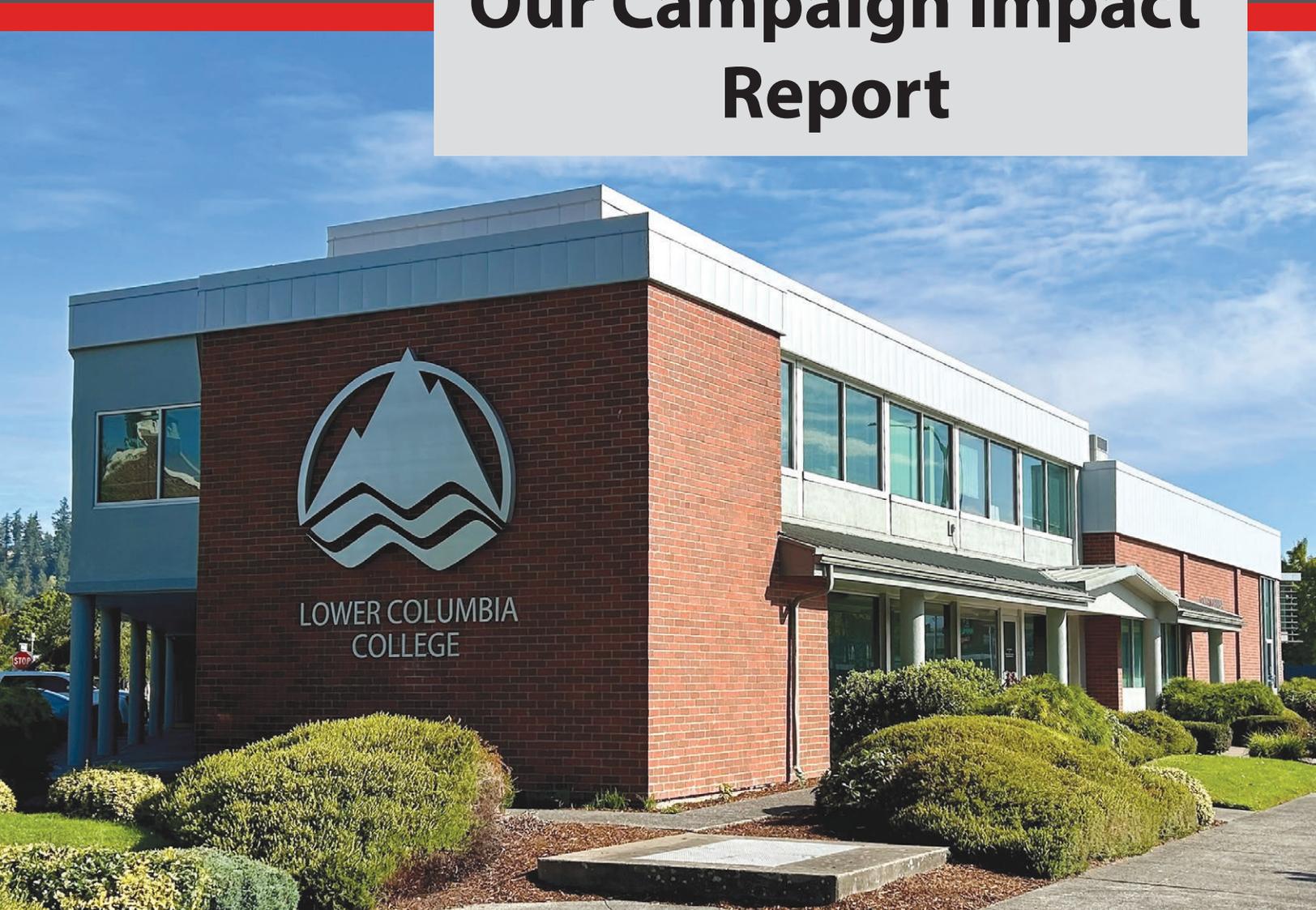




**Opportunity
Can't Wait**

Opportunity Can't Wait: Our Campaign Impact Report



We did it! Thanks to your generosity, leadership, and belief in students, the Lower Columbia College Foundation's Opportunity Can't Wait Campaign closed on December 31, 2025 at **\$15,655,837**, surpassing the \$15 million goal.

Your support is already strengthening the student experience at Lower Columbia College—expanding opportunity, advancing workforce pathways, and improving the places where students learn, compete, and belong.



Gratitude for this Community

Dear friends,

With deep gratitude and pride, we are honored to share that the Opportunity Can't Wait Campaign concluded on December 31, 2025, surpassing our goal with **\$15,655,837 raised**.

This accomplishment reflects an incredible community coming together with a shared belief in students, in education, and in the long-term strength of our region. Alumni, families, businesses, community partners, and friends of the College stepped forward to make a significant investment in opportunity that will benefit generations to come.

Because of you, Lower Columbia College is making meaningful progress across the campaign's three priorities. Your support is strengthening student success through expanded scholarships and emergency support, helping students stay enrolled when housing, transportation, food insecurity, or unexpected setbacks might otherwise derail their education.

You are also advancing workforce and career training through the new Center for Vocational and Transitional Studies, preparing students for family-wage careers and providing regional employers with the skilled, job-ready talent our economy depends on.

And through improvements to athletic facilities, you are supporting student-athletes with safer, more equitable spaces that build confidence, belonging, and persistence on the path to completion.

Thank you for your generosity, leadership, and belief in what is possible when a community invests in its students.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Steve Fuller, Foundation Board Chair

Max Anderson, Campaign Co-Chair

Cal Miller, Campaign Co-Chair

Sheila Timm, Foundation Director of Development & Major Gifts

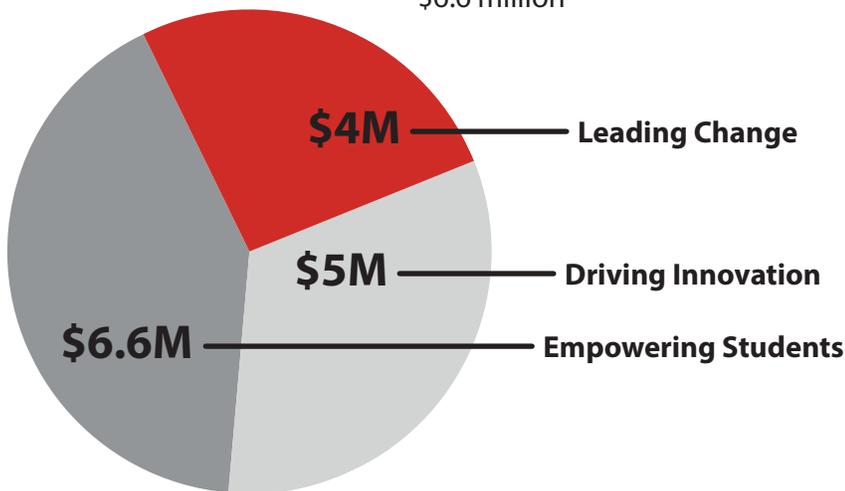
Campaign at a Glance

HIGHLIGHTS

- Largest campaign in College history
- Largest gift in College history: \$3,912,521 estate gift
- Planned gifts secured: \$5,107,692, plus fourteen additional planned gift notifications (14 new commitments)
- Alumni and family engagement: strong participation across the region
- New scholarships seeded: 35
- New Alumni Association members: 483

DOLLARS RAISED BY CAMPAIGN PRIORITY

- **Leading Change**
(Athletics & Student Engagement): \$4.0 million
- **Driving Innovation**
(Vocational & Transitional Studies): \$5.0 million
- **Empowering Students**
(Student Success & Scholarships): \$6.6 million



BY THE NUMBERS



3.5

Campaign years



\$15.6M

Total dollars raised during the campaign



2,680

Donors



\$45.6M

Public funding leveraged

- **Campaign Timeline**
July 2022– December 2025
- **Number of Donors**
2,680 (New Donors: 75%)
- **Public Funding Leveraged**
\$45.6 million
Your generosity strengthened a major public investment in workforce education and long-term regional vitality.



“Being a dual-sport student-athlete while maintaining a 4.0 GPA requires immense dedication, but it’s the support and improved facilities at LCC that allow me to truly thrive. My journey from Adna High School to LCC has fueled my passion for Exercise Science, and I am grateful for an environment that empowers me to train, compete, and prepare to help future athletes reach their full potential.”

— Karlee, Class of 2025, Basketball & Softball Student-Athlete



“As a Mexican-American student working to support my household, I am paying for college out of pocket while managing everyday expenses like gas, meals, and class materials. Receiving a scholarship has helped reduce that financial strain and has allowed me to focus more fully on my education and training in welding. This support means more than financial assistance—it represents opportunity, stability, and the chance to build a future where I can support my family and give back to my community.”

— Rene, Welding Student

What Your Giving Made Possible

Across three campaign priorities, your support is already changing what students experience at Lower Columbia College, today and for years to come.

Leading Change: Student-Athletes and Community Connection

Pillar total: \$4.0 million

At LCC, athletics is more than competition—it builds confidence, resilience, and belonging. Your gifts are improving athletic spaces so student-athletes can thrive in safe, equitable, and competitive environments. These upgrades also strengthen community connection through shared-use facilities that bring families, fans, and neighbors together on campus.

Campaign investments are transforming athletic facilities that support student success and community engagement. Projects include a new batting cage for the women’s softball team and a futsal court, both completed in 2025, as well as upgrades to Northlake Field shared by the community and the LCC women’s soccer team, also completed in 2025. Through a broad community collaboration, major upgrades to Heerensperger Field at Tam O’Shanter Park delivered the region’s first turf softball field, providing all-weather access for LCC student-athletes and youth players while strengthening equity in athletics and creating new opportunities to host regional tournaments. Additional improvements, including new lighting, seating, and other enhancements at Story Field, are anticipated for completion in early 2027.

Driving Innovation: Workforce Training That Matches the Real World

Pillar total: \$5.0 million

Students deserve training environments that reflect today’s workplace and prepare them for what comes next. Your giving supports the new **Center for Vocational and Transitional Studies**, a 51,000-square-foot facility now under construction that will replace outdated buildings and bring high-demand programs together under one roof. The Center will include 12 modern classrooms and specialized labs for Welding, Machining and Manufacturing, Automation, Instrumentation and Robotics, and Computer Science, creating integrated, career-connected learning environments that mirror real-world settings.

While the State of Washington made a historic investment in constructing the facility, your philanthropic support plays a defining role by funding the tools, equipment, and learning resources that bring these spaces to life. Because of you, students will train on the same technologies used by today’s employers and pursue pathways ranging from apprenticeships to LCC’s new Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. Together, these investments are preparing students for family-wage careers while delivering skilled, job-ready talent to the regional workforce.

Empowering Students: Success Requires More Than Tuition

Pillar total: \$6,655,837

Your giving recognizes the reality students face: tuition is only one piece of the puzzle. Housing instability, transportation costs, food insecurity, and unexpected emergencies can derail even the most determined student. Each year, the Lower Columbia College Foundation awards more than **\$700,000 in scholarships**, helping students stay enrolled and focused on completing their education.

Campaign support also strengthened the **College Success Fund**, providing flexible resources where students and programs need them most. These funds support academic programs, innovative learning opportunities, new equipment and technology for classrooms and labs, veterans' services, industrial trades recruitment, and areas of greatest need across campus. Together, these investments remove barriers in real time, allowing students to persist, graduate, and contribute to their families and communities.



"Balancing full-time work with school is challenging, but this scholarship gave me the reassurance that my hard work and commitment to caring for others matter. It allows me to stay focused on becoming the nurse I aspire to be and to continue serving veterans with compassion and pride."

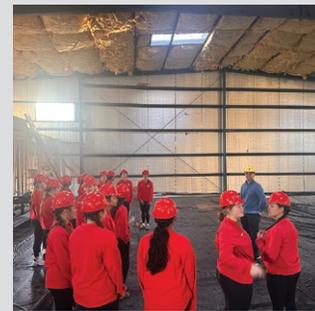
— Vanessa, Nursing Student

"This scholarship eased the financial pressure that can make continuing education feel overwhelming. Knowing I have this support allows me to focus on learning, growing, and building a future in accounting that once felt just out of reach."

— Adena, Accounting Student

*recipients of the Dick and Linda Erickson
Memorial Endowed Scholarship*

Campaign Projects



Photos, clockwise from top left:

1. Softball batting cage / Futsal - Construction for the new softball batting cage and Futsal soccer training facility on the LCC campus is expected to be complete in Spring 2026.
2. The LCC Softball team tours the new softball batting cage.
3. Site work is underway for LCC's new Center of Vocational & Transitional Studies.
4. Completed softball infield turf upgrades to Heerensperger Field at Tam O'Shanter Park.
5. Baseball Stadium Project beginning summer of 2026 - Demolition and construction for the new baseball stadium are scheduled to begin summer 2026.

Alumni Spotlight: The Power of a Second Chance

Courtney Buchanan: A Story of Redemption and Resolve

For Courtney Buchanan, the path to a degree wasn't a straight line—it was a climb over mountains of adversity. A mother of four and former millworker, Courtney's journey to Lower Columbia College was fueled by a desire to do more than just survive; she wanted to thrive.

"If adversity were a subject in school, I'd have a Ph.D. in it," Courtney shared at the 2025 LCC Foundation Donor Wall ceremony.

Her life has been marked by unimaginable trials: the sudden loss of her father, the trauma of rebuilding her family's safety after tragedy, and a layoff from her high-paying job at the paper mill just months into her education. Then, in January 2024, the unthinkable happened: Courtney was struck and run over by a truck while crossing the street.

Waking up in a hospital bed with broken bones but an unbroken spirit, Courtney refused to let her story end there. Despite her injuries and the financial strain of unemployment, she maintained a 4.0 GPA. When faced with the threat of losing her home, she wasn't alone. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the **Student Success Fund** provided a critical lifeline covering essential costs like rent, food, and transportation so she could focus on her education.

"Closing your mouth means you don't get fed," she says of her decision to ask for help. "Because of your donations, I was able to overcome obstacles that were meant to stop me."

Where she is now: Courtney graduated from LCC in June 2025 and transferred to Washington State University Vancouver where she is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, complemented by minors in At-Risk Youth and Psychology. Her goal is to work in the juvenile justice system, where she can leverage her personal journey to mentor and guide young people toward a brighter future.

"Receiving scholarships was more than financial relief—it was validation. It reminded me that there are people who believe in students like me, even when life tries to break us. Because of you, I am not just surviving—I am thriving."

— Courtney Buchanan, Class of 2025



Thank You to Our Leadership

This campaign was guided and strengthened by volunteer leaders who gave their time, expertise, and advocacy throughout the three-year effort. We extend our sincere appreciation to the community champions whose commitment helped bring the Opportunity Can't Wait Campaign across the finish line and into lasting impact.

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Lower Columbia College
Foundation

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Longview, WA 98632

Lower Columbia College Mission

The mission of Lower Columbia College is to ensure each learner's personal and professional success, and influence lives in ways that are local, global, traditional, and innovative.

LCC Foundation Mission

The mission of the Foundation is to provide financial support where public funds are not sufficient, and to gather public support for the enhancement of educational opportunities at Lower Columbia College.

Looking Ahead

While the campaign has concluded, the impact of your generosity is just beginning. In the coming years, these investments will continue to expand opportunity, strengthen workforce pathways, and support students through the challenges they face.

We look forward to inviting you in to see the new spaces, and sharing more of the student stories, that your generosity has made possible. Thank you for standing with Lower Columbia College and believing in what is possible when a community invests together.



lowercolumbia.edu/foundation