



the  
evergreen  
state college  
foundation

# **FOREVERreaching** 2022-2023 Impact Report



*Students want what Evergreen has to offer. You are answering this call.*

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**For all the ways you  
champion Evergreen,  
thank you.**



Abby Kelso '01, MPA '11  
Vice President for Advancement  
Executive Director  
The Evergreen State College Foundation

**Your unwavering commitment to The Evergreen State College shapes the future of education.**

Your steadfast dedication achieved a historic first with the launch of Forever Green, the College's inaugural campus-wide fundraising campaign. Together with a tidal wave of nearly 4,000 dedicated alumni, family, and friends of Evergreen, you have driven the College towards an ambitious goal to raise \$55+ million by June 30, 2024.

2023 ushered in the public phase of the Forever Green campaign, inviting the full force of community giving. Through Forever Green, every single contribution is a catalyst towards amplifying student success. And it's working.

Evergreen began the 2023 fall quarter with an impressive 23% increase in new student enrollment. This marks the largest percentage increase in new students since 1980, as well as an 11% growth in overall undergraduate enrollment.

New programs in climate justice, entrepreneurship, prison education, and early childhood education are inspiring students at our Olympia and Tacoma campuses to tackle critical social and environmental challenges head-on.

And with more than 66% growth in student aid through the Foundation since the start of the campaign in 2019, our commitment to making great public education available to diverse leaders and thinkers is stronger than ever.

For all the ways you champion Evergreen, thank you. I'm honored to see the power of Evergreen's community come together, united for change.

Today, as even more students want what Evergreen has to offer, it's you, our cherished community, who are answering this call. Your commitment shines through and I'm excited to see what we can do together in 2024.

**\$4,168,013** raised to help students and grow campus programs.

**283** students received scholarships.

**\$1,048,921** in scholarships offered.

**\$78,640** in micro-grants awarded through the Student Emergency Fund.

**152** students received micro-grants.



Evergreen has transformed the lives of over 46,000 students who have gone on to enact positive change for their communities.

There was joy, excitement, and surprise as alumni, donors, and champions of The Evergreen State College gathered in the great hall of the Seattle Art Museum to celebrate the public launch of the Forever Green campaign.

Forever Green, the College's first campus-wide comprehensive fundraising campaign, was born in the summer of 2019 with an ambitious goal to raise \$55+ million dollars to expand financial resources for students and programs. For years, the College and The Evergreen State College Foundation partnered together behind the scenes to garner support and momentum.

Then in March 2023, Forever Green officially became public, ready to meet its bold goal through the power of community giving.

Speaking during the event, Evergreen's President, Dr. John Carmichael and Executive Vice President, Dr. Dexter Gordon, emphasized the importance of this historic moment. Dr. Carmichael reminded the crowd of Evergreen's start as a high-quality, public liberal arts institution created by the community, for the community. And Dr. Gordon emphasized the important ways Evergreen has transformed lives and prepared our future leaders. Together, they welcomed the vibrant Greener community to join the campaign's bold efforts.

"Let's do this together," announced Dr. Gordon as he addressed the crowd with a smile. Invoking

the groundbreaking work of Dr. Maxine Mimms, founder of Evergreen Tacoma, and Dr. Gilda Shepherd, renowned professor and filmmaker, Dr. Gordon reminded people of the power of community activism, vision, and tenacity. He invited the crowd to join the Forever Green campaign on what he called, "the journey of a lifetime."

Guests heard how gifts to the campaign have already increased student scholarships as well as emergency aid, launched a new Center for Climate Action and Sustainability, and helped Evergreen's s'g'wi g'wi ? altx'w: House of Welcome expand its impact as a grantmaker to enhance Native Arts programs at other universities. During the public launch, two new \$1 million-dollar gifts were also announced, one from an anonymous donor with deep ties to the College and the other from John Hennessey, a 1977 graduate and member of the Foundation's Board of Governors.

"This night ranks with the most important moments in the history of Evergreen," said Oscar Soule, emeritus faculty, former member of the Foundation's Board of Governors, and special guest of the evening. "What happened at this event has never happened before. I sincerely hope and believe some of the younger people in the audience will be around 50 years from now and remember the night Evergreen grew up and proclaimed its ability to be in the race for the duration."

**Our world is filled with uncertainties. Evergreen's work is to garner the resources to prepare our students to face those uncertainties. Let's do this together.**



Dr. Dexter Gordon  
Executive Vice President  
The Evergreen State College

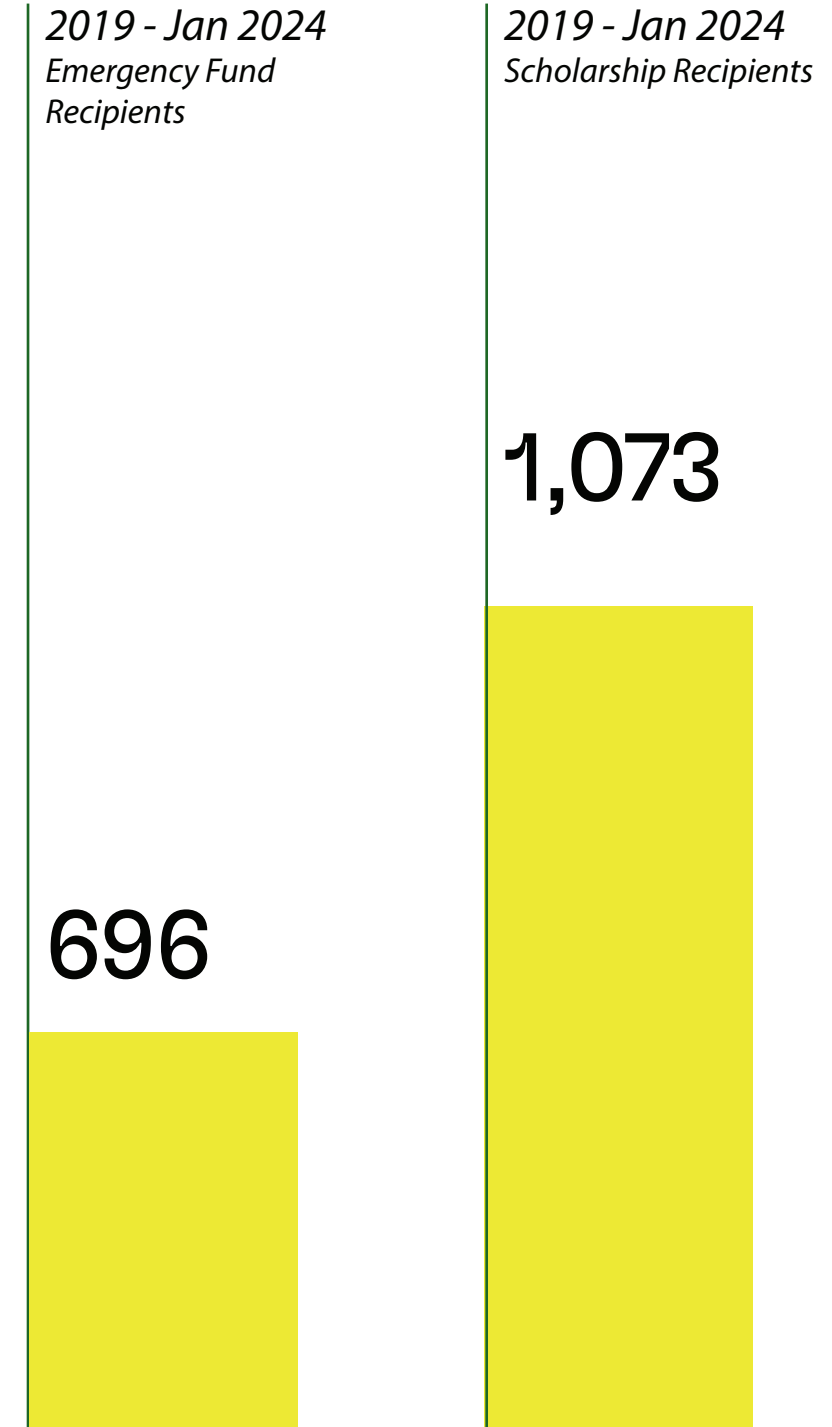
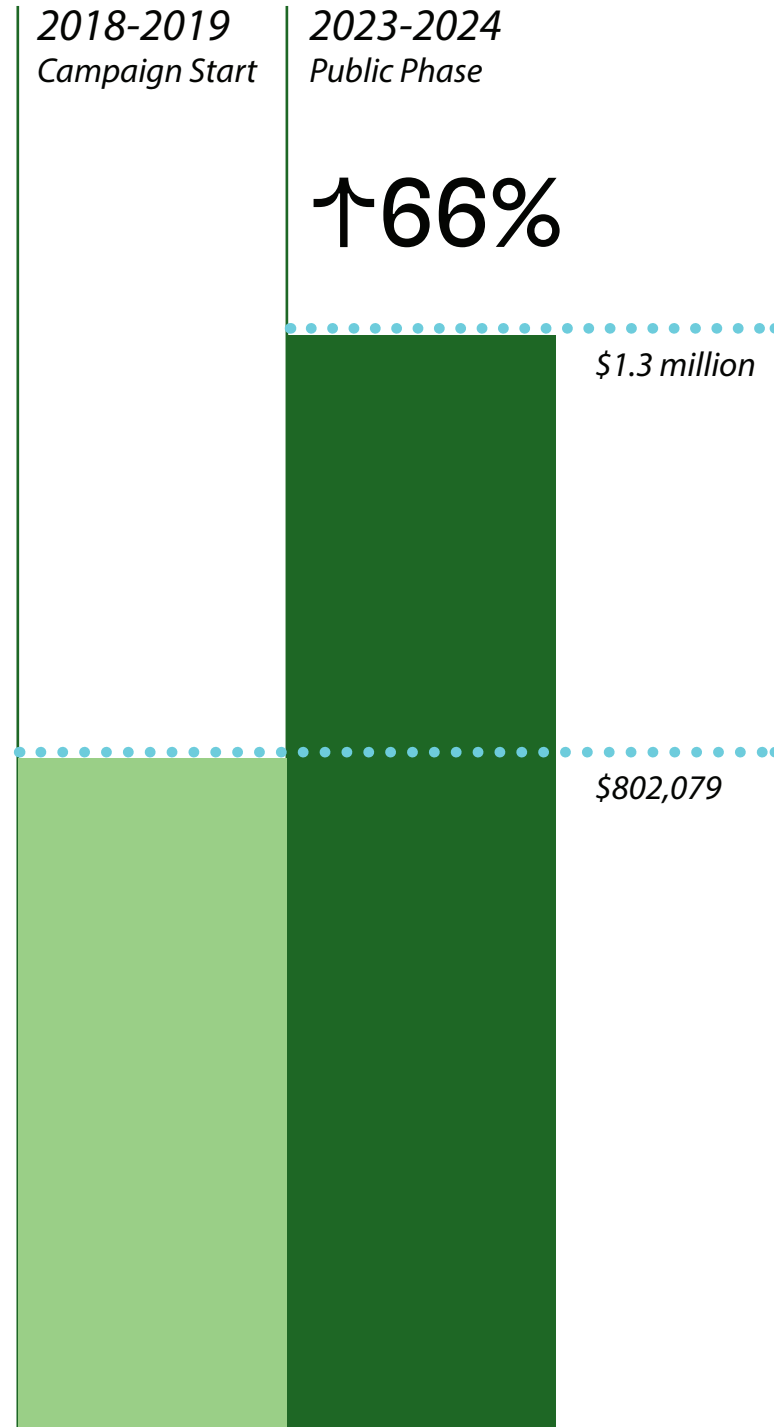
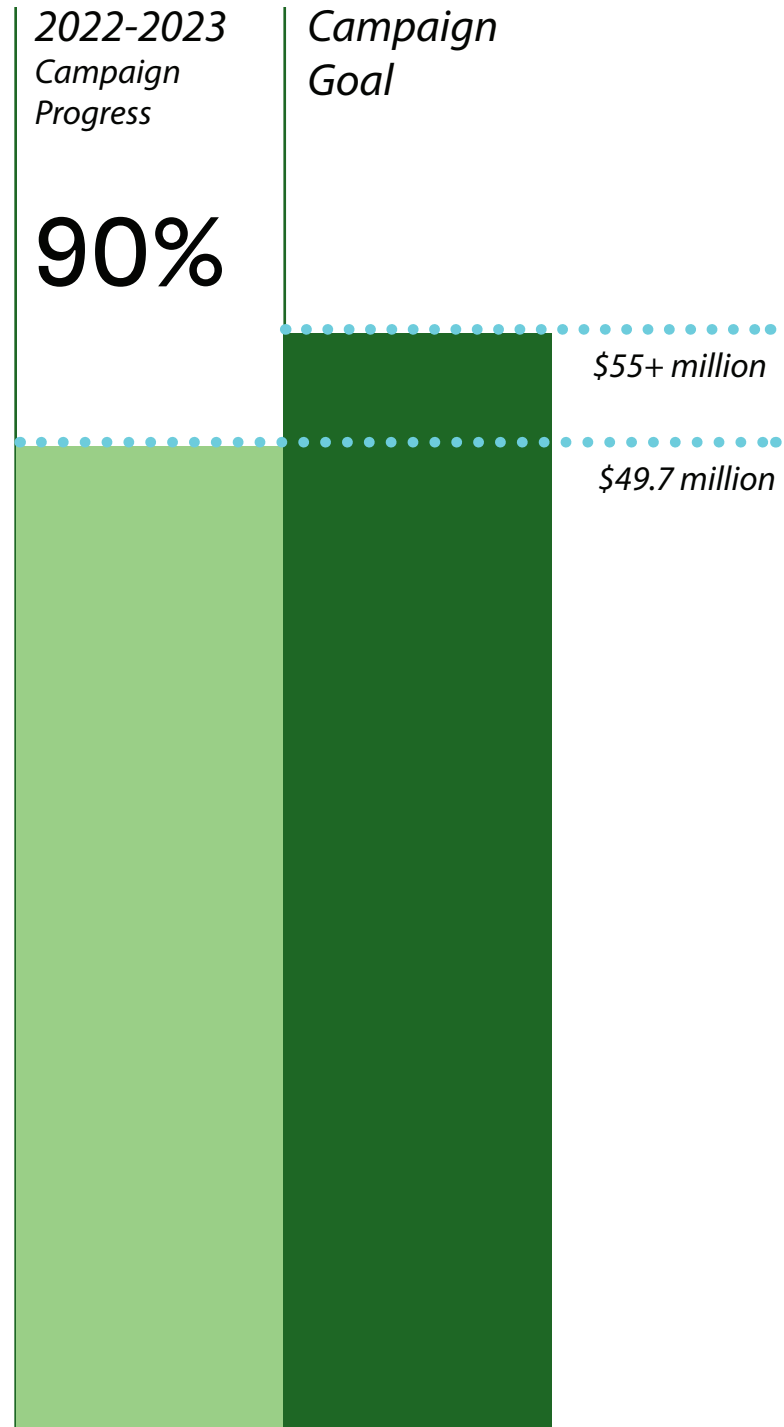
Forever Green Public Launch  
Event, March 2023, Seattle Art  
Museum.

## Campaign Public Launch Event March 2023



Photo collage of the public launch of the Forever Green campaign, March 2023 at the Seattle Art Museum. Photos include Dr. Dexter Gordon, Nancy and Daniel J. Evans, Dr. John Carmichael '87, MPA '98, and the Git Hoan Dancers.

**Your Campaign Impact Since 2019**



Foundation aid provided to students through scholarships, fellowships, grants, and the Student Emergency.

Number of students provided with aid and awards since campaign start.



# Forever GREEN

The first-ever comprehensive campaign for  
The Evergreen State College.

Evergreen: a place for innovation, invention, and a great liberal arts education serving the public good. Now is your time to champion what an Evergreen education means for the world. Through the Forever Green campaign, you can help raise \$55+ million to support diverse next-generation leaders, learning for collaborative and complex problem-solving, and the expansion of Native Arts and Cultures.

Campaign ends June 30, 2024. Join us in fulfilling Evergreen's potential.



Scan to learn more  
& donate

By coming together, we  
have a huge impact.





**Parents have one of the worst college retention rates, but if they get this kind of childcare that outcome flips and they have incredible completion rates.**

Casey Lalonde  
Director, Evergreen Children's Center

For students who are parents, the Evergreen Children's Center is a powerful resource for helping them beat the odds and finish school.

Throughout its history, Evergreen has served a large number of returning adults, many with children. "Students who are parents are looking for affordable, quality, on-campus childcare," explains Casey Lalonde, Director of the Evergreen Children's Center. "They will sacrifice their own well-being if they can't get it." The U.S. Department of Education data backs this up: single and married mothers are 29% more likely to leave college without a degree after six years than non-parent women.

That's why Casey and her team have worked hard to turn the Evergreen Children's Center into a hub for top-notch childcare. Serving 70 children ranging from infants to preschoolers, the Center provides all-day care, free formula and meals, free and readily-available diapers, wipes, and clothing, and hosts events that give parents a chance to meet, network, and learn.

In 2023, the Children's Center was awarded a prestigious 4-year, \$672,000 grant from the Department of Education's Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program (CCAMPIS). "We have always been able to provide some subsidized care thanks to monies from the Student Activities Fund," explains Casey. "But this grant will enable us to close the gap and provide fully-subsidized childcare for 10 of our most

economically challenged families—they won't have to pay anything." That's huge when you consider that the normal cost for childcare, particularly unsubsidized infant care, can cost annually almost as much as a second college tuition.

The CCAMPIS grant is also a catalyst for the Children's Center to complete their accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the largest and most widely recognized system for evaluating early childhood programs.

Casey and her staff are also excited for CCAMPIS to support even more parent education, such as kindergarten readiness and how to access disability services in the public school system. She is also eager to let parents meet and mingle. "Parenting can be isolating," admits Casey. "Young students who have children might have trouble relating to their peers who don't have children. We give them a chance to learn from and connect with other parents."

"Our parents are very capable," beams Casey. "But we can help them continue to save time, money, and stress. For many, that's going to make the difference and get them across the finish line."

Once you have  
wrestled,  
everything else  
is easy!



Fan Zhang  
Head Coach  
Evergreen Women's Wrestling



Evergreen wrestling duel versus Big Bend Community College, October 2023.

In December 2022, Evergreen announced it would be starting new teams for men's and women's wrestling and cross country. Entrepreneurs, Kim Kaufman '78 and Jimmy Goldsmith, made a \$150,000 commitment over three years to support the new wrestling and cross-country teams, and more donors have generously contributed since!

As of January 2024, Women's Wrestling has 15 students on the team and secured two championships at the Mountaineer Open, three at the Spokane Open, and one at the Grays Harbor Invitational. The team worked hard to earn more spots in the Cascade Collegiate Conference (CCC) in 2024, and they qualified to represent Evergreen at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Championship.

Evergreen is the only 4-year college with a women's wrestling team in Washington state. This unique aspect has contributed to a strong recruitment season. Additionally, the fact that neither Hawaii nor Alaska have women's wrestling programs at their universities has led to a significant interest from high school students and coaches in those states.

Coach Fan Zhang believes in the bright future of the Evergreen Women's Wrestling team and is excited about what lies ahead!



In 2022, Evergreen was ranked #1 nationally by *Washington Monthly* for service to society.

## Nichole's Butterfly Effect

Nichole Alexander '21, MPA '23 is using her Evergreen education every day to solve critical social issues and improve the lives of thousands across Washington state.

A proud double graduate of Evergreen Tacoma, Nichole's educational journey wasn't easy. "I walked through the doors of Tacoma straight out of prison wearing an ankle bracelet. I traveled more than seven hours each day to and from school via bus, light rail, train, and on foot," Nichole remembers.

With support from mentors like Kelli Bush '04, Director of the Sustainability in Prisons Project (SPP), Evergreen Tacoma faculty Dr. Anthony Zaragoza and Dean Dr. Marcia Tate Arunga, Nichole was able to excel and discover her passion for policy and advocacy. "Being at Evergreen Tacoma touched my soul," explains Nichole. "Every step of the way there was someone there to help and challenge me to do even more."

Nichole started her Evergreen journey as a butterfly technician, earning her first Evergreen credits through the SPP Butterfly program. After finishing her Bachelor of Arts degree in 2021, Nichole continued straight into a Master of Public Administration degree. In addition to raising two children,

during her graduate studies she worked full-time and was promoted to Director for Special Initiatives and Outreach at the Public Defenders Association. "I work to lead solutions for the unsheltered population in Seattle," explains Nichole. "Every single day I went to class, my learning paralleled what I did in my job. We learned how to identify and maneuver around real-life situations. Every project we worked on—flow charts, policy analysis, fundraising—these are skills I use daily as a non-profit leader and as someone who has to represent our work to the government."

For the final project of her Master program, Nichole proposed higher education reform in prisons, including changes to the state's existing prison education program under Policy 500. As a result of these efforts, the call for policy changes was elevated. Active discussions continue as interested parties work together to allow incarcerated people compensation for their work while also earning college credit through internship model programs.

During her time at Evergreen, Nichole received scholarships thanks to donors like you—including an Evergreen Foundation Scholarship through the Tacoma campus. In June 2023, Nichole finished her Master of Public Administration at Evergreen Tacoma and was

chosen to be the graduate speaker during commencement. "My passion for helping others fuels me to excel in school, change my life, and make a difference," she said as she addressed the audience during the graduation ceremony.

Today, Nichole continues helping homeless populations in King County through her work with the Public Defenders Association, and she sits on the Board for Weld, a drop-in center for formerly incarcerated individuals. She also has been accepted into a Ph.D. program in prison reform education. "I want to be able to work nationally to change policy around the justice

system," says Nichole as she rearranges a large stack of related books she plans to read while charting out her Ph.D. path forward. "I need the challenge and to be around people who are driven and ask question." With a lighthearted smile she adds, "I want the wizard robe, and I want my kids to call me 'Dr. Mom'. That will be the last step in breaking generational incarceration."



**My passion  
for helping  
others fuels  
me to excel.**

Nichole Alexander '21, MPA '23  
Foundation Scholarship Recipient



High-school students enrolled in the Upward Bound program work on building and programming Arduino microcontrollers in the computer lab.

Evergreen is excited to be implementing two historic, multi-year grants (2020-2025) from the U.S. Department of Education totaling \$3.1 million for Student Support Services, part of the College's suite of TRIO programs all funded by the Federal Government. These grants are stewarded by the College's TRIO Student Success and Disability Support office.

TRIO Student Success and Disability Support is an educational opportunity and outreach program designed to motivate and support students from historically marginalized backgrounds within higher education, including low-income and first-generation college students and students with disabilities. Thanks to these grants, we have expanded Evergreen's ability to provide support for students with disabilities to pursue their college education and reach graduation.

With these grants, TRIO staff can provide year-round academic, personal, and professional development support to ensure students maintain good academic standing and thrive in college. This includes advising, providing resources, and holding space for peer support. TRIO also provides individualized counseling and coaching, academic tutoring, financial literacy education, support in applying to graduate

school, and social and cultural events. In addition, Evergreen has received five multi-year grants (2022-2027) totaling over \$8.6 million for its Upward Bound programs, which are also part of the Department of Education's TRIO programs. Evergreen's Upward Bound programs, located in Tacoma, Clover Park and Shelton school district high schools, prepare eligible high school students for college.

In addition to services such as tutoring and preparation for college entrance exams, Upward Bound staff guide high school students, including students who are homeless or aging out of foster care, in the process of completing college admission applications and financial forms. Staff also help with reentry and alternative education options for people who want to come back after dropping out, and education and counseling services to improve financial and economic literacy of students and their parents.



Students help clean the solar array on top of the library building. Evergreen generates 35,000 kWh of solar power annually, has designated LEED gold-certified buildings, received the Thurston County Chamber's Green Business of the Year award in 2023, and is committed to addressing climate issues through the new Center for Climate Action and Sustainability.

One of the biggest problems we must solve together is climate change. Addressing this complex, global issue requires solutions grounded in sustainability, collaboration, and justice—values that are the foundation of an Evergreen education. Of course, values alone will not be enough. Turning cherished Evergreen ideals into action requires vision, creativity, and significant financial support. Often, that financial support comes from donors who are looking for a way to make an impact that will last for generations.

Evergreen graduates Christy Holz '78 and Tim Ball '80 understand what it will take to tackle climate change. The couple, who met at Evergreen, have devoted their careers to developing sustainable technologies. Together, they have helped launch more than half a dozen start-up solar companies. Now, Christy and Tim have made what might be their greatest investment yet, a \$1 million gift to The Evergreen State College to establish the Center for Climate Action and Sustainability. Today, the Center is leading the way forward under the leadership of Director, Dr. Anthony Levenda.

"Climate action is the greatest opportunity for entrepreneurship, leadership, and purposeful endeavor of our time," said Holz, who serves on Evergreen's Foundation Board of Governors. "Transformative change requires transformative education to understand and

ultimately solve the challenges ahead. Evergreen is uniquely prepared to educate tomorrow's leaders who can tackle this very real crisis."

Based on Evergreen's Olympia campus, the Center for Climate Action and Sustainability is designed to equip students with the knowledge they need to be climate leaders. This interdisciplinary hub of innovation will align curriculum across the arts and sciences, connects students to community partnerships, and provide internships, all with a focus on developing justice-oriented, science-based, and equitable solutions to the climate crisis. Indeed, it is a public laboratory for science and action, and a galvanizing force for community groups, government agencies, and students and faculty to work toward solutions together.

Thanks to the landmark generosity from Christy and Tim, the Center for Climate Action and Sustainability gives Evergreen students the skills and expertise to answer an urgent call to action, starting a ripple effect of hope and progress that will be felt across time and distance. At the same time, the gift is a symbol of the impact that donors can have on Evergreen and on communities everywhere. We offer our gratitude to Christy and Tim for a gift that will be felt far beyond the Evergreen campus and for many decades to come.



From 2019-2023, you increased the average amount of scholarship awards by 16%.

evergreen

YOUR WAY TO THE WORLD




**In 2023, you helped support 11% growth in overall undergraduate enrollment.**






**Ten-Year Trends FY14-FY23**




**Assets**

	June 30, 2014	10 years	June 30, 2023	Low	High	Notes
Net assets (\$ millions) <sup>1</sup>	13.1		26.7	13.1	29.0	The Foundation's net assets more than doubled in 10 years.
Endowment (\$ millions) <sup>2</sup>	10.0		19.6	10.0	19.6	The Foundation's endowments nearly doubled in 10 years.

**Revenue and Returns**

	June 30, 2014	10 years	June 30, 2023	Low	High	AVG	Notes
Gifts & contributions (\$ millions) <sup>3</sup>	2.9		2.9	2.0	5.8	3.0	Includes new gifts received and binding pledges committed.
Investment returns (\$ millions) <sup>4</sup>	1.1		1.1	-1.1	5.1	1.1	The majority of investment returns are associated with endowments.
University of Washington Consolidated Endowment Fund (UWCEF) return (%)	15.8		6.0	-5.5	35.1	8.2	The Foundation's endowments are invested with the UWCEF.

**Foundation Impact on the College**

	June 30, 2014	10 years	June 30, 2023	Low	High	Notes
Grants, scholarships and college support (\$ millions) <sup>5</sup>	1.9		3.9	1.3	3.9	Includes all scholarships, grants and spending to support college programs.
Scholarship recipients	183		283	183	301	In 10 years, the number of scholarship recipients increased by 68%.
Student emergency fund recipients	0		155	0	346	This fund gives \$500 microgrants to students facing financial emergencies.

<sup>1</sup> Statement of Financial Position: Total net assets

<sup>2</sup> Notes to the Financial Statements: Note 4, 2023 Endowment net assets, end of year

<sup>3</sup> Statement of Activities: Statement of Activities: Gifts and contributions, reflects June 30, 2016 adjustment of unconditional pledge to conditional

<sup>4</sup> Statement of Activities: Investment income

<sup>5</sup> Statement of Activities: Grants and scholarships plus other college support



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**FOREVERgrateful**  
Thank You!