## News Release

## **COLLEGE BOUND Receives \$100,000 Grant from Jack Kent Cooke Foundation**

Grant to support College Bound St. Louis as they continue to offer their To and Through Program to students from the St. Louis region.

St. Louis, MO / July 30, 2024 – College Bound announced today it received a grant for \$100,000 from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (JKCF). Funding from the Cooke Foundation will be utilized to strengthen the college preparation component of College Bound's "To and Through" program. Specifically, leveraging resources to refine students' academic skills, increase their exposure to potential colleges and universities, and provide financial support to ensure students obtain their degrees. The grant is part of the Cooke Foundation's College Access and Excellence initiative.

College Bound's To and Through program is a comprehensive, full-service, 7- to 9-year experience, beginning in 10<sup>th</sup> grade and lasting through college graduation. The college preparation component sets students up for a successful transition to college at the best-fit institutions. Funding from the Cooke Foundation will support taking College Bound students on college tours, an important step for determining good college fit. It will also support tuition assistance, as financial barriers are one of the biggest obstacles for students to complete a college degree. The To and Through program will further use the funding to cover testing costs and test prep resources for students since they can be a good indicator of where a student needs additional academic support, and testing is still a requirement for many universities. Additionally, the grant will support staff and student information system costs, as the relationships and 1:1 coaching are at the heart of all the organization's work.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. Since 2000, the Foundation has awarded almost \$304 million in scholarships to more than 3,400 students from 8th grade through graduate school, along with comprehensive academic advising, career pathway counseling and other support services. The Foundation has also provided \$136 million in grants to organizations that serve such students.

To learn more about College Bound visit https://collegeboundstl.org.

To learn more about the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation visit <a href="https://www.jkcf.org/">https://www.jkcf.org/</a>.

## **About College Bound**

Through an individualized, holistic, and multi-year commitment, CB empowers students from disadvantaged backgrounds to complete higher education and enter successful careers.

College Bound students will navigate barriers to higher education attainment and enter successful careers and live fulfilling lives of choice and opportunity.