



CAMPAIGN *for* CLARK COLLEGE

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Community Foundation for Southwest Washington grant helps clear the path

\$25,000 grant to break generational cycles of poverty

VANCOUVER, Wash.—Clark College Foundation has received a grant from the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington for a program targeted at breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty in the region.

The goal of Clark College’s [WorkFirst](#) and [Career Pathways](#) program is to move participants from poverty to self-sufficiency through education and employment. The program helps participants become workforce-ready and gives them tools for coping with daily challenges. The \$25,000 grant will provide funding for information technology support, staff training and hiring student-peer mentors.

“Clark’s Career Pathways program reduces the barriers for low-income residents to attend training or GED courses and become competitive in the job market,” said Lisa Gibert, president/CEO, Clark College Foundation. “We are grateful to the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington’s leadership in helping us serve the highest need families in our region.”

The Pathways Center also offers encouragement and guidance to students with limited resources so that they can experience the many benefits of higher education, according to Tiffany Williams, Clark's Workforce Pathways program manager.

“For some, student success can be achieved with the use of a calendar or notebook and a few bits of great advice. But many under-resourced or first-generation college students do not have the benefit of a generational guide; a person to assist with understanding social and educational norms or even navigating today’s tech literacy environment,” she said.

The grant is part of Clark College Foundation’s [\\$20 million comprehensive fundraising campaign](#) and supports the initiative of boosting access to education.

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

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