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College Now Awarded \$6.1 Million in Federal 21st Century Community Learning Center Grants

CLEVELAND, July 31, 2018 — College Now Greater Cleveland was awarded nine 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) grants, totaling \$6.1 million over five years. The 21st Century CLC grants are awarded to the State of Ohio, which then passes the funding on to organizations that will deliver services in the communities they serve. College Now's 21st Century funding supports its impact program, which provides after-school ACT/SAT prep, career advising and college visits to students over the course of an eight-week session. The impact program runs three sessions each year and provides spring break and summer college visits.

College Now received three renewals, supporting work in Euclid; the Louis Stokes wing of the Main Branch of Cleveland Public Library; and Wellington Exempted Village Schools. Three of the grants are new dollars that will come directly to College Now for work at City Life, Greater Cleveland Youth for Christ in the Near West-Side neighborhood of Cleveland; Clearview High School in Lorain County; and the MLK, Jr. Branch of the Cleveland Public Library in the University Circle neighborhood of Cleveland. Finally, three of the grants were written with partners, who will contract with College Now for work in Warrensville; Longfellow Middle School in Lorain County; and the Boys & Girls Club of Cleveland in the Slavic Village neighborhood of Cleveland.

College Now has delivered its impact program since 2012, and over the last six years, students participating in the program have seen an average ACT score increase of two points – the equivalent of an 80-point increase on the SAT. This is significant because increasing scores, even by one or two points, can mean access to thousands of dollars more in financial aid.

"In the 2017-2018 school year, we had five impact sites," said Lee Friedman, CEO of College Now. "We are thrilled to offer this critical programming in nine locations across Northeast Ohio for the 2018-2019 school year."

To learn more about College Now's impact program, visit www.collegenowgc.org/impact.

About College Now Greater Cleveland, Inc.

College Now provides Greater Cleveland students with guidance and access to funds to prepare for and graduate from college. For 50 years, our goal has been to help students pursue educational opportunities that empower them to embark on rewarding careers and strengthen our community. College Now assists more than 27,000 students each year, delivering college and career access advising, financial aid counseling, and scholarship and retention services in Greater Cleveland schools, in the College Now Resource Center and through community-based programs. For more information, visit www.collegenowgc.org.

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