Reinventing our Communities: Investing in Opportunity

THE Scholarship Foundation OF ST. LOUIS

Investing in OPPORTUNITY

PRINCIPLES

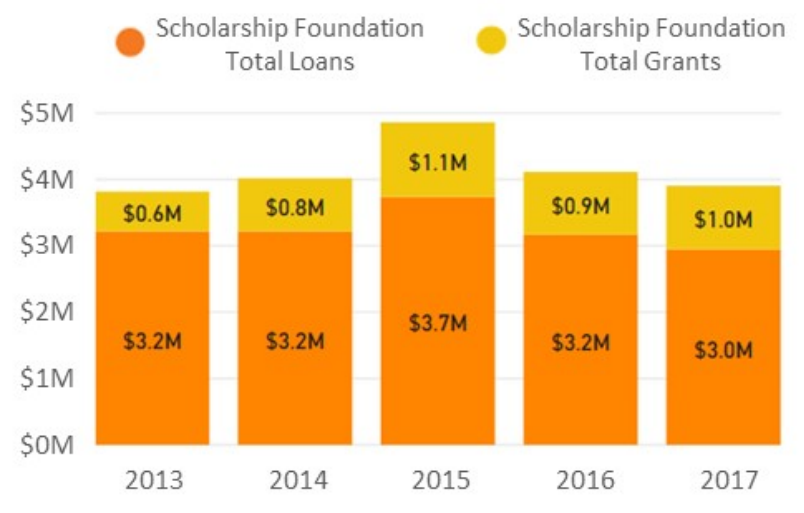
- Beyond economics: democracy, community, power
- Counteracting historic and system factors: racism, poverty, xenophobia.
- "*First, do no harm*."
- Education transforms.

STRATEGY

- **Awarding** ($5 million to 500 in 2018) directly to students)
- **Advising** (counsel to 6,000 on navigating, access/affordability)
- **Advocacy** (designed and led by affected students)

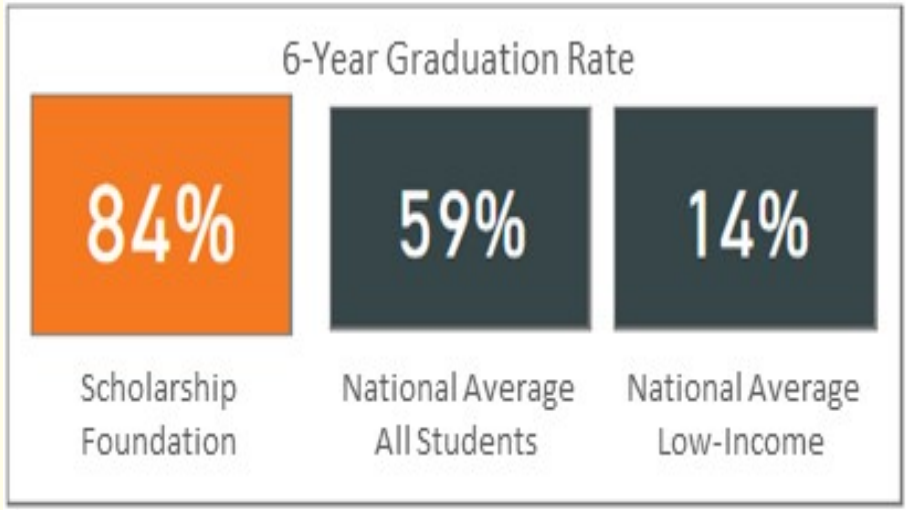
2017 Outcomes

TOTAL LOANS AND GRANTS



GPA

6-YEAR GRADUATION RATE



www.sfstl.org/kpis

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The Scholarship Foundation provided **$3M** in interest-free student loans and **$957K** in grants to **454** students in **2017**

Over the last decade, the average annual cost of attendance to attend a 4-year public institution has increased by approximately 3.5% every year.

Cost of Attendance (Avg)

$28,902

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Scholarship Foundation students receive financial support from other sources, but would still be unable to attend without the loans and grants provided by the Foundation:

EFC* (Avg)

$2,656

Other Grants (Avg)

$15,282

Subsidized Loans (Avg)

$954

** based on Estimated Family Contribution or EFC, an estimated 78% of Foundation students are eligible for federal Pell Grants.*

=

When cost of attendance exceeds a families ability to pay for college, the **GAP** that remains is unmet need:

Unmet Need (Avg)

$10,011

The Scholarship Foundation CLOSES THE GAP by providing last-dollar funding in the form of interest-free student loans and direct grants from our generous donors:

Average Loan Award **$7,291**	Students: **405**
Average Grant Award **$6,422**	Students: **149**

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Policy Issues

- **Wealth** correlates with educational access and outcomes from pre-K through post-doc.
- **Intergenerational debt** missing from most models.
- **Shifts from need to "merit", grants to loans** perpetuate inequity.
- **Gapping** (and no consumer protection) is dangerous.
- **Debt-financing combined with gapping** is toxic.
- **Complexity and lack of transparency/accountability** confound.