

NEXT STEPS

CAMPAIGN



 **STEPS TO SUCCESS**

Closing the Opportunity Gap

The Future of Steps to Success: A Case for Support

Steps to Success is a key player in promoting educational equity for low-income families, having already transformed countless lives while setting a high standard for community involvement. As we relaunch a capital campaign to extend our impact, it's crucial to convey the significant positive changes this program brings to both students and the Brookline community. Our campaign is not just about finding funds; it's about investing in the future of Brookline youth, helping them overcome obstacles, and breaking the cycle of poverty.



Commitment to Educational Equity

Since 2001, Steps has addressed the unique needs of over 5,000 students from low-income families, ensuring they not only graduate but also excel both academically and personally. In partnership with the Public Schools of Brookline and Brookline Housing Authority, Steps to Success closes the opportunity gap and stands as the sole comprehensive resource for these youth.

Steps doesn't merely promise results; it delivers them.

96%

of students in afterschool programs exhibit growth in social-emotional skills such as engagement and communication.

95%

of students show growth in the skills targeted by STEM and arts enrichment programs.

99%

of student interns meet or exceed supervisor expectations in the Career Connections program.

93%

of student interns report feeling better prepared to consider and explore different career options.

88%

of college students are on track to graduate within four to six years, six times the national average for first-generation, low-income students.

100%

of Career Connections participants create a resume and successfully complete their internship placements.



“When you’re younger and in the program, you take some of the opportunities for granted because you don’t realize how everything is a building block to get you to where you’re supposed to go.”

— **Kerimal Suriel Guerrero**

BHS 2016 | Howard University 2020 | Suffolk University Law School 2023
Assistant Dean of Law Student Affairs, Suffolk University Law School

Steps to Success Inc.

Our Theory of Change

We promote equity for Brookline's students from low-income families by expanding their horizons, building upon their skills, and supporting their educational journey in order to maximize their life choices.

The Steps to Success Partnership shares a vision of Brookline as a community where all students can achieve their educational, economic, and life goals into adulthood.

1

STS, INC. SUPPORTS

- Out of school time enrichment
- Outdoor exploration

STUDENTS ACHIEVE

- Increased engagement in learning, improved relationships, communications, and skills

2

STS, INC. SUPPORTS

- College and career readiness
- Exposure to different careers

STUDENTS ACHIEVE

- High school graduation
- Post-secondary plan creation

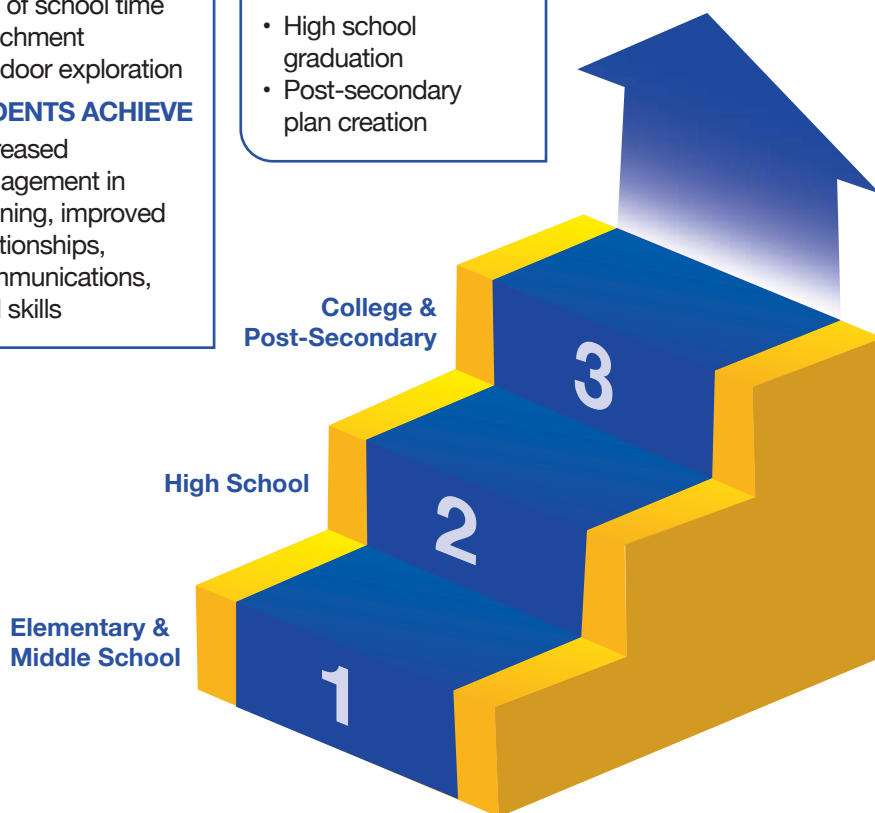
3

STS, INC. SUPPORTS

- College matriculation and persistence
- Access to financial aid

STUDENTS ACHIEVE

- College graduation
- Career pathway realization



The Partnership
Steps to Success Inc. • Public Schools of Brookline
Brookline Housing Authority

Enriching Community and Building Future Leaders

Steps to Success doesn't just support students; it enriches the whole Brookline community. By nurturing responsibility and leadership, the program encourages students to engage in community projects and internships. Shantalle Ruiz's story exemplifies this; her involvement with Steps led her to graduate from Bridgewater State University and explore global social work experiences in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Belize, and Japan, preparing her to contribute to her community at home.



The program emphasizes strong partnerships with local organizations, which enhance its outreach and provides mutual benefits to its partners. Through collaborative efforts, Steps to Success ensures students gain real-world experience and make positive contributions to the community. The success of these partnerships is reflected in testimonials from partners and families who repeatedly witness the program's transformative effects.

Through its programming and community connections, Steps emphasizes a holistic approach to student development and community enrichment, preparing students to become integral members of their community.



“Steps’ afterschool programs have helped me a great deal, especially with my late hours of work, and especially with the relationships with the staff—they are amazing.”

— **Lindsay Linton**
Steps Parent

“Steps has given me lots of opportunity to grow as a person, as a student. They helped make me more comfortable asking for help.”

— **Nicole Linton**
BHS 2027

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Why Your Support Matters



Backing Steps to Success means investing in Brookline's future, promising not just individual achievements but also collective prosperity. By joining this campaign, you are helping the next generation of Brookline students access the opportunities they need to succeed, irrespective of their socio-economic background.

 **STEPS TO SUCCESS**

