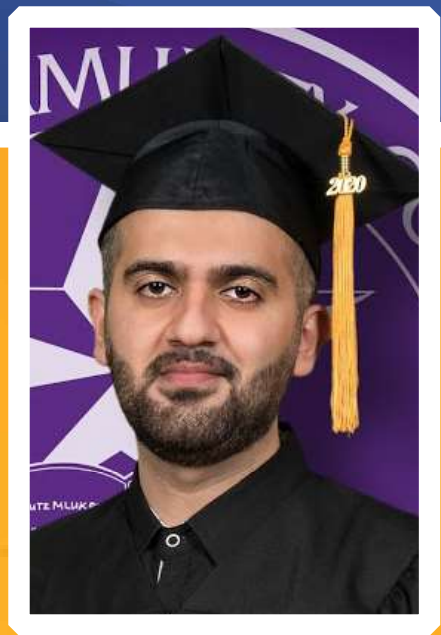
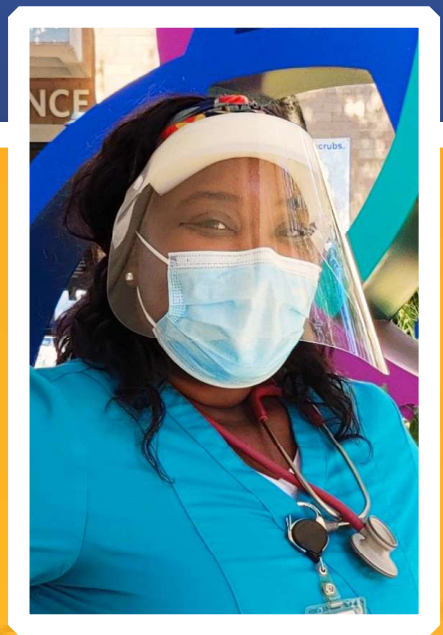
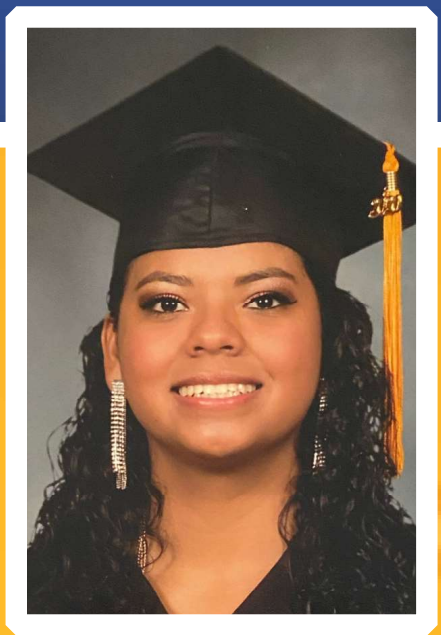


Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You



CAPITALIDEA ★
Connecting People to Their Future

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION & VISION

Capital IDEA's mission is to lift working adults out of poverty and into living wage careers through education and career advancement.

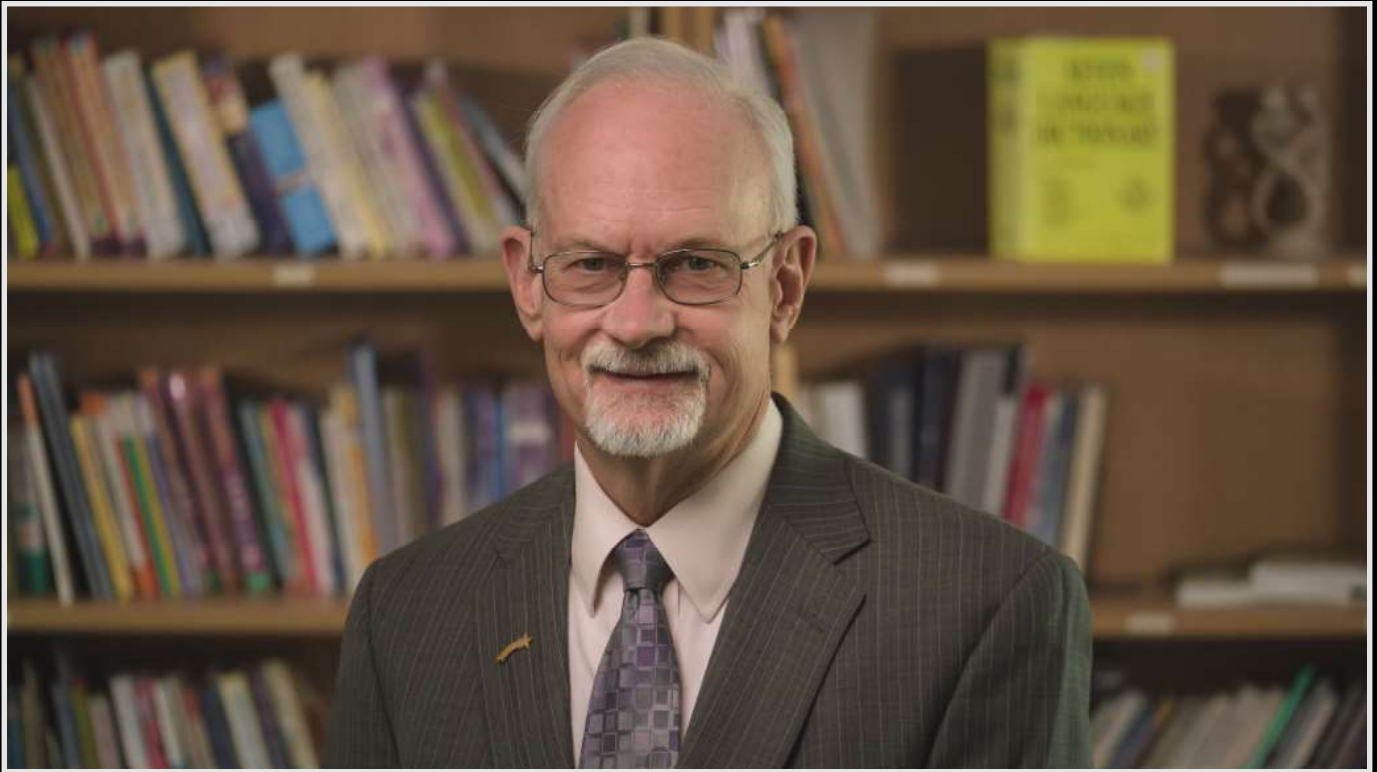
We envision a thriving Central Texas where non-traditional students have the opportunity to get an education, enter a skilled occupation, earn a living wage, and reach their full potential.

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STEVE JACKOBS

Capital IDEA
Executive
Director



HELLO, I'M **STEVE JACKOBS**, Executive Director at Capital IDEA and I am proud to have led the staff since our founding in 1998.

Central Texas is one of the few regions in the nation investing local funds in the careers and futures of its low-income neighbors. Thanks to the generosity and commitment of individual donors, foundations, local employers, and local government, Capital IDEA supports over 1,000 students at Austin Community College each year in nursing, tech, and other careers.

With the backing of funders like the City of Austin, Travis County, and St. David's Foundation, we support them with tuition, fees, books, tools, immunizations, work clothes, childcare, transpor-

tation, emergency assistance, and more – everything necessary for education short of bare living expenses.

Students tell us Capital IDEA is too good to be true. A free education, support along the way, what's the catch? The catch is simple: In return for our commitments, we ask our students to commit to be accountable, work hard on their education, and then give back to the community once they start their new careers.

We've long known that a financial shortfall of even a few hundred dollars can spiral a low-income student into a missed semester or more. When the pandemic slammed into our region last spring, it became so much worse. Capital IDEA acted quickly, pivoted to online, and filled the gaps. We appreciate that funders like United Way of Williamson County and Travis County flexed grant restrictions so we could move resources where they were needed most. As classes went online, we made sure students had the needed internet and computers. We are proud that all but a few students stayed the course and all but a few graduates made it to the finishing line.

During this time of great anxiety and uncertainty, our funders stepped up in ways we so much appreciate.

When the pandemic hit, we feared our support would suffer with it. In-

stead supporters like Bank of America doubled their grants. Volunteer-driven organizations, like Hindu Charities for America, reinvented their fundraising gala online to continue supporting our students and others. The City of Austin granted flexibility when students needed to extend their studies.

It was inspiring and gratifying to see our funding community react so quickly to the new reality. On behalf of the Capital IDEA board, staff, and students, THANK YOU for your flexibility, generosity and unwavering support through this challenging year. We couldn't have made it through without you!

**YOU
HELPED US
SUPPORT**

1,196

determined
and resilient
adults in 2020.

P.7 Year-In-Review



REV. PAUL SKEITH

Capital IDEA Board Chair,
Central Texas Interfaith Leader

I **N 2020, THANKS TO THE FLEXIBILITY** and support of public and private funders, Capital IDEA was well equipped to respond to students' increased needs. Some students lost their survival jobs during the pandemic, while others had their hours reduced. Due to the number working in the healthcare field, Capital IDEA heard from numerous students who contracted COVID-19 and needed help with rent and bills. As a result, Capital IDEA spent twice as much on emergency financial assistance as the previous year. On behalf of the Capital IDEA board and staff, I want to thank each of you who donated in 2020. Your generosity helped keep our students on track and provided much-needed relief during an immensely difficult time. To see a list of Capital IDEA's 2020 supporters, [click here](#).

FY2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

This financial information was excerpted from the financial statements and independent auditors' report prepared by Montemayor Britton Bender, P.C., Certified Public Accountants.

EXPENSES: \$5,289,710

Program: \$4,444,786
Administration: \$791,952
Fundraising: \$52,972



ALYSSIA PALACIOS-WOODS

Capital IDEA Board Vice-Chair,
Austin Young Chamber

D **ESPITE THE CHALLENGES** caused by the pandemic, Capital IDEA finished 2020 with 145 graduates. On behalf of the Capital IDEA board, I'd like to commend the Capital IDEA staff for their swift transition to remote operations last March. Career Navigators helped students stay on track to graduation by providing resources, emergency financial assistance, and access to the computer equipment needed for online instruction. The Outreach and Communication teams quickly updated our online application process and transitioned our regularly scheduled orientations to prospective students' new virtual environment. The entire Capital IDEA team stepped up to meet students' needs during the pandemic, and their quick response made a tremendous difference! To hear more from Capital IDEA staff, [click here](#).

REVENUE: \$6,485,975

Foundations: \$2,939,769*

City of Austin: \$2,128,284

Travis County: \$653,462

State ACE Fund: \$278,688

Central Health: \$52,500

Hays County: \$25,000

Individual & Corp.: \$178,676

Other Revenue: \$229,596

* Per financial reporting requirements, this total includes grant awards used across multiple fiscal years.

YEAR IN REVIEW

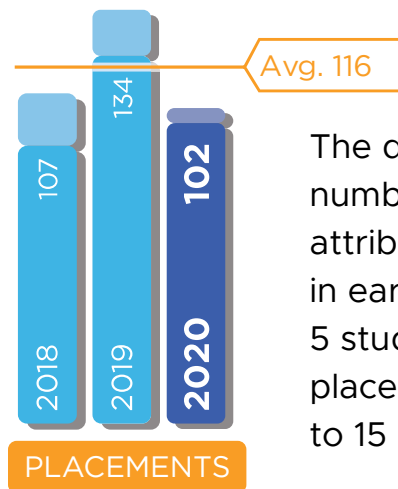
2020

In Context

At-a-Glance

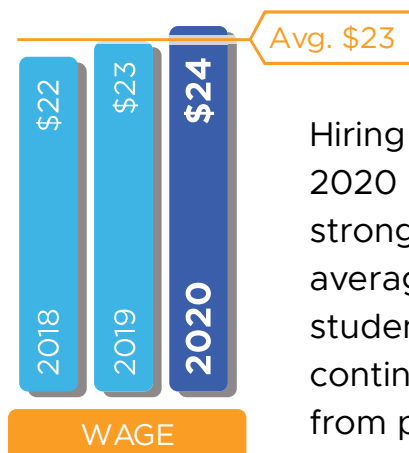
LEADING UP TO 2020, CAPITAL IDEA WAS MAKING GREAT PROGRESS ON A **STRATEGIC PLAN** aimed at improving student outcomes and growing our program. Within three years, we'd expanded program capacity and increased the number of annual graduates and job placements by nearly 35%.

We'd also implemented new support and interventions such as a pilot program offering virtual check-ins between students and navigators and a risk assessment tool, powered by an algorithm developed with The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, which helped navigators better direct resources to



102 CAREER PLACEMENTS*

The dip in job placement numbers is partially attributable to a decrease in early placements. Only 5 students opted for early placement in 2020 compared to 15 in 2019 and 17 in 2018.



\$24/HR AVERAGE STARTING WAGE

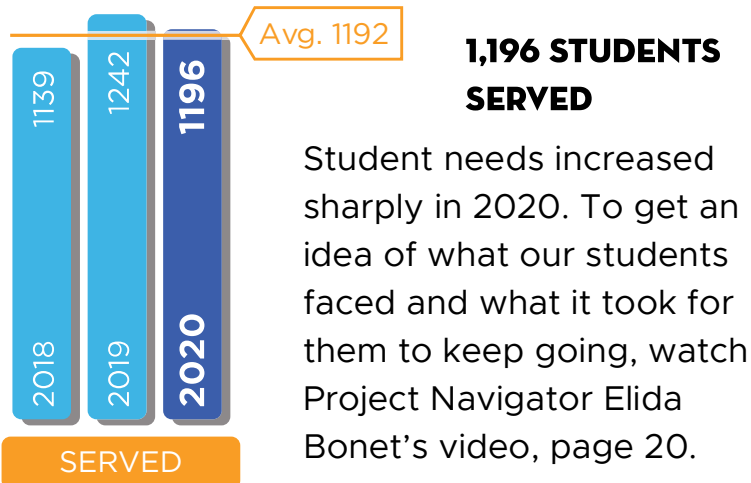
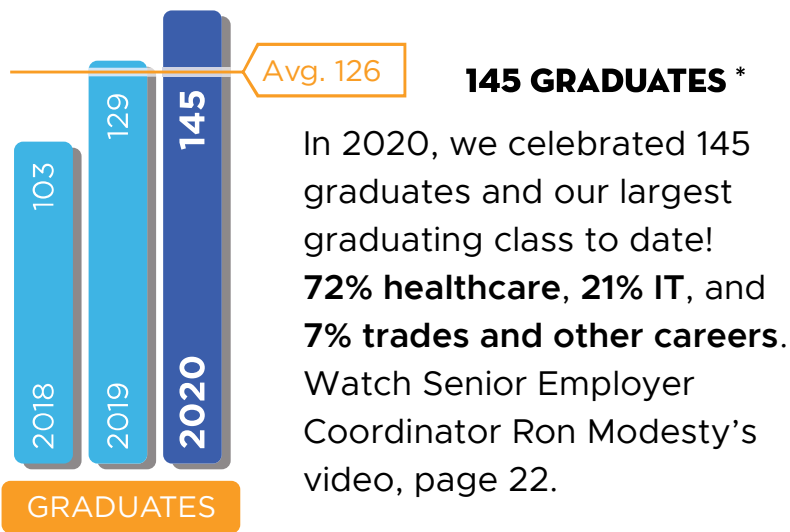
Hiring may have slowed in 2020 but wages remained strong and the hourly average starting wage for students placed in 2020 continued the upward trend from previous years.

* Note: Placement and graduation numbers are for the calendar year. December graduates are usually placed the following year.

students in need.

While some of the positive trends, such as job placement, were interrupted by the events of 2020, we are proud that others, such as number of graduates, continued to increase. In 2020, we saw our largest graduating classes to date. Our students amazed us with their resolve to stay the course and meet their degree requirements. We are extremely proud of our staff and students' steadfast persistence!

To further put our 2020 numbers in context, we've included 2018 and 2019 data in the charts below and denoted the three-year average.



2020 DEMOGRAPHICS

Throughout 2020, our average enrollment was around **900** students each semester. Over the course of the year, **1,196** individuals received direct support in the forms of career navigation, financial assistance (for tuition, books, and other student expenses), and job placement services. **933** children experienced spill-over benefits from having a parent supported by Capital IDEA.

GENDER


78% female
22% male

AGE

36% <25
40% 25-34
18% 35-44
6% 45+

RACE / ETHNICITY

54% Hispanic
19% White
1% Other
22% Black/ African American
4% Asian



A **LTHOUGH WE
COULDN'T GATHER
IN PERSON** for

our Celebration of Achievements Luncheon this year, we're keeping an important tradition alive by presenting our annual awards to two individuals who exemplify resilience and leadership. This year's Aurora Alworth Spirit Award honoree is presented to Joe Sepeda, a soon-to-be graduate who never gave up on his dreams to become a Registered Nurse. The Mark Melliar-Smith Leadership honoree is presented to Shirlet Oriakhi, a 2006 Capital IDEA graduate who is an active member of our Alumni Network, President of Manifest Home Health, and an adjunct professor in the Vocational Nursing program at Austin Community College. Both honorees are tremendous examples of the grit, resilience, and drive of Capital IDEA students. Joe and Shirlet, congratulations to you both!

Steve Jacobs

Executive Director
Capital IDEA



2020 AWARDS

*Honoring the extraordinary spirit of Aurora Alworth
and the commendable example of Mark Melliar-Smith*

AURORA ALWORTH SPIRIT AWARD

Aurora Alworth was one of Capital IDEA's first students. While enrolled, she was diagnosed with cancer. Aurora stayed committed to her education and encouraged others with her upbeat personality. Although Aurora lost her battle with cancer in 2002, her spirit of dedication and perseverance continues to inspire us today.

MARK MELLIAR-SMITH LEADERSHIP AWARD

Mark Melliar-Smith was a member of the founding board of directors. He served on the Capital IDEA board for twelve years, and held the position of board chair for nine of those twelve years. Mark's level of involvement and dedication serves as our example of excellence in leadership.

CONGRATULATIONS, JOE SEPEDA

Aurora Alworth Spirit Award



HELLO, MY NAME IS JOE MANUEL SEPEDA JR. I am a student in the nursing program at Austin Community College. It has taken me 11 years to get here, and there were many times when I thought I'd never reach the end.

After I graduated high school, I knew I wanted to go to college, and I knew I wanted to be a nurse. I had

this drive to help people, to be there for them, and to be a part of the healing process. I moved from Bastrop to Austin on my own, got a job, and started taking classes.

I didn't have anyone who could help pay for school, and I struggled to cover rent, bills, plus tuition and personal expenses. It felt impossible, and I wasn't making much progress in school, either. The more

time went by, the more my self-confidence suffered.

After 9 years of trying it on my own, I felt defeated. I started to lose hope. Then my sister told me about Capital IDEA. Her boyfriend was in the program working toward his degree in nursing. I couldn't believe it.

I did some research online, and decided to sign up for an info session. I was so excited when I got accepted. I remember thinking that I was finally going to be able to make my dreams come true.

Capital IDEA started paying for my tuition and books. But I was still

“ Throughout my journey, I've been supported by wonderful people who have helped me persevere: my grandmother, my five siblings, my ACC instructors, especially Jennifer Downing, and my Career Navigator Elida. Thank you all for believing in me and helping me to believe in myself. I hope by sharing my story, I can encourage others to keep going and achieve their goals.”

juggling work and school. It was tough, and I realized it wasn't just the lack of money that had been slowing me down. I didn't have the skills to manage my time and keep focused. Because of that, I had to retake a couple of classes, and again, I started to doubt myself.

Then one day, while I was driving for Uber, I heard about an organization called Helping Hands. They were hiring, and I got a job. That's when I finally started learning how to manage my time and deal with paperwork. As my self-discipline im-

proved, so did my confidence, and I started earning passing grades.

But there was still a part of me that worried I wasn't good enough, that I didn't have what it takes to be a nurse. Those thoughts had been with me a long time, and they don't just go away. I wouldn't have made it without some outside encouragement.

Nursing school is tough, but my Level II professor, Jennifer Downing was one of my encouragers. She really took the time to help me and to bring out my potential.



I also had my Career Navigator Eli-da looking out for me. I could always count on her to encourage me and be with me through any struggle I had. And of course, my family.

I had a complicated childhood and because of the circumstances, I grew up living with my grandmother, away from my mother and my siblings. Because of this, my grandmother and I are very close. It didn't matter to her that I struggled or that my progress was slow. She always believed in me, and she helped me make it past my own doubts and keep going.

As an adult, I reconnected with my 5 siblings, and they've also encour-

aged me to make my dreams come true. Thanks to all of these important people, I will be the first of my siblings to graduate from college.

I'm looking forward to graduation day. Getting my Associate's Degree in Nursing feels like a dream come true. If there are current students watching, I'd like to encourage you. What I've learned is that even though life knocks you down, you have the ability to get back up. Don't fall into the habit of thinking that you can't do it, because you can. It will take some hard work, and maybe longer than you thought it would, but with the right support, you're going to make it.

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CONGRATULATIONS, SHIRLET ORIAKHI

Mark Melliar-Smith Leadership Award



HELLO, MY NAME IS SHIRLET ORIAKHI. I graduated from Capital IDEA 20 years ago, and I am proud to be an active member of the Alumni Network. I currently serve as President of Manifest Home Health and as an adjunct professor in the Vocational Nursing program for Austin Community College. I have a master's degree in nursing and recently

decided to pursue my doctorate. In my personal life, I am a mother, a daughter, a wife, and most importantly, a Christian who strives to reach the purpose God has laid before me.

Growing up, I was blessed with a mother who taught me the value of hard work and the importance of learning. She was a teenage mom who dropped out of school to sup-

port me, and I remember she was always asking me questions and making me think. Everything was a teachable moment for her, and that has stuck with me. From an early age, I felt that teaching others would be a big part of my life.

When I was five, I got injured and

had to go to the emergency room. The nursing staff had such a significant impact on me that I became torn. I suddenly had two dreams to choose between: I was either going to be a teacher or a nurse.

Even though I knew what I wanted to do with my life, I took a long

“ When I received the call from Steve Jackobs to inform me that I had received the Mark Melliar-Smith Award, I must say I was extremely honored and after learning that the award was related to leadership I was overwhelmed with gratitude.

As I thought of how I would thank Capital IDEA for the honor of this award I focused my attentions on the parallels between Mr. Melliar-Smith and myself. It seemed hard at first but as I pondered the words that kept ringing in my ears were persistent and consistent.

Mark Melliar-Smith came from humble backgrounds and so did I. He pushed to achieve his goals and so did I. He had many setbacks and so did I, and he had much support and so did I. He had a desire to help others and so did I, and he wanted to promote and create leaders and so do I.

I want to thank Mark Melliar-Smith, Steven Jackobs, Suzanne Baker, my parents, my husband, my daughter, and my God – a perfect blend of support needed to help me achieve all the purpose laid before me. Thank you.”

time getting there. I was working with the Department of Public Safety, and I just knew that this wasn't what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I remembered I had a calling to do something else. So, I decided to go to college to become a nurse. Twenty years after God put that vision in me, it was finally starting to come to fruition.

College came easy to me. I loved learning. My biggest issues were finances and confidence. Financially, it was a struggle for me to go back to school. My mom and my siblings were encouraging, but they couldn't help. One day, when I was on campus, I saw a flyer for Capital IDEA, and I thought, these people pay for you to go to college?! What's the catch?!

I needed the help, so I went to a meeting, and you know what? There was no catch! I applied to Capital IDEA and got the financial support I needed to finish college. They paid for tuition, bought my books, helped me with the supplies for my classes, and I was assigned a Career Navigator to walk with me through my academic journey.

I put a lot of pressure on myself as the first in my family to go to college. I also felt the societal pressure of being an African American woman trying to succeed. It affected my confidence. But I had the exceptional support of Capital IDEA. There were many times when I was ready to quit,

but my Navigator, Suzanne Baker, consistently encouraged me and told me that I was going to make it. It was hard not to believe it when she kept pounding it into my head! And I did make it!

I went back to school to get my Bachelor's Degree and then my Master's degree in nursing, and I was working as the Director of Nursing for LifeSpring Home Health when an unexpected opportunity came my way.

One evening I was scheduled to attend a meeting where I volunteer. It had been a long day, and I thought about skipping the meeting, but I felt a pull in my spirit to go. So I went. At the meeting, I ran into my former college professor, Sandra McCrary-Marshall. We talked, and in conversation, I told her I was interested in teaching at ACC, but I didn't know how to go about doing that. She told me that she was starting an evening and weekend program that fit perfectly with my work schedule. Thirty days later, I was hired to teach — my second calling. And now I had both.

I like telling my students that things that are in you, the desires you may have, they are there because you have the ability to do them. You just have to cultivate them with vision, perseverance, and the right support.

Today, I am living the vision that I believe God had for my life from an early age. It wasn't an easy road, but I had the perseverance, strong faith, and the right support:

My mother, my husband,
and Capital IDEA. They
set the foundation that I
am building on — and I'm
not done yet! I want to
say thank you to everyone
who has supported me.



PLACED IN A NEW CAREER

Students Hired
& Employers
Hiring in 2020

New Careers

YOU'RE HIRED!

Below is a list of the 102 students who were hired in 2020 and a list of the local employers who hired them.

HIRED IN 2020 HEALTHCARE

Valeria Aldrete Rivera	Kaci Horelica
Christine Aleman	Jessica Howell
Davonte Allen	Lucky Juarez
Val Arocha-Guerra	Jene'e Kennedy
Sheri Asamoah	Katiuscia Koch
Blessing Asika	Lauren Kuyateh
Giancarlo Avila	Ryan LaDue
Christine Bailey	Rehema Lauwo
Perla Barron	Katherine Lozano
Esmeralda Barrueta-Pineda	Mezbin Maknojia
Natalie Bell	Dustin Marruffo
Bridget Brennan	Alejandra Maruri
Sara Briones	Rosemary Matsikidze
Danielle Butler	Kristen McCallum
Grethel Carrillo	Sierra McGehee
Marquita Catlin	Karla Mejia-Ponce
Laxmi Chhetri	Ashley Mitzel
Marisela Chico	Demi Newsom
Prisila Covarrubias	Chassie Nuckols
Tracey Cuspard	Beatriz Nunez
Oscar Denova Jaimes	Francisca Nwawulu
Dominick Edison	Nkechi Nwosu
Oladunni Ehi-Obidu	Favour Omaleko
Kadiatou Fofana	Jesse Opela
Valeria Garcia	Adriana Ortiz
Sara Garcia	Rachel Oteze
Erika Garibay	Monica Ramsey
Elissa Gibbons	Devin Rocha
Julie Green	Adriana Rodriguez
Weyni Hailemariam	Alondra Rodriguez
Janet Harrison	Ruth Safi
Mia Hinojosa	Maria Sanchez
Roshanda Hodges	Cristal Saucedo
Cormesha Hopes	Myra Segura
	Aaryan Singh
	Elizabeth Spring
	Michelle Tchuetkia
	Shannon Thomas

Ernestina Torres
Olivia Tran
Jasmine Velasquez
Shanice Vincent
De'Andrea Vines
Karia Williams
Caitlin Williamson
Natalie Young
Bertha Zepeda

HIRING IN 2020 HEALTHCARE EMPLOYERS

Acadian Ambulance
Services
A-Line Staffing Solutions
Angels of Care Pediatric
Home Health
Austin Radiological
Association
Austin State Supported
Living Center
Austin Wellness and
Rehab
Aveanna Healthcare
Baylor Scott & White
Broadmoor Healthcare
Holdings, LLC
Central Texas
Rehabilitation Hospital
CHI St Joseph Health
Children's Ear, Nose and
Throat Center
Community Care
CoreCivic
Cornerstone Specialty
Hospital
Covenant Management
Systems
CVS
Dynasty Healthcare
Management
Encompass Health
Rehabilitation Hospital of
Austin
Focused Post-Acute
Care Partners
Fundamental Health

Integral Care
Medex Express PSI
Mednax
MGA Homecare
Molecular Templates
Park Placed Assisted
Living
People's Community Clinic
Post Acute Medical
Regency Integrated
Healthcare Systems
Ascension Seton
Dell Childrens Medical
Center
Seton Medical Center
Hays
Seton - Medical Center
Williamson
Seton - Northwest
Hospital
Southwest Smiles
SSC Bastrop Operating Co
St David's HealthCare
St Davids - North Austin
Medical Center
St Davids - South Austin
Medical Center
St Davids - HCA
Healthcare
Stable Life Concepts, LLC
State of Texas
Strive Dental Partners
Texas Department of
Health and Human
Services
Thrive Skilled Pediatric
Care
University of Texas
Wesleyan Homes

HIRED IN 2020 INFO TECH (IT)

Najeebullah Akhtar
Peter Boeman
Leo Coakley
Patricia Ehrlich
Omar George

Adrian Gouhari
Diane McDaniel
Crystal Morehouse
Angel Nevarez
Amirullah Omari
Carly Soler
Brianna Sterling
William Strom
Luke Sturdivant
James West
Ruben Zavala
Adrian Zepeda

HIRING IN 2020 IT EMPLOYERS

Caldwell County
City of Austin
Cubic Inc
GTS
Hero Digital
Next Consulting Group
Populus
Quest Diagnostics
Shop LC
Silicon Labs
Spectrum
Sterling Computers
TEK Systems
Trusource Labs
Visa Corp via Populus
Group

HIRED IN 2020 TRADE & OTHER CAREERS

Drew Abbe
Maria Arellano
Kyron Kelley
William McCann

HIRING IN 2020 TRADE & OTHER CAREERS EMPLOYERS

M&S Engineering, LLC
Coreslab Structures
Bowien Heating & AC
Jaguar Land Rover



ELIDA BONET

Project
Navigator



HELLO, I'M **ELIDA BONET**, Project Navigator at Capital IDEA. The Career Navigator team provides support and guidance to more than 900 Capital IDEA students enrolled in career training programs. We're here to address the unique risks and challenges that affect low-income adults, many of whom are first in their family to attend college.

Austin Community College has been a tremendous support. As soon as campuses closed in March, staff from the Adult Education Department were on the phone with us, helping our College Prep instructors transition to remote teaching. Support services, like academic coaches and the financial aid office, have joined us online, making sure our students continue to have access to help

and resources. We are so grateful to everyone at ACC. We can't say thank you enough.

I remember very clearly when ACC announced that the Fall semester would continue to be remote. That's when it struck me — this is going to be a long time. I started worrying: How many of our students will make it?

I lost almost a third of my College Prep class in the spring of 2020 when we transitioned to online classes. They were struggling with unreliable internet and pressures building at home. As a result, attendance dropped off. In the summer, about half of our student body took the semester off. Like many of us at the time, they were hoping we'd be back to normal by fall. But that didn't happen.

A moment that gave me hope was when I hosted my first online workshop. I was surprised by how many students showed up and how engaged they were. I remember thinking "Okay, we can do this. We can keep our community together."

And then students started showing back up. A few that left in the spring came back for summer, and then more in the fall. Little by little, they were realizing that they couldn't wait for the right moment because there is no right moment. You just have to do it. I saw many of our students grow into that realization.

One student who stands out for me was a mother with a young son. She came to class every day when we were on campus. When we went remote, she still showed up every day on her cell phone because it was the only way she could get online. A few weeks later, she got an iPad through ACC, and then we were able to provide a computer and six months of internet. But that grit that kept her going was already in her. I've seen many of our other students develop that same grit over this past year, and that also gives me hope.

Before 2020, I think there was some fear that if we didn't see our students face to face, we weren't keeping up with them. But now we know that we can maintain those relationships through video, email, and phone. In some ways, this has been liberating.

As a team of Navigators, we've pulled together through this experience and found new ways to stay connected, to help each other, and to keep spirits up. We've also learned how to be more flexible, and we've mastered new tools. I'm so grateful for my team, and I know that all of these positives will follow us when we return to campus.



RON MODESTY

Senior
Employer
Coordinator



HELLO, I'M **RON MODESTY**, Senior Employer Coordinator at Capital IDEA. I prepare Capital IDEA students for their post-graduation job search. I also work with hiring managers throughout Central Texas to make sure we're staying up to date on hiring trends and needs.

Our students start preparing for their job searches a semester before graduation. Typically, that means I'm helping with resumes and alerting students to career fairs or recruiting events. I've always been a big proponent of in-person networking.

In February and March of 2020, career fairs started getting cancelled, and hiring ground to a halt. Heating and air conditioning, automotive technicians, computer support – nobody was hiring. Then, all but one of the employers we had lined up for summer IT

internships had to back out. Like us, they were scrambling to figure out how to continue operating while also protecting their employees.

In May, 51 Capital IDEA students graduated from their programs. A few weeks later, I found out that the hospitals wouldn't be hiring their usual summer cohort of graduate nurses, and that's when I really started to worry. The hospitals are our biggest employer partners and the majority of our students are being trained in healthcare fields.

There are two major hospital systems in our area, and a usual cohort for them is somewhere between 150 to 200 new nurses. Normally they hire three cohorts a year. In the summer of 2020, only one hospital hired a cohort of less than 50 nurses.

That summer, more than half of our graduate nurses went unplaced, something that has never happened before. I kept reaching out to my contacts, but nobody knew how long the hiring slow down would last.

Meanwhile, our unplaced graduates were treading water. If they had a part-time job, they kept it, and we all crossed our fingers that normal hiring would resume in the fall.

By October, things started to turn around. Relationships with our employer partners weren't just coming back, I was seeing a level of engagement I hadn't seen before.

I'm used to being the one who reaches out to ask about open positions and following up for more infor-

mation. But this time around, recruiters were calling me, and following up to find out if I had additional candidates for them.

Graduates who had gone unplaced for months, finally started getting interviews and job offers.

Although 2020 never caught up to other years as far as placement numbers go, it will stand out for me as a year that strengthened our employer partnerships.

I mentioned there was one partner that even kept their IT internship program going — that was VISA. In a year when opportunities became scarce, they not only hosted several interns, they actually took on a couple more throughout the year.

Another Capital IDEA IT graduate named Jasmine, reached out to us when she heard about openings with her employer. Because of her efforts, 5 Capital IDEA graduates were made job offers at her tech company and now we have a relationship there as well.

And of course, there are our healthcare partners: St. David's | HCA, Seton | Ascension, CommUnityCare, and others. We can't even imagine the strain they've been under since last spring, and yet, their recruiters have been just exceptional – responsive and pro-active. We're incredibly grateful to them and to all of our employer partners. Thank you!

ALUMNI NETWORK

Giving Back,
Civic Leadership,
& Networking
in 2020

James “Frank” Christenson
Chair

Jeremy Acosta
Co-Chair

Henry Q. Vines
Secretary

Heriberto Gonzalez
Treasurer

Aida Nacro
Committee Chair

Brian Lippincott
Membership Chair

Teresa Garza
Board Liason

Michael Holman
Strategic Planning Chair

Get involved! Contact:
Suzanne Baker
Alumni & Student
Engagement Coordinator
sbaker@capitalidea.org

105 ACTIVE ALUMNI

OUR GOAL FOR 2020 WAS TO **INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION** and impact of the Alumni Network. That goal was not only met, but surpassed. The original goal was to activate 5% of graduates. By the end of 2020, there were 7.6%, or 105 active alumni.

4 AREAS OF ENGAGEMENT

WE ENGAGED IN FOUR MAJOR
ACTIVITIES IN 2020.

CONNECTION.

We established relationships with currently enrolled students by participating in activities like Career Days hosted once per semester.

RECRUITMENT.

We reached out to potential new members through activities like Capital IDEA’s Celebration of Achievements Luncheon.

EDUCATION.

We led educational activities like the Civic Engagement Assembly to assist students and staff in becoming informed voters.

ACTIVATION.

We manned a Get Out the Vote phone bank leading to the November elections, to mobilize students and alumni.

Giving Back

\$4K & 500 HRS

INDIVIDUAL ALUMNI MONETARILY CONTRIBUTED a total of \$4,200 to Capital IDEA during FY2020. Collectively, the alumni have contributed over 500 hours of their time in volunteer activities directly benefiting Capital IDEA.

OUR ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY

THIS YEAR, WE INCREASED our involvement in causes and took on new leadership roles in the community. Here are some of the places you can find us serving and representing the Alumni Network.

TEXAS ANTI-POVERTY PROJECT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jeremy Acosta
James “Frank” Christenson
Brian Lippincott
Tina Torres

THE DREAM COME TRUE FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

Michael Rayos
Elizabeth Carroll

ACC ADVISORY BOARD NORTH CLUSTER MEMBER

Tiffany Bradley-King



INVESTED COMMUNITY

Funders &
Donors in
2020

Thank You!

* Alumni
Donor

TO OUR FUNDERS:

Thank you for your flexibility, generosity, and unwavering support throughout this challenging year. We couldn't have made it through without you!

PUBLIC SUPPORT

City of Austin
Central Health
Hays County
Texas Innovative Adult Career
Education (ACE) Grant
Travis County

FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Campbell Foundation
Harrold and Marilyn Melcher
Foundation
Harry E and Eda L Montandon
Foundation
Long Foundation
Michael & Susan Dell Foundation
Sooch Foundation
St. David's Foundation
Topfer Family Foundation

CORPORATE SUPPORT & EMPLOYER INVESTORS

Ascension Seton
Bank of America
BBVA
Cirrus Logic, Inc.
Gray & Becker, P.C.
Nyle Maxwell Family of Dealerships
St. David's Healthcare
UFCU

**OTHER COMMUNITY
SUPPORT**

Amplify Austin
Austin Community College
District
Hindu Charities for
America (HC4A)
Round Rock Woman's
Club
Sai Charities of Austin
Seeds of Strength
St. David's Episcopal
Church
Texas Extended Campus,
University of Texas at
Austin
United Way of Williamson
County

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

Erin Arenas
Beth Avery
Angela Baker
Bob Batlan
Adriana Beal
Lesley Blessing
Stacy Britton
Joe Canales
Judith Carlson
Cathey Carter
Tim Carter
Melynda Caudle
Holly Coe
Joel Coffman
Sarah Cook
Linda Copenhaver
Susan Crews
Joel Davidson
Gloria DeVere
Peter Chau Dinh*
Rhonda and John Dirvin
Patricia and Gregory
Donica
Jeffrey Dooley
Dorothy Doolittle
Hunter Ellinger

April Floyd
Dr. Pat Forgione
David and Janet Freidberg
Anna Fulton
Jesus and Quen Garza
Teresa Garza *
Robert Glover
Lisa Griggs
Ray Grosvenor
Barbara Grove
Gloria Guzman *
Yolanda Hall
Samir Hanna
Don and Mary Kay Hanson
Rebecca Harris
Eric Hehman
Rebekah Henderson
Trenton Henrichson
Michael Holman*
Melissa Holmes
Marilyn Humbert
Laura Humbert
John Jackobs
Dan, Debbie, Aaron and
Anna Jackobs
Steve Jackobs and Betty
Weed
Fred Krebs
Cindi Kruse
Linh Le *
Bethany Leffingwell
Leonardo Leija *
Laticia Levi *
Monique Limon
Steven Lin
Koreena Malone *
Robert Manzer
Lynne Martin
Jaime Martinez *
Gwen May
Ann McGinley
Dazzie McKelvy
Judy McLeod
Marlene Meador
Mark Melliar-Smith
Shannon Moody

Lori and Felix Munson
Rachel and Tom
Murphree
Jesse Navarrete
Hien Helen Nguyen *
Bettye Nowlin
Josyel Oliveira *
Dan O'Shea
Alyssia Palacios-Woods
Lajju Patel *
Will Peckham
Laura Pellerin *
Joy Penticuff
Tony Pitts
Lizabeth Ramon
Debbie Rippstein
Enrique Saenz
David Saidel
Morrie Schulman
Brian Shields
Rev. Paul Skeith and
Minerva Camarena
Skeith
Clayton Skidmore *
Lou Snead
Lee Stokes Hilton
Carl Stuart
David Sullivan
Nancy Sutherland
Sherry Sybesma
Larkin Tackett
Sarah Therriault
Kathleen Tully
Erik Vasquez *
Susan Vaughan
Thinh Vu *
Kristee Watts
Amy Webberman
Courtney Weisman
George White
Barbara Wiederaenders
Robert Williams
Laura Wood
Curtis Wyman
Jeanie Youngblood
Susan Zavieh

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leadership & Service in 2020

Leadership

FISCAL OVERSIGHT & STRATEGIC GUIDANCE. Leaders from Central Texas Interfaith and representatives from local employers in the fields of healthcare and technology first founded our board in 1998. Today, the board has 16 director seats: 8 seats are filled by leaders of Central Texas Interfaith, 7 are filled by business community leaders, and 1 seat is reserved for a representative of the Capital IDEA Alumni Network.



MELYNDA CAUDLE **

Board Chair
President, Cooper Consulting



REV. KATIE WRIGHT **

Board Vice Chair
Leader, Central Texas Interfaith, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church



REV. PAUL SKEITH *

Board Chair
Leader, Central Texas Interfaith, SoCo Episcopal Community



ALYSSIA PALACIOS-WOODS *

Board Vice Chair
President & CEO, Austin Young Chamber of Commerce

* Began board service in 2020

** Completed board service in 2020



JESSE NAVARRETE
Secretary
Director of Financial
Reporting & Planning,
Continental Insurance



SAMMY HALL JR.
Leader, Central Texas
Interfaith, Hidden Valley
and High Meadows
Residents' Association



JOY PENTICUFF
Treasurer
Leader, Central Texas
Interfaith, First
Congregational
Church of Austin



TRENTON HENRICHSON
Leader, Central Texas
Interfaith, St. Ignatius
Martyr Catholic Church



**T. CARLOS "TIM"
ANDERSON**
Leader, Central Texas
Interfaith, Abiding
Love Lutheran Church



KOREENA MALONE
Principal, KM Business
Solutions



JOE CANALES
Retired, Ascension



ENRIQUE J. SAENZ
Leader, Central Texas
Interfaith, Our Lady of
Guadalupe Catholic
Church



HOLLY COE **
Community
Volunteer



ROBERT WILLIAMS
Leader, Central Texas
Interfaith, Mt. Olive
Baptist Church



TERESA GARZA
Alumni Representative,
Assistant Department
Chair of Radiology,
Austin Community
College District



CURTIS WYMAN
Leader, Central Texas
Interfaith, University
United Methodist



CAPITAL IDEA 
Connecting People to Their Future

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