



# INEQUITIES IN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

[YOURUNITEDWAY.ORG/EQUITYDATASERIES](http://YOURUNITEDWAY.ORG/EQUITYDATASERIES)



United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg



We used high school dropout data to identify inequities in *High School Graduation* in our region. Here's what we found:

## HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT RATE

Increasingly, completion of high school or its equivalent is the minimum level of education sought by employers. The high school dropout rate is based on a four-year study of a group of students who enter ninth grade for the first time together with the expectation that they will graduate in four years. It expresses the percentage of students in an expected graduating class who dropped out – and did not re-enroll – during that four-year period.

Hispanic students make up...

**11%** of total students

But account for...

**37%** of students who drop out

Low-income students are **twice as likely** to drop out of school compared to students who are not low-income.

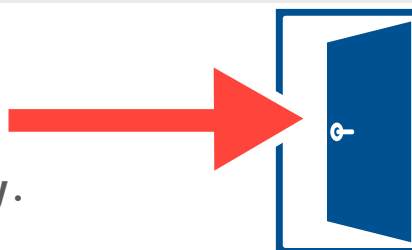


About **6 in 10** English as a second language students graduate on time...



...compared to **9 in 10** students whose first language is English.

**16%** of students with a disability drop out of school compared to **7%** of students without a disability.



## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Donate today at: [yourunitedway.org/donate](http://yourunitedway.org/donate).  
Your donation helps us make equitable *High School Graduation* a reality for our region.



# OUR WORK IN EDUCATION EQUITY: *HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION*



United Way of Greater  
Richmond & Petersburg

As a part of United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg's 2020-22 funding cycle, **three** programs at **two** partner agencies supporting *High School Graduation* are receiving a total of **\$270,000** in community investments.

## COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORT



Communities in Schools (CIS) of Richmond serves high school students in Richmond City and Henrico County by determining needs and providing community resources and non-traditional education programs for students at risk of dropping out. A recent CIS national study reveals that teachers, principals and superintendents report that poverty was the number one barrier to success in their schools. Other barriers include students coming to school unprepared to learn, chronic absenteeism and a reported lack of parental involvement. CIS helps diagnose those problems and treat the chronic symptoms of poverty that show up in the classroom through the Integrated Student Support model. The model is implemented by a school-based site coordinator who brings resources to school to address basic, behavioral and non-academic needs of children.

## SACRED HEART CENTER COLLEGE- AND CAREER-BOUND PROGRAM



Sacred Heart's College- and Career-Bound Program is a culturally relevant strategic life-planning program open to Latino high school students that focuses on exploring post-secondary career pathways, including community college, trade/apprenticeship programs, workforce development and four-year colleges/universities. Sacred Heart's ongoing work with students affirms the ongoing need to bridge the gap in college access for Latinx families. For some students, this means providing direct assistance as they navigate the college application process and look for ways to pay for higher education. For other students, bridging the gap signifies providing information about available education and vocational options and teaching the tools needed for success.