both of us. It is what connects me to this community and makes it home.

— Gary Personette
What Began
As A Teacher's Great Idea...

“All of these experiences are the reason I look forward to coming to school every day,” said Lindsay. She, along with her classmates, has the opportunity to learn science, math and healthy eating all through the garden that sits outside the classroom door.

An outdoor classroom allows students to practice different skills across many disciplines — from studying microscopic bugs, to math and measurements in creating recipes. Real world skills, like teamwork and problem-solving, are part of the daily routine of working together to keep the garden going.

600+ teachers actively engaged with Champions For Learning.

20,000 students impacted through their teachers

112 great grant ideas funded

Educator & School Programs include:
* Golden Apple Teacher Recognition Program
* Connect With A Classroom Grants

...Made Students
More Confident and Inspired In Their Learning.
Being able to share ideas with other teachers and have the community’s support in being innovative helps me try things that help my students have experiences that connect their learning to real life.

— Susan Decaster, Laurel Oak Elementary
“Being part of a scholarship and mentoring program completely turned my world around,” said Pedro Lora. With guidance from his mentor and his mother, Pedro earned a scholarship and earned degrees in both Business Management and Marketing from Florida Gulf Coast University.

Inspired by the kind of investment made to his future, Pedro began volunteering as a translator, served on a student selection committee, and was the first graduate from our programs to become a mentor. “Spending time with my mentee is an incredible opportunity to help a student the way my mentor helped me,” explained Pedro.

And, as a recent addition to the staff of Champions For Learning, Pedro is working with new mentors and incoming students. “My life was impacted greatly by Champions For Learning,” says Pedro. “That’s what I want to do for the next generation of students — impact their lives.”

_What Began As A Student’s Desire to Succeed..._

_...Became the Motivation For Paying It Forward._

_There’s no better way to invest in the future than to leave a legacy for learning, and Champions For Learning provides just that opportunity to change lives._

— Charles A. Kerwood III, CFP®, ChFC®, AEP®, Waller Financial Planning Group, Inc.
2014-2015
Annual Investment
2014-15 Audited Financial Statement

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS $558,277
TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN
Student Program $444,839
REAL WORLD LEARNING MODEL
Student Program $305,283
EDUCATOR PROGRAMS $338,927
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT $305,567
FUNDRAISING $162,343
ADMINISTRATIVE $119,674

INVESTED IN LEARNING

Accountability, transparency and fiscal responsibility means your contribution through Champions For Learning does what it is intended to do — make a difference in the lives of our students.
— Mary Cone, Finance Chair

Growth in Restricted Assets

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Being involved with Champions For Learning has given me the extraordinary opportunity to connect with BOTH kids and teachers.

— Dick Munro