

**Carlos Perrett**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MAY 13, 2024**

Bottom Line, Massachusetts  
Managing Director of Development  
P: (979) 721 - 1977  
E: [cperrett@bottomline.org](mailto:cperrett@bottomline.org)

**Bottom Line chosen to administer the Boston Public Health Commission's Generational Health Scholarship, a novel, need-based scholarship program for first-year college students of color studying for careers in STEM, the Health Sciences and Public Health, and Behavioral Health.**

**Boston, MA** – Bottom Line Massachusetts is pleased to announce it has received a \$500,000 award from the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) to manage the new Generational Health Scholarship. This needs-based program supports Boston-area students pursuing careers in STEM, public health, healthcare, and behavioral health.

The BPHC issued a request for proposals (RFP) to partner with community organizations to manage the Generational Health Scholarship. This initiative, part of the response to the Declaration of Racism as a Public Health Crisis in 2020, seeks to address barriers to higher education faced by Black, Latinx, and Indigenous residents of Boston.

“We are honored to be selected as a partner for this critical program,” said Bottom Line Massachusetts Managing Director of Development, Carlos Perrett. “Our mission to partner with first-generation students in navigating the college application process aligns perfectly with the goals of the Generational Health Scholarship. We are excited to further our support of Boston-area students as they achieve their educational and career aspirations.”

The Generational Health Scholarship aims to alleviate financial and structural barriers that disproportionately impact students of color, contributing to their underrepresentation in STEM and health professions. By providing financial support and continuous advising, the scholarship will help students enter and complete their degrees, ultimately increasing diversity in critical sectors and promoting health equity in Boston.

“Access to educational opportunities improves health and well-being not only for individuals but also for communities,” said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the BPHC. “This scholarship program is a vital public health strategy to address inequities and enhance representation in health and STEM fields.”

Starting Fall 2024, Bottom Line Massachusetts will begin supporting the first cohort of scholarship recipients. These students will receive comprehensive guidance through

personalized advising sessions, covering all aspects of the college application process, from building balanced college lists to applying for financial aid and scholarships.

“We are grateful for the trust placed in us by the BPHC and look forward to making a positive impact on the lives of these deserving students,” said Shaleena Gaskin, Managing Director of Program at Bottom Line. “Our team is committed to helping them overcome obstacles and succeed in their academic and professional journeys.”

### ***About Bottom Line***

For over 25 years, [Bottom Line](#) has been fighting for educational equity by ensuring that the right to a quality college education is accessible to the many, not just the few. Its vision is to create a far-reaching ripple effect, launched by the transformative power of a college degree and a mobilizing first career. For degree-aspiring students from first-generation and low-income backgrounds, Bottom Line is a relentless ally that partners with them to get into college, graduate, and go far.

For more information about Bottom Line Massachusetts and its programs, please visit [www.bottomline.org](http://www.bottomline.org) or email Carlos Perrett at [cperrett@bottomline.org](mailto:cperrett@bottomline.org).

### ***About the Boston Public Health Commission***

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) serves as Boston's local health department, providing a wide range of health services and programs in partnership with communities to protect and promote the health and well-being of all Boston residents, especially those impacted by racism and systemic inequities. The BPHC envisions a thriving Boston where all residents live healthy, fulfilling lives free of racism, poverty, violence, and other systems of oppression. [Learn more about the BPHC here.](#)