



Bottom Line

Get in ◆ Graduate ◆ Go far Success Depends on You

From the Executive Director



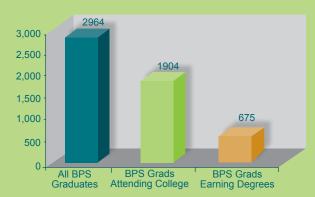
For nearly twelve years, Bottom Line has been working to help disadvantaged students get in to and graduate from college. Other members of the community have also been focused on the "getting in" challenge; however, for years we have been trying to move the dialogue from talking exclusively

about college access to also discussing why so few students succeed once they arrive on campus.

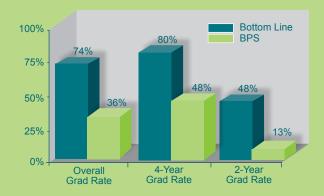
This conversation has recently shifted into high gear with the release of a new study by the Boston Private Industry Council showing that only 36% of Boston's high school graduates who begin attending college will earn a college degree within 7 years. These results demonstrate a sobering picture, but a picture that has been clear to Bottom Line since our inception.

Since 1997 we have provided support to 2,800 students. In this past year alone, we supported nearly 900 high school and college students, and that number will grow to 1,100 students across two cities (Boston and Worcester) in 2009. In this report we discuss the important growth that Bottom Line has seen this year, and we have also included the stories of some of our students. These students, like the thousands of others who have received support from Bottom Line, face significant challenges. But, with the proper guidance, they can and will succeed.

Greg Johnson Executive Director College-Going and College Graduation Rates for Boston Public Schools (BPS) Graduates



Bottom Line and BPS College Graduation Comparison



Data for BPS Graduates is taken from "Getting to the Finish Line: College Enrollment and Graduation" November 2008, prepared by Andrew Sum etc.

Our Mission

Our mission is to help disadvantaged students

Get in to college,

Graduate from college, and Go far in life. We accomplish this by providing one-on-one



guidance and support from college applications to college graduation. 98% of our high school students have been accepted to at least one college and 74% of our college students have graduated within six years.

Bottom Line Staff

Boston

Greg Johnson

Executive Director

Dave BorgalDirector of Operations

Lauren DavisDirector of Student Services

Mike WassermanDirector of Development

Sarah Hedges
Access Coordinator

Erica EmeryCareer Coordinator

Claudine Johnson Senior Counselor

Ramon DeJesus College Counselor

Jesenia GervacioCollege Counselor

Zachariah HicksCollege Counselor

Oneda HorneCollege Counselor

Amy MarkarianCollege Counselor

Ruth ThompsonCollege Counselor

College Couriselo

Kaitlin Meelia

Part-time College Counselor

Worcester

Ginette Saimprevil

Worcester Site Director

Miriam Rubin College Counselor



Vineesha Johnson Boston Latin Academy '04, Suffolk University '08

"There were times people made me feel like my life was a big impossibility, but I never let them totally destroy my aspirations and never voiced my fear of failing to make a quality life for my family. Instead, each trial I faced, I took it on, using all resources available, because my plan was to go to college in order to make a better life for me and my son.

Getting the work done in college was hard, but I never allowed myself to give up because my success and the future success of my son meant too much to me. Many times when I felt tired and burnt out by the demands of college work, just like clockwork, I would get a phone call from a Bottom Line counselor checking in to see how I was handling the pressure."

2 www.bottomline.org

Looking Back

Since 1997, **2,800 students** have received one-on-one support from a **Bottom Line** counselor.

Bottom Line was founded in 1997 to combat the low college-going and graduation rates of disadvantaged students in Boston. After working as a guidance counselor in urban schools, Bottom Line's founder, Dave Borgal, realized that lowincome and first-generation students who begin attending college do not graduate... at least not without guidance and support. Bottom Line was designed to provide those students with a knowledgeable guide who could take them from the beginning of the college application process to college graduation. By providing this steady, comprehensive source of one-onone support, Bottom Line has helped thousands of students along the journey to a college degree.



Looking Forward

Bottom Line will become a regional network of support for students across Massachusetts.

In 2008-2009 we will:

- ◆Provide one-on-one guidance to 400 high school seniors from Boston
- ◆Build a satellite program in Worcester, MA and serve 75 high school seniors from Worcester
- ◆Support more than 600 college students as they persist toward a college degree
- Move to a larger Boston facility to allow for staff expansion and student growth

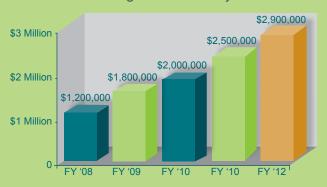
In the next five years we will:

- ◆Build our capacity to help at least 500 high school seniors from Boston get in to college each year
- ◆Build our capacity to provide ongoing support to 1,000 college students from Boston
- ◆Expand our Worcester office to support several hundred students every year
- ◆Open Bottom Line offices in 2 additional cities by 2012 to become a regional network of support





Budget Growth Projection



Bottom Line Timeline: 1997 to 1999

Dave Borgal, a former guidance counselor, decides to start a non-profit organization that helps students get in to college and graduate. Dave secures a small office on the ground floor of New Mission High School and helps his first 25 high school seniors apply to college. All 25 students in the inaugural class get in to college. Dave continues to support those 25 students as they begin college, as well as 50 new high school seniors.

Dave hires a full-time counselor to help support the growing number of students. There are 75 high school seniors and 75 college students in Bottom Line.

1997



Mieauna Douglas was living with her father, aunt and uncle when she came to Bottom Line at the beginning of her senior year. Her mother had been killed in a drive-by shooting the previous November.

Mieauna's counselor, Erica, helped her write her college essay about the difficult subject of her mother's death and apply to eight colleges.

During the application process, Mieauna's father went to jail. This was a challenging time for Mieauna personally, and it threatened to derail her college plans. It was also a challenge to apply for financial aid because her father made a decent salary, but would have no income in prison, which meant she would receive less financial aid than she needed.

Mieauna was accepted to Suffolk University, but she would need to pay \$7,000 per year, which she did not have. With Erica's help, Mieauna applied for and received the Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship, which covered her financial gap. Mieauna began attending Suffolk University in the fall of 2008. So far she has absolutely loved the school. She is working part-time, attending classes, and getting involved with campus activities.

Mieauna Douglas New Mission High School '08 Suffolk University '12

Get In

98% of Bottom Line students have been accepted to at least one college. In 2008, we helped 360 high school seniors get in to college, nearly 20% of Boston's entire college-bound population. By 2010, we expect more than 1 out of every 4 college-bound students from Boston to receive comprehensive one-on-one support from Bottom Line.

Bottom Line supported 360 high school seniors in our College Access Program during the 2007-2008 school year. Each student received one-onone support from a

counselor throughout the college application process. From creating a list of schools to writing an essay and completing applications to applying

for financial aid and scholarships, Bottom Line was students, and in all those respects, we believe 2008 there every step of the way for our students.

Since our founding, we have seen extraordinary results from our College Access Program. 98% of our students have been accepted to at least

> one college, and 2008 continued this impressive trend. However, we are always striving to improve our College Access Program's effectiveness, efficiency, and the experience of our

was the best year Bottom Line has ever seen.



In 2008, Bottom Line helped

students complete more than

3,000 applications.

Bottom Line Timeline: 2000 to 2002

Bottom Line has four full-time employees supporting 250 students. The office moves to Amory Street in Jamaica Plain.

Bottom Line helps 200 high school seniors get in to college and continues to support 250 students in college.

Bottom Line's first 10 students graduate from college! 540 more students continue to receive support.

2000 2001 2002



Licellys Nunez moved to Boston from the Dominican Republic with her mother when she was 13.

Four years later, she graduated from English High School with a 4.7 GPA. Licellys was always a hard worker, but because her mother had never gone to college, she had no idea how to apply. Once she came to Bottom Line, she knew she had found the support she needed.

Licellys now attends Bentley University and nearly 3 semesters into her college experience, she loves the school, has a 3.5 GPA, and is planning to major in Computer Information Systems.

Every semester, her financial circumstances have made it difficult to return to school. Licellys' mother is unable to provide financial assistance, so Licellys works year-round to pay for tuition and books, and Bottom Line has helped her piece together some scholarships and last minute financial assistance.

This summer, Licellys landed a prized Bottom Line internship at Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, where she worked in the IT Department getting valuable experience and earning money for school.

Licellys looks forward to graduation and to one day having a job that lets her support her mom.

Licellys Nunez English High School '07 Bentley University '11

Graduate

74% of Bottom Line's college students have graduated in six years or less, more than twice the average graduation rate for all Boston students. In 2008, we provided ongoing support to 520 college students.

During the 2007-2008 school year, Bottom Line provided one-on-one guidance to 520 college students through our College Success Program, up from 460 the previous year. Each student in the program received academic, financial, career, and emotional support from a Bottom Line counselor.

We have been supporting college students since our first class of students set foot on a college campus in 1998, but there is always room for improvement, and we made some exciting enhancements in 2008.

Bottom Line Timeline: 2003 to 2005

32 students graduate from college!
There are 560 more in the program.
Greg Johnson takes over as Executive
Director.

Even with more students than ever, we worked hard to deepen the personal relationship that each counselor has with their students. We increased the number of visits our counselors made to campus, which allowed each counselor to provide better,

more personal service to their students.

We also gave each counselor a budget they can use

to buy meaningful items for our students, which ranged from new glasses to books to a simple gift that would help a student get through a difficult time. Along with this, we continued to help students choose classes and majors, stay on track academically, renew financial aid and scholarships,

transfer schools if necessary, create a resume, find a job or internship, and much more. Most importantly, we provided much-needed emotional support to our students at all times.

Each student has different needs and faces

unique challenges. Our one-on-one program allows our counselors to meet the needs of each student and help them

overcome the obstacles in their path. Our goal is for 80% of our college students to graduate in six years or less. Currently we have a 74% graduation rate, which is more than twice the average for all college-bound students from Boston.



By 2012 we plan to support

more than 1,000 college

students every year.

Bottom Line supports 765 students. Dave returns as Director of Student Services. 80% of the first class has now graduated in 6 years!

360 high school and 376 college students are in Bottom Line. The first annual Get In, Graduate, and Go Far Dinner raises nearly \$350,000!

2003 2004 2005



Luz Mederos first visited Bottom
Line during her senior year in
high school. She was intent on going
to college in Boston to stay close to
her mother, who was disabled and
unable to work. Luz was accepted to
Northeastern University, where she
majored in human services. She spent 5
years at Northeastern, including two coop assignments in human resource offices
at companies in Boston.

In May 2008 she graduated, becoming the first in her family to earn a degree. The moment that stands out the most is when she received a Bottom Line care package in the mail during her senior year. She describes herself as being at a particularly low point. When she read the poem in the care package called "Don't Quit," she knew she would graduate.

Now, 6 months after graduation, Luz finds herself working in Student Support Services at the Steppingstone Foundation in Boston. In her role, she supports a caseload of middle and high school students to make sure they get the academic and emotional support they need to succeed. The work she does is in many ways similar to the support she received from Bottom Line.

Luz Mederos Snowden International High School '03 Northeastern University '08

Go Far

75 college students in paid summer internships throughout Greater Boston. In 2009, we hope to place 150 students in internships.



Our mission is to help students get in to college, graduate from college, and go far in life. Over the past few years, we have recognized that there is a great deal we can do to help our students *go far*. By teaching students how to write resumes, improve interview skills, meet employers, and find internships and jobs, we can prepare our college students for a successful career after graduation.

However, we also understand that many of our students lack professional experience, or are unable to find paid internships that are relevant to their interests. In response, we sought to build corporate relationships with local companies looking to diversify their workforce and we connected our college students and recent graduates with these corporate partners.

During the summer of 2008, we were able to place 75 students in paid summer internships, and we are very proud of these results, yet we understand that there is much more we can do. Our goal is to place 150 college students in paid summer internships during the summer of 2009. We intend to develop our relationships with existing corporate partners and identify new corporate partners in the region.

Our most exciting career initiative is with Sun Life Financial. They hired 26 Bottom Line students to work in internships throughout the company this summer. We believe this program has the potential to become a model we can bring to other companies who are interested in hiring our students.

2008 Internship Partners

Benchmark Assisted Living
Boston Lawyers Group
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
Hill Holliday
Integrity Interactive
Liberty Mutual
Stop & Shop
Sun Life Financial
Target
Veterans Administration

Vinfen

"When working with students from Bottom Line, you get an unparalleled level of commitment. The interns are focused on making the most of the opportunity. They not only want to accomplish the task you ask of them, they strive to learn the process and understand how the work impacts your business."

-Matt White, New Business Service Operations Manager at Sun Life Financial

Bottom Line Timeline: 2006 to 2008

There are 210 total college graduates now. 360 high school and 460 college students are in Bottom Line.

Bottom Line has 14 employees supporting 880 high school and college students. There are 265 total college graduates.

Bottom Line has 327 alumni and begins the 2008-2009 school year by opening an office in Worcester and supporting 1,100 students in Boston and Worcester.

2006 2007 2008

Worcester

Bottom Line is thrilled to be working with students from the Worcester community. In our first year, we will support 75 high school seniors. However, there are many more students who want and need our support. We look forward to expanding our services in this new community to meet the significant need.



In October 2007 Bottom Line's Board of Directors and staff decided that it was time to expand our programs to serve students beyond Boston.

After an exhaustive search of cities in the Northeast, it was decided that Worcester, Massachusetts was the perfect location for our first satellite office. Worcester was close to Boston, had a large number of colleges in the area, and as New England's second largest city, there was a significant need among the student population for consistent one-on-one guidance from college applications to college graduation.

After agreeing that Bottom Line should move to Worcester, we put together a wonderful Advisory Board (listed below) consisting of prominent members of the Worcester community.

Bottom Line began building relationships with high schools, colleges, and non-profits in the area. It was clear that students from Worcester needed our support.

On July 1, 2008, we officially opened our office at 600 Main Street in downtown Worcester. We hired two full-time staff to support 75 high school seniors from the class of 2009. Within 60 days, more than 100 students had already applied for the program and more applications continued to come in throughout the fall.

We are very excited that this new office is already supporting Worcester students and creating a buzz in the community. We are committed to growing in Worcester, and we hope to become a strong member of the local community.

Bottom Line Students are Already Attending:

Assumption College
Clark University
College of the Holy Cross
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

High Schools Represented in the Worcester Class of 2009

Burncoat High School
Claremont Academy
Doherty High School
North High School
South High School
University Park Campus School
Worcester Technical High School

Bottom Line - Worcester

600 Main Street, Suite 110 Worcester, MA 01608 Phone: 508-757-3400 Fax: 508-757-7400



Ginette Saimprevil, Worcester Site Director New Mission High School '00, Bowdoin College '04

"I am thrilled that I was chosen to lead Bottom Line's Worcester office. We must take what we have learned in Boston and bring it to other cities which have similar populations and similar needs. Not only will we help the Worcester students gain access to college, but we will enhance our ability to help students stay in college."



Worcester Advisory Board

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Success Depends on You

The support of our donors has helped us change the lives of thousands of students.

Since 1997, Bottom Line has provided one-onone guidance and support to 2,800 students Our goal has been to ensure that each of those students has the tools they need to earn a college degree, and with our support they have succeeded and continue to succeed. In this report, you have read about a handful

of the young people in our program. Every one

of the thousands of students who has come to Bottom Line has their own story and faces unique challenges. For 11 years, we have helped students overcome these challenges, but none of that would have been possible without the individuals, corporations, and foundations that have been so generous to Bottom Line. Thank you for helping us to achieve so much.

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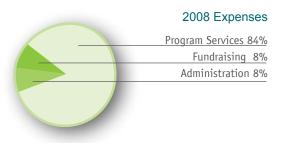
Top of the Hub Trinity Repertory Theatre Turtle **Ultimate Bootcamp Union Oyster House** University of MA - Boston

Vargas and Vargas Verizon Wireless Wachusett Mountain Wal-Mart Stores Inc. Warner Brothers Studio Mike Wasserman Westin Copley Place WHDH Channel 7 Boston Wheelock Family Theatre Zoo New England

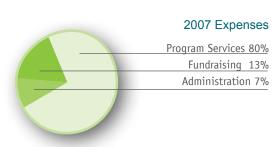
To learn more about Bottom Line and to make a gift to support our important work, visit our website: www.bottomline.org.

Bottom Line 2008 Annual Report 17 www.bottomline.org

2008 Revenue and Support Private Foundation 45% Corporate Foundation 6% Corporate 20% Individual 27% Other 2%



2007 Revenue and Support Private Foundation 40% Corporate Foundation 24% Corporate 17% Individual 17% Other 2%



Financials

Statements of Financial Position The Bottom Line, Inc. | June 30, 2008 and 2007

ASSETS	2008	2007		
Current Assets:				
Cash	\$1,275,363	\$823,783		
Restricted cash	\$2,144	\$100,000		
Pledges receivable	\$412,750	\$292,250		
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$11,173	\$7,971		
	\$1,701,430	\$1,224,004		
Property and Equipment:				
Database	\$37,103	\$0		
Furniture & equipment	\$143,389	\$102,586		
Leasehold improvements	\$5,343	\$5,343		
	\$185,835	\$107,929		
Accumulated depreciation	(\$85,701)	(\$66,729)		
	\$100,134	\$41,200		
Other Asset:				
Deposits	\$15,444	\$2,424		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,817,008	\$1,267,628		
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
Current Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$30,375	\$11,504		
Accrued expenses	\$39,168	\$12,875		
Scholarships payable	\$190,144	\$100,000		
	\$259,687	\$124,379		
Net Assets:				
Unrestricted	\$1,348,083	\$658,016		
Temporarily restricted	\$209,238	\$485,233		
	\$1,557,321	\$1,143,249		
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$1,817,008	\$1,267,628		
Financial Statements audited by Cohen & Associates, Certified Public Accountants				

Statements of Activities The Bottom Line, Inc. | years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007

	2008	2007
Revenue and Support:		
Contributions	\$1,151,296	\$1,100,827
Special events	\$566,705	\$321,755
Cost of special events	(\$112,355)	(\$82,184)
Program revenue	\$17,105	\$19,605
Interest	\$20,766	\$13,317
	\$1,643,517	\$1,373,320
Expenses:		
Program services	\$1,034,952	\$701,611
Administration	\$102,498	\$61,969
Fundraising	\$91,995	\$114,692
	\$1,229,445	\$878,272
Change in net assets	\$414,072	\$495,048
Net assets at beginning of year	\$1,143,249	\$648,201
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$1,557,321	\$1,143,249

Statements of Cash Flows The Bottom Line, Inc. | years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007

	2008	2007
Operating Activities:	2000	2001
Change in net assets:	\$414,072	\$495,048
Adjustments to reconcile change in net	Ψ111,012	ψ 100,0 10
assets to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation	\$18,972	\$12,905
(Increase) decrease in assets:		
Restricted cash	\$97,856	(\$100,000)
Pledges receivable	(\$120,500)	(\$155,250)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(\$3,202)	\$230
Increase (decrease) in liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$18,871	(\$1,604)
Scholarship grants payable	\$90,144	\$100,000
Accrued expenses	\$26,293	\$5,355
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	\$529,486	\$356,684
Investing Activity:		
Purchase of property and equipment	(\$77,906)	(\$9,917)
Net cash used in investing activity	(\$77,906)	(\$9,917)
Net increase (decrease) in cash	\$451,580	\$346,767
Cash, beginning of year	\$823,783	\$477,016
	Ψ020,1.00	\$117,310
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$1,275,363	\$823,783



Board of Directors

Margaret Andrews, Harvard University

Peter Bishop, Goldman Sachs

George Chu, Citizen Schools

Patrick Day, University of Massachusetts at Boston

Emerson Foster, Foster & Francisco

John Lewis, Seyfarth Shaw

Viola Morse, Brandeis University

Charles J. O'Connor III, Fidelity Investments

C. Sura O'Mard, Boston Public Schools

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Patti Saris, United States District Court

Dave Terry (Board Chair), Salvectus Healthcare

Michael Volo, Fidelity Investments

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