

2017

ANNUAL REPORT

25TH
 **QUEST**
ANNIVERSARY

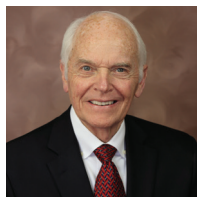
LEADERSHIP'S ADDRESS

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Project QUEST was founded twenty-five years ago, based on a common vision held by Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS)/Metro Alliance, business leaders, The City of San Antonio, Bexar County, and the State of Texas. 2017 was our best year yet; QUEST had it's highest number of participants, **1,199** in total, and graduated **400** participants. As QUEST continues to place people in meaningful careers, we hope more cities begin emulating QUEST's strategies and practices.



DAVID J. ZAMMIELLO
Executive Director



DON A. BEELER
Chairman

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

QUEST celebrated its 25 years with a luncheon and by commissioning an economic impact study. The luncheon celebrated all the work that QUEST has done over the past 25 years and recognized our original founders, COPS/Metro Alliance, the City of San Antonio, Frost Bank and Broadway Bank for their continued support.

.....

In 2017, a study founded by the Mott Foundation, conducted by Mark Elliott, President of the Economic Mobility Corporation, showed that QUEST is a key component in helping people in San Antonio find success in rapidly growing industries that include healthcare and technology.

.....

2017 also was a transition year for QUEST, welcoming Executive Director, David Zammiello, whose focus is on strengthening relationships with key community and business leaders, as well as improve its overall positioning within the community.

Project QUEST is
a valuable partner
in developing a
workforce pipeline
connecting
participants
with better job
opportunities,
and helping the
city's economic
future and global
competitiveness.

FORMER MAYOR IVY TAYLOR

Project Quest is a critical economic development resource that:

Understands and meets current and emerging employer work force needs

.....

Provides comprehensive support and resources to program participants to achieve long term employment

.....

Facilitates collaboration with other workforce development stakeholders

To strengthen the economy with highly qualified employees for in-demand, living wage careers.

Project QUEST is a critical economic development resource that understands and meets current and emerging employer workforce needs in San Antonio, Texas and the surrounding areas. QUEST provides comprehensive support and resources to program participants to achieve long-term employment in

collaboration with workforce development stakeholders. QUEST focuses on training and careers that offer family wages and advancement opportunities, while providing intensive support services to help participants overcome financial and personal barriers to skills acquisition.

2017

AT A GLANCE

1,199
PARTICIPANTS
SERVED

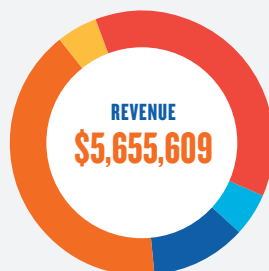
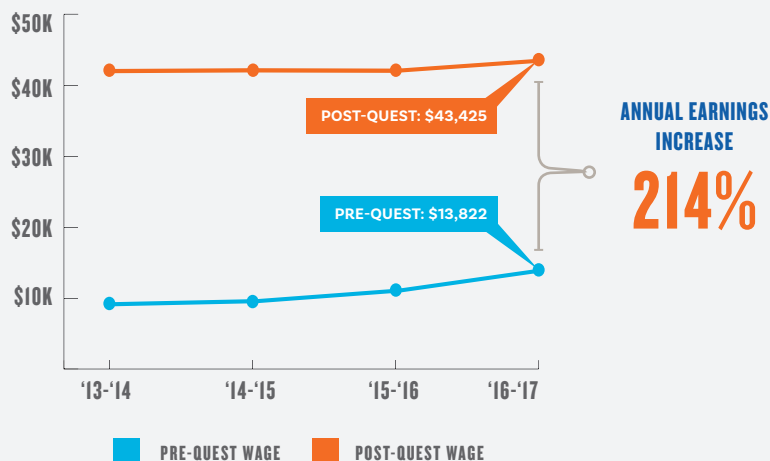
400 GRADUATES

329 GRADUATES
PLACED INTO IN
DEMAND JOBS

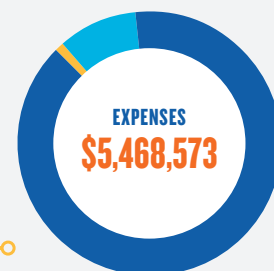
GRADUATES PLACED
INTO 27 IN DEMAND
OCCUPATIONS

THE AVERAGE WAGE
PER HOUR FOR
GRADUATES IS \$23.34

FINANCIALS



NET CHANGE
IN ASSETS
\$187,036

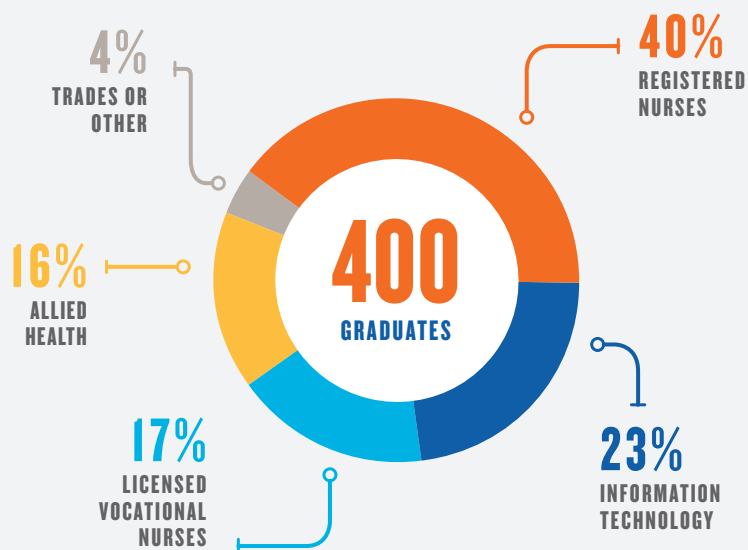


Federal Government	\$2,114,851
State Government	\$286,947
Local Government	\$2,308,550
Foundation Grants	\$647,237
Individual & Corporate Gifts	\$298,024

Program Services	\$4,878,184
Administration	\$539,454
Fundraising	\$50,935

► **TOTAL ASSETS, END FY '17**
\$927,082

CAREER TRACKS



DEMOGRAPHICS

30
AVERAGE AGE

59%
HISPANIC

46%
PARENTS

69%
WOMEN

22%
SINGLE PARENTS

12%
FORMER MILITARY

12%
AFRICAN AMERICAN

24%
RECEIVE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE



ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

In November 2017, we held our Silver Anniversary Luncheon, celebrating 25 years of impacting San Antonio's workforce. The event brought more than 500 guests to the Grand Hyatt San Antonio. In attendance were six elected officials, including Mayor Ron Nirenberg who delivered the keynote speech. We were extremely blessed to have more than 40 graduates and participants attend our event. We also celebrated our original founders for their years of continued support. Thank you COPS/ Metro Alliance, City of San Antonio, Frost Bank, and Broadway Bank.

SUCCESS STORIES

GRISELDA ONTIVEROS

RN PROGRAM

In 2001, I moved from Mexico to San Antonio. I have always wanted to be a nurse, but being that Spanish was my first language, I challenged myself to learn English because I knew that if I wanted to be able to help a diverse group of people, I would need to learn how to communicate in both languages. While I appreciated the benefits of being employed as a waitress, I knew deep in my heart that I wanted something else, something bigger and something more fulfilling for myself. Soon thereafter, I was notified that I had been accepted into the Generic Nursing Program at San Antonio College. Unfortunately, I had no idea where I was going to obtain the money needed to pay for my tuition.

One of my friends told me about Project Quest and how this amazing organization helps students like me, who are struggling to pay for their education, to ensure that we achieve our dreams and are able to serve our community through our chosen fields. My first semester of nursing school was a roller coaster of emotions because nursing school was the most challenging experience that I had ever experienced up to that point in my life. I struggled and felt overwhelmed with the amount of stress and finding the time to keep up with my studies, but I had Project QUEST. I had encouragement from my counselor who advocated for me and helped with my tuition and books. This journey was very difficult, but I never gave up. I am now prepared to join the workforce as an RN. Thank you, Project Quest, for helping me achieve my dream of becoming an RN.

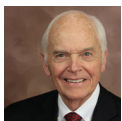
JOHNATHAN BRIONES

AVIATION MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

If it wasn't for QUEST, I wouldn't have developed or given any thought to the soft skills that I should be learning to be successful in the workforce. I was pretty much raw coal and QUEST made me into a really shiny diamond. The weekly meetings that we had were always full of information aimed at our success. Everyone at QUEST would always care for our well-being and ensured that we were in the best position to come out on top once we were done with school.

I remember Dr. Loston saying something at a past QUEST graduation that really stuck with me throughout the whole time I was here; it was: "Imagined impossibilities and unimagined possibilities." If anything describes what going through school does to you, it's that quote. We think of the worst but never consider the best. We have conquered the imagined impossibilities; whatever they were, they did not deter us from success. We have come to create those unimagined impossibilities into something real and concrete. Along with having my dad as motivation, I was surrounded by a support group that had an unrivaled drive to see me succeed. Everyone in my family supported me and wanted to see me finish. Also, my QUEST Career Advisor, Yolanda Smith was there checking up on me every step of the way.

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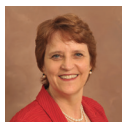
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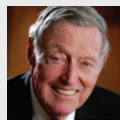


MARY STEFL, PH.D.
Professor,
Health Care Administration,
Trinity University



**TODD A. THAMES,
PT, MD, MHA, FAAFP**
Physician and Data Analyst,
Grand Rounds, Inc.

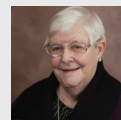
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