

Contact:
Julie Newport, Collaborative Communications
202-266-4718
newport@collaborativecommunications.com

Arizona Education Groups Partner To Improve College Success for All Students

College Success Arizona, Arizona Community Foundation To Coordinate Student
Funding and Support Services

PHOENIX (October, 13 2014)-[College Success Arizona](#) announced its partnership today with the [Arizona Community Foundation](#) (ACF) to expand efforts by both organizations to ensure college success for high-potential Arizona students.

College Success Arizona will work closely with ACF to offer mentoring and programmatic support to ACF scholarship recipients in an effort to boost their college completion rates. Both College Success Arizona and ACF currently provide four-year scholarships to promising high school seniors throughout the state each year. However, funding alone is not enough to guarantee any student's successful completion of post-secondary education. This challenge is particularly pronounced for first-generation, low-income, rural and minority students. With the launch of this partnership, each ACF scholarship recipient will now have access to College Success Arizona's time-tested mentoring and support process, including a dedicated Success Advisor and a comprehensive set of face-to-face, virtual and peer mentoring opportunities.

Thanks in part to College Success Arizona's intensive one-on-one support, seventy-one percent of College Success Arizona scholars- more than twice the statewide average-graduate from an institution of higher education. By partnering with ACF, both organizations will increase their capacity to help their scholars earn a degree.

"We're excited to collaborate with ACF as we work to increase the number of college graduates throughout Arizona-particularly for low-income and minority students," said Rich Nickel, President and CEO of College Success Arizona. "We look forward to working in tandem with ACF to share the resources necessary to reach our goals."

"In Arizona, far too few students who enter college are completing with a degree in hand. And, the numbers are worse for those students who struggle with financial need," said Steve Seleznow, President and CEO of ACF. "All of us need to ensure that every matriculating college student in Arizona graduates. ACF's partnership with College Success Arizona will provide the extra measure of support our scholarship students need to fully complete their college education."

About College Success Arizona

College Success Arizona is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization working to significantly increase the post-secondary attainment rate of students in Arizona,

particularly for those who otherwise would not be able to attend or graduate. The organization was started as the Arizona College Scholarship Foundation in 2005. For more information about College Success Arizona and its partners, visit <http://collegesuccessarizona.org/>.

About the Arizona Community Foundation

Established in 1978, the Arizona Community Foundation is a statewide family of charitable funds supported by thousands of Arizonans. With four regional offices serving communities across Arizona, ACF is among the top 30 community foundations in the nation with more than \$670 million in trust and endowment assets, and is confirmed in compliance with the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations. Last year, ACF and its affiliates awarded more than \$40 million in grants and scholarship funding to some 2,500 nonprofit organizations, schools and government agencies. More information is available at <http://www.azfoundation.org/>.

###