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# Clark College Foundation partnership chosen for Excellence in Collaboration Award

*Nonprofit Network recognizes Penguin Promise Scholarship*

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Clark College Foundation has been chosen as the sole finalist by the Nonprofit Network Southwest Washington for the Excellence in Collaboration Award.

Clark College Foundation, Clark College and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Washington (BGCSW) teamed up in 2009 and later launched in 2012, a Penguin Promise Scholarship program that provides a path for some members of BGCSW to enter and complete their education at Clark College. The program's first student will enter Clark in 2015. More than \$1 million has been raised in support of students involved in Penguin Promise.

Penguin Promise will directly affect the community by training young people in quality career and technical programs offered by Clark College. The evidence is overwhelming that youth who receive at least two years of post-high school training are more satisfied, earn higher salaries and are more productive citizens.

Penguin Promise serves at-risk middle and high school students living in Clark County. Students who complete the program are rewarded a scholarship—in the form of top-off funds—for up to three years of college education at Clark College.

NNSW usually names more than one organization for its award categories, but Clark's project stood above the other entries.

“Although there were other nominees in this category, none measured up to the standard set by your program. We rarely do this—but we are naming only a single finalist,” according to Jeanne Kojis, NNSW executive director.

An awards ceremony will be held September 11 at Heathman Lodge in Vancouver.

[Clark College Foundation](#) is a nonprofit charity that serves as the fundraising partner of [Clark College](#) in support of student learning and program excellence.

[Clark College](#) is a community college providing two-year transfer degree studies, technical training and basic skills courses for 24,000 full-time and part-time students during the 2012-2013 academic year.

[BGCSW](#) enables all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.

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