



# THREAD

## STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE - YEAR TWO

FY19: July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

### OUR MISSION

Thread harnesses the power of relationships to create a new social fabric of diverse individuals deeply engaged with young people facing the most significant opportunity and achievement gaps. Our community is committed to ending social isolation and building a more equitable culture in which everyone thrives.

### RELATIONSHIPS WITH IMPACT

The Thread Community Model is unique in its **10-year commitment** to never giving up on **9th graders with the lowest GPAs and highest potential**. Young people in Thread are part of a Thread Family, connecting with **up to four adult volunteers** who believe in the young person and show up consistently, with vulnerability and humility. **Each member is on a journey** of personal growth that encourages greater understanding of others and self, creating a community where each person is known, loved and needed. The **relationships developed in Thread transcend race, class and age** and create a deep sense of belonging. Founded in 2004, Thread is inspiring individuals to weave a new social fabric.

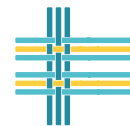
### GROWTH WITH QUALITY

Thread's FY18-21 Strategic Plan set an ambitious goal to reach 5-7% of Baltimore's incoming 9th graders, nearly 60% of the highest-needs students at the highest-need schools by FY21. This update highlights the accomplishments of the second year of our plan (the period covering July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019).



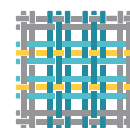
**100%**

**OF STUDENTS REMAIN  
ENROLLED FOR 10 YEARS,  
NO MATTER WHAT**



**85%**

**OF STUDENTS GRADUATE  
FROM HIGH SCHOOL  
WITHIN SIX YEARS OF  
BEGINNING 9th GRADE**



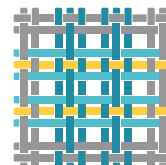
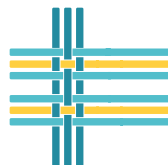
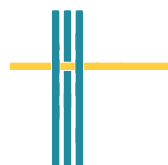
**83%**

**OF STUDENTS COMPLETE A  
POST-SECONDARY DEGREE  
OR CERTIFICATE WITHIN 10  
YEARS IN THREAD**



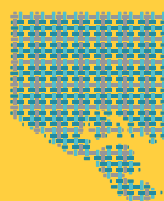


## LOOKING BACK: FY19



527

STUDENTS & ALUMNI



1,125

VOLUNTEERS

4

HIGH SCHOOLS

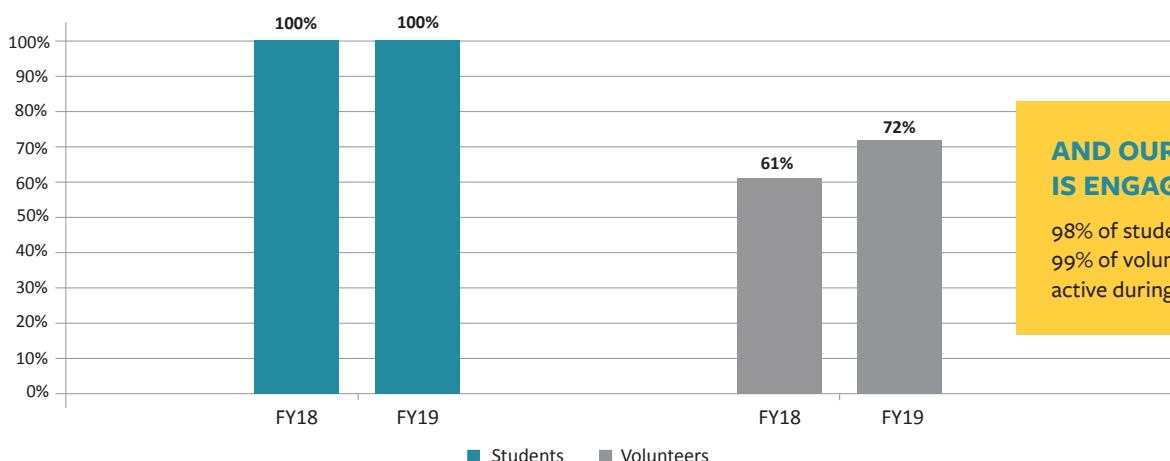
400+

COLLABORATORS

4

RESOURCE HUBS

### RETENTION IS STRONG



### AND OUR COMMUNITY IS ENGAGED:

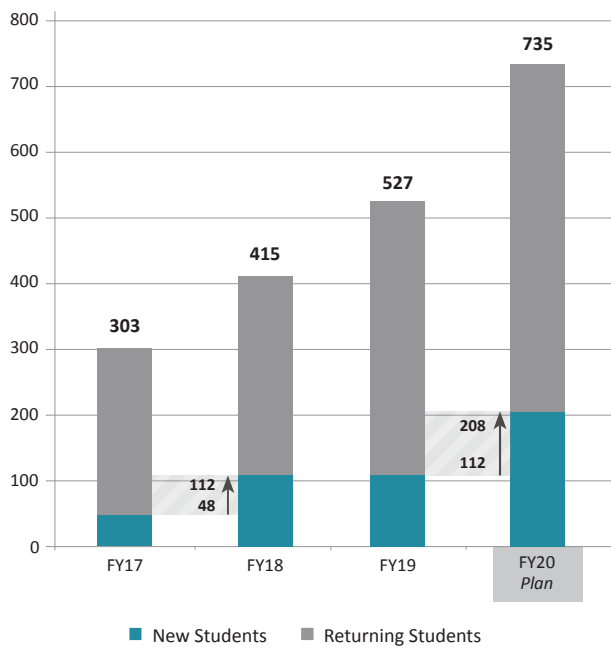
98% of students and 99% of volunteers were active during the year.

## LOOKING AHEAD: FY20

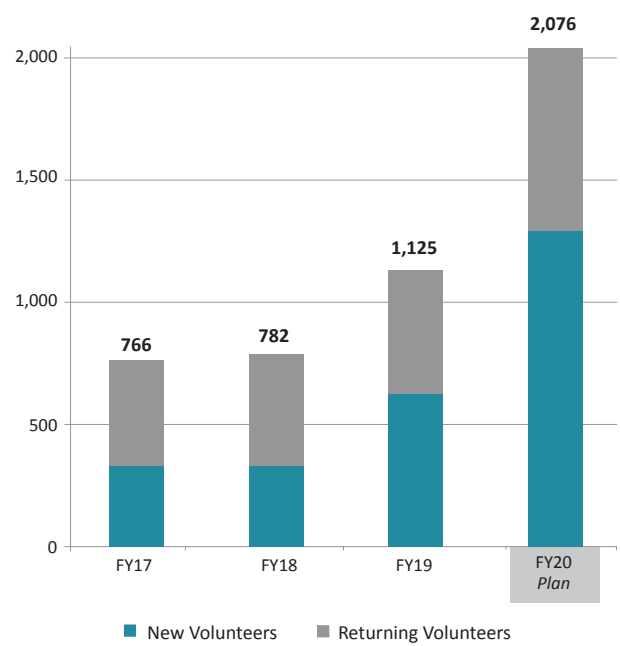
In FY20, Thread is expanding to our fifth and sixth Baltimore City public high schools: Patterson High School and Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School. Thread will enroll up to 208 new students, ~ 5% of Baltimore's incoming 9th graders and more than our *total* enrollment of students and alumni in Thread's first decade of operations. We are committed to maintaining exceptional outcomes.



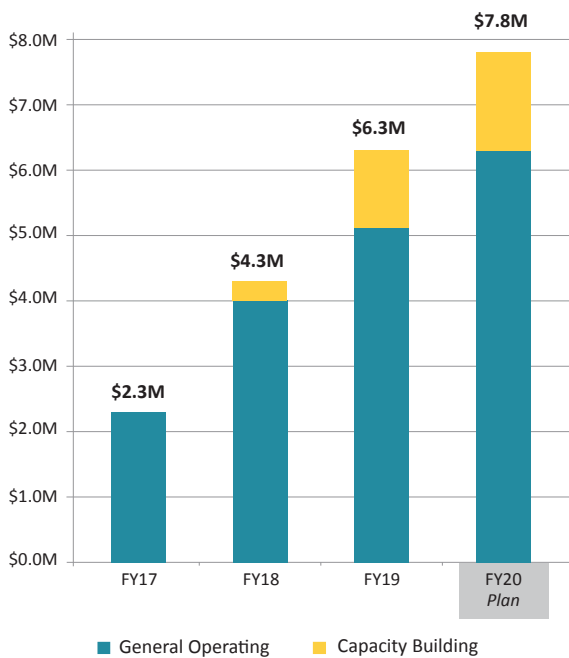
## STUDENTS AND ALUMNI



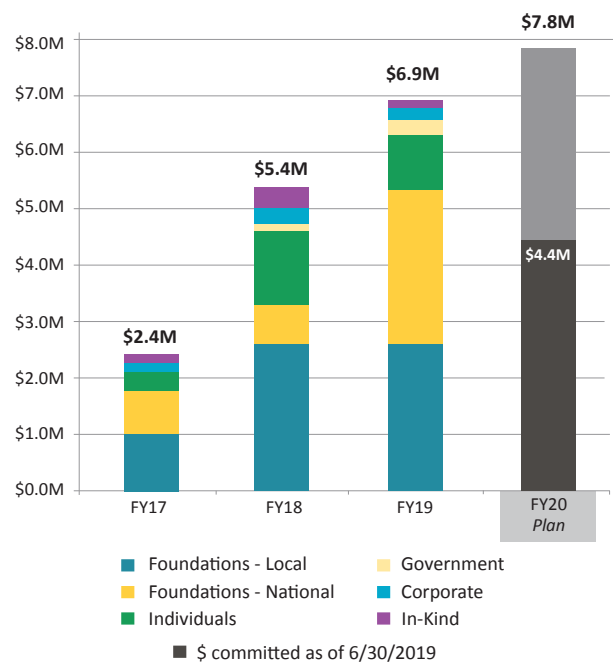
## FAMILY VOLUNTEERS



## EXPENSES



## COMMITTED REVENUE





## SNAPSHOTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

**TYNECIA CANNIE** is a **student alumna** from Thread's first cohort. She is currently a manager at American Airlines and in her free time has traveled to 26 countries. She is a graduate of Trinity Washington University (B.A.) and The Chicago School of Professional Psychology (M.A.). In addition, Tynecia has been a Family Member **volunteer** for the last four years. She and her fellow alumni, 31 from the first and second Dunbar cohorts, will welcome another 16 Thread young people to alumni status in 2020.

**MYRON JACKSON**, a current Thread **student**, enjoys watching movies, reading, and cheering on the Baltimore Ravens. A graduate of Bowie State University, Myron intends to earn his doctorate. Presently, he is a research technician in the lab of Cynthia Sears at Johns Hopkins Medicine. Johns Hopkins Medicine and The Johns Hopkins University continue to be Thread's flagship hubs, sponsoring Thread students for summer jobs, hosting recruitment and community-wide events, and serving as critical thought partners.

**MICHELLE LEFF**, a child/adolescent psychiatrist and Board Member **volunteer**, was recently featured in David Brooks' new book, *The Second Mountain*, where she shared her Thread journey in an effort to help others. Her daughter Emily, pictured with Michelle relaxing on the beach in Goa, India, was also a Thread **volunteer**. Over the past year, Board members reaffirmed their dedication to Thread's mission during this period of strategic growth. All members made multi-year financial gifts and have committed to publicly sharing their Thread journey.

**SHAWANDA JACKSON**, a **student alumna** and graduate of the University of Maryland, is now a Human Resources Generalist at Thread. Shawanda has also started her own business and loves to sing and write poetry in her free time. Thread encourages two- or four-year degree completion for many of our post-high school students, while also providing academic and career support for young people interested in trade schools and entrepreneurship.

**MICHELLE MILES** is the YouthWorks Program Manager in the Mayor's Office of Employment Development in Baltimore. She has helped expand the YouthWorks program to reach 8,000 Baltimore students and has been a vital advocate and ally for making summer employment a core part of the Thread student journey. Thread **collaborators** support students and volunteers by sharing their skills, talents, and resources. Expanding and growing networks is essential to the success of Thread's young people and creating a new social fabric where everyone thrives.

**ANGEL PEREZ**, a **student alumnus**, is an Assistant General Manager at the Inner Harbor Marina in Baltimore. Angel completed a certification in automotive technology in 2016 and recently bought a home for his growing family. Thread's 10-year commitment to every young person allows volunteers to walk alongside them into adulthood, offering continued support and resources as they work towards independence. While the dynamic of these relationships changes over the course of a decade, the benefit of deep, interpersonal bonds remains consistent.

