

Hi Hildreth Institute

IMPACT REPORT



**5 YEARS
IN REVIEW**

2018-2022

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From our Managing Director

"As Hildreth Institute marks its fifth year anniversary we are taking the opportunity to reflect on all we have accomplished, the connections we've forged, and take stock of what we have learned along the way.

From the very beginning, our goal has been to increase equity in all aspects of higher education – from the application process through post-graduation. To that end, we've worked to inform policy through a thoughtful and actionable research-based agenda, one that helps develop innovative solutions to improve the way we fund higher education, increase college access and success, and eliminate the student debt burden.

By supporting policy reforms, HI has directly impacted the lives of underserved college students across the Commonwealth. Key wins include: more need-based financial aid for Massachusetts students, increased consumer protections for student borrowers, and additional funding and resources for public higher education.

Our work is not going unnoticed. In 2021, HI received the Excellence Award in Advocacy from the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network for our work establishing a Student Loan Borrower Bill of Rights in Massachusetts.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our local and national partners, our team members, and those who have advised HI and helped to expand our reach and impact during this critical phase of our organization.

HI would not be where it is today without the support and leadership from our founder, Bob Hildreth. For decades, critical issues around higher education, immigration, and civil rights have been advanced because of Bob's dogged advocacy and support. Bob's energy and commitment to the work necessary for positive change is contagious and we continue to be propelled by his unwavering enthusiasm and commitment to reforming higher education.

This is just the beginning. We recognize the importance of building diverse coalitions as we seek to bring about impactful change and we look forward to reaching out to our old and new partners. As we begin year six, we look forward to our collective work towards an inclusive, diverse, and equitable society.

Thank you.

OUR WHY:

Confronting Inequity in Higher Education

Education is understood to be an engine of upward social and economic mobility.

But the current system of financing college through student loans has led to a vicious cycle of increasing college costs and a growing debt burden for students.

We are here to change that.



OUR MISSION

“Hildreth Institute is a non-profit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to restoring the promise of higher education as an engine of upward mobility for all.

OUR VISION

“We are committed to fixing the broken college financing system by promoting innovative policy solutions at the federal and state levels, in order to invest in higher education while eliminating the burden of student debt.

HOW

HI STANDS APART AS A RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Rigorous
Research &
Analysis

**OUR GOAL:
ACTIONABLE
HIGHER
EDUCATION
POLICY
SOLUTIONS**

Equity-Based
Policy Lens

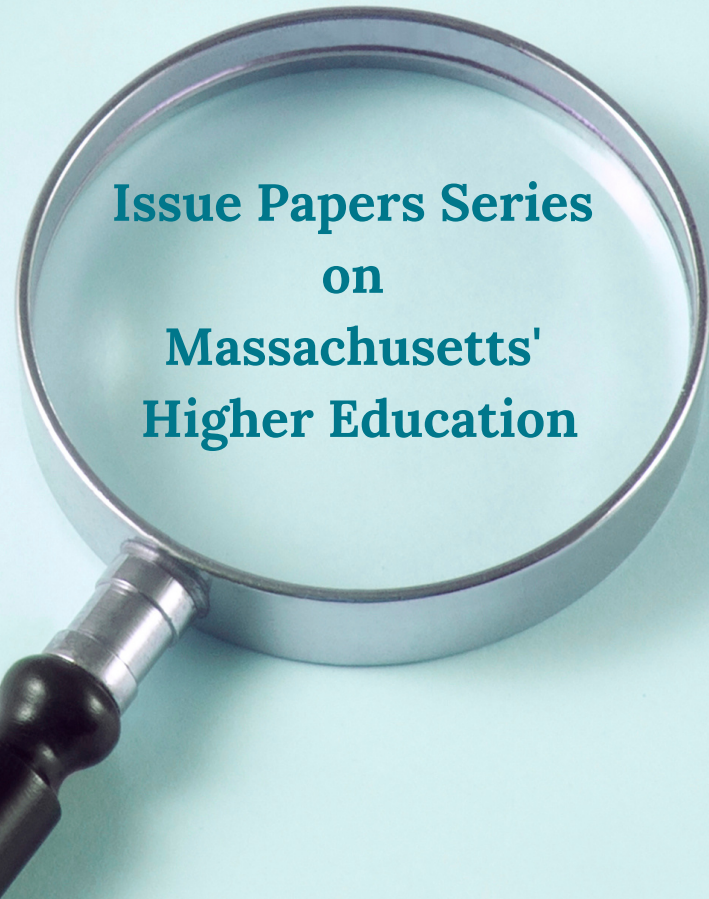
Democratizing
research with
accessible
reports

Community-
Engaged
Policy
Development

Empowering
Awareness
Campaigns

OUR RESEARCH

Using an equity lens, we research and analyze existing systems and programs to develop actionable evidence-based policy recommendations



**Issue Papers Series
on
Massachusetts'
Higher Education**

Massachusetts' Disinvestment in
Higher Education

Massachusetts' Largest Need-
Based Grant is So Small

Massachusetts' Lending Failure

The Magic Formula to More than
Doubling State Funding for Public Higher
Education

Why Massachusetts Needs its Own
Student Loan Bill of Rights



DIG DEEP, AIM HIGH

Our Research Papers

Massachusetts Public Higher Education

Underfunded, Unaffordable, & Unfair

Bahar Akman Imboden, PhD

April 2022



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EQUITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION: A PROMISE UNFULFILLED BUT STILL ACHIEVABLE

A White Paper on Creating
Equity in College Affordability.

BAHAR AKMAN IMBODEN, Ph. D.

This report was funded in part by the Michelson 20MM Foundation's Spark Grant.

JUNE 2020

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PRIVATE STUDENT LOANS

The riskiest way to finance college is becoming
the last resort for too many students.

BAHAR AKMAN IMBODEN

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LOSING INTEREST

No Interest Student Loans with a Cost Offset



The federal government lends zero-interest loans to students



Borrowers repay principal only over a set period of years



The principal repayments are invested in risk-free assets to generate a return over time



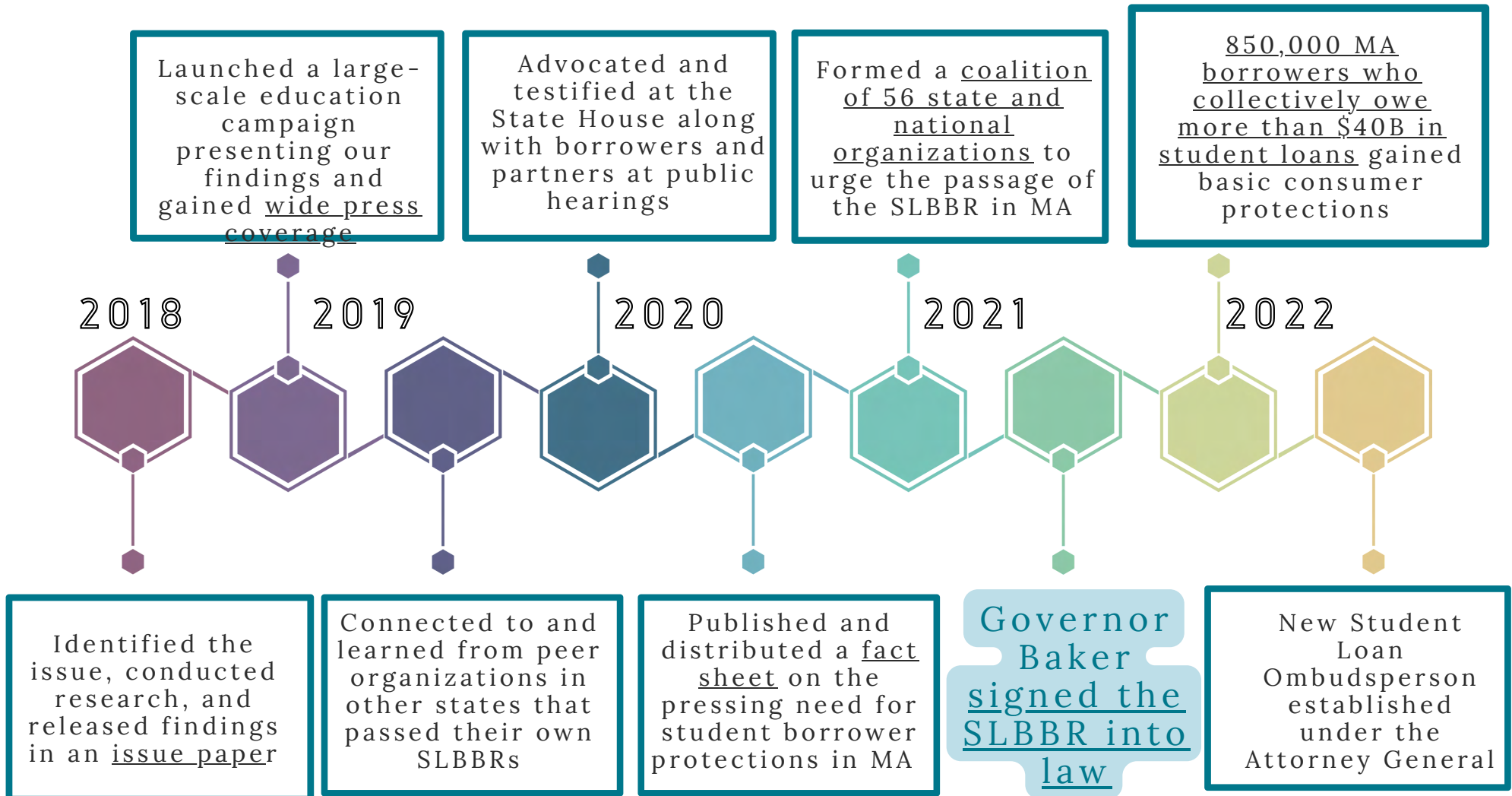
Once matured, the funds are used to cover the administrative cost of the program as well as to issue new student loans

August 2022

hildrethinstitute.org

ESTABLISHING THE SLBBR

In response to mounting evidence of the student loan servicing industry's failure to adequately and fairly service borrowers, establishing a Student Borrowers' Bill of Rights in Massachusetts became one of our first priorities.



FORGING POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

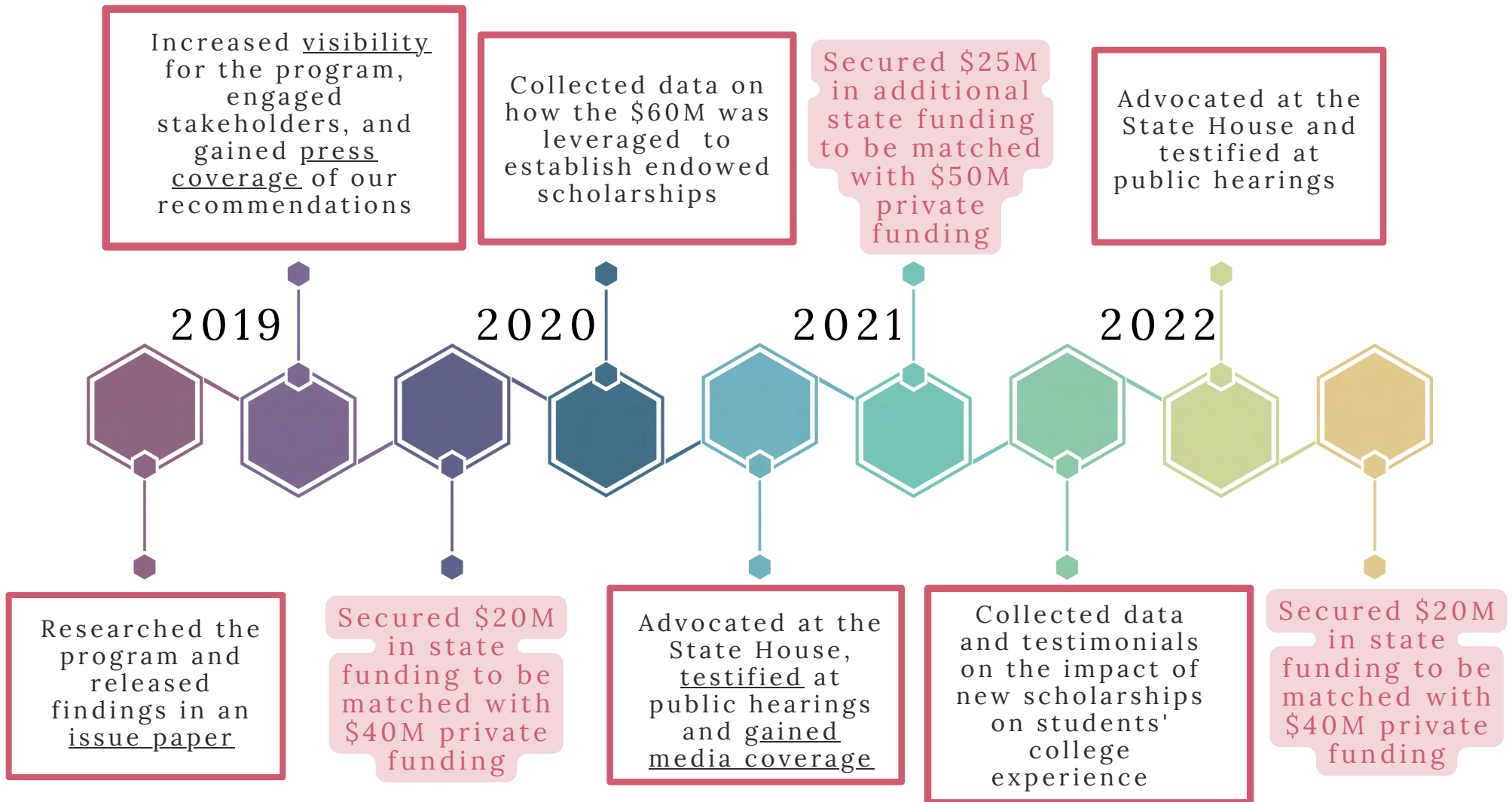
we wish to thank our partners who fought with us for the Student Loan Borrowers' Bill of Rights!

**WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER,
WE CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING!**



ACTIVATING THE ENDOWMENT FUND

Increasing financial aid to students at public colleges and universities was one of our top priorities. We worked to reactivate the MA Endowment Match program, which matches private endowment donations for scholarships with state dollars.



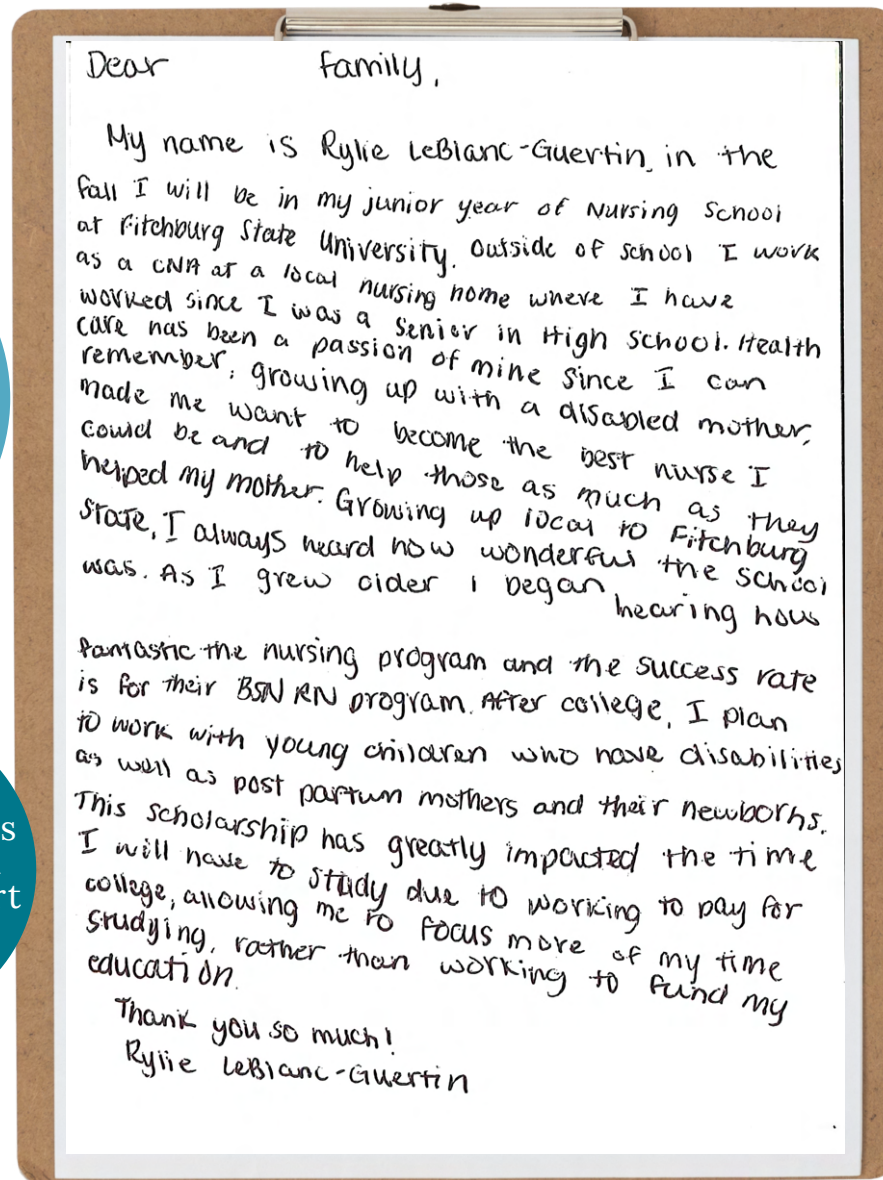
TESTIMONIALS

THE LIVES WE IMPACT

Our impact is personal. With the Endowment Match Fund re-activated, more students at public institutions receive much-needed scholarships to cover their cost of their college.

"Receiving this scholarship motivates me to maintain my GPA and complete my degree. I look forward to being able to give back to the community once I begin my career in nursing."
-Aimee Ayers

"For me this scholarship is showing me that my hard work is paying off and I can't thank you enough for your help and support to reach my goals."
-Janelly Santana



"The financial assistance you provided will be of great help to me in paying my educational expenses, and it will allow me to concentrate more of my time on studying. Thank you again for your generosity and support. I promise you I will work very hard and eventually give back to others as a teacher."
-Katilyn Decker

OUR IMPACT

RESEARCH
& POLICY
ANALYSIS

EDUCATION
CAMPAIGNS

PARTNERSHIPS
&
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

ADVOCACY

\$150 million in additional
endowment funds for MA
public higher
education institutions

Increased funding for
need-based grants and
scholarships for MA
students

> 850,000
student borrowers have
protections to ensure fair
loan servicing

> \$1 million in funding to
20,000 families with college
savings accounts

CHANGED
LIVES

Increasing
higher
education
access and
success
while
reducing
student
debt burden

CELEBRATING OUR IMPACT

Nonprofit Excellence Award in Advocacy for 2021

We were honored to be awarded the Nonprofit Excellence Award in Advocacy by the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network!

We received this award for leading the coalition and advocacy efforts resulting in the passage of the Student Loan Borrower's Bill of Rights in Massachusetts.

With this new law, 850,000 Massachusetts residents who collectively owe more than \$40 billion in student debt have gained rights and protections that ensure that they receive adequate and fair loan servicing.



HILDRETH IN THE MEDIA

1872 **The Boston Globe** 2022
Serving our community for 150 years

If state universities get endowment boost from Legislature, thank this guy

By **Jon Chesto** Globe Staff,



Local philanthropist Bob Hildreth CHRIS MORRIS FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE



OUR PRESENCE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

GET REGULAR UPDATES WHEN YOU CONNECT WITH US



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[@HILDRETHINSTITUTE](https://www.linkedin.com/company/HILDRETHINSTITUTE)



[@HI_HILDRETH](https://twitter.com/HI_HILDRETH)

LOOKING FORWARD

Our organizational strategy revolves around five pillars



OUR BOARD

As we evolve, so too does our team, our governance structure, and our strategy.

We welcomed two new members, each of whom brings a wealth of experience in the field of higher education: Sally Currier, an independent education management professional who is deeply dedicated to youth, education, and social justice work; and Stacy Scott, who has spent his career advancing educational opportunities and is the Founder and President of the Center for Understanding Equity, which promotes the study and practice of equity in education.

Bob Hildreth I President of the Board

Charles Desmond I Board Member

Sally Currier I Board Member

Stacy Scott I Board Member

OUR TEAM

Our team's capacity expanded with two critical hires in the past year. In May, Emily Fitzmaurice joined as our first ever Director of Policy and Public Affairs, bringing a decade of experience working on policy initiatives and political campaigns throughout Massachusetts. In September, we welcomed Hiba Agha, who brings a strong analytical and research expertise to our team as our Research and Development Associate. With these two women rounding out our team, HI is ready to build upon the success we've had while expanding the scope and reach of our work.

Bahar Akman Imboden I Co-Founder & Managing Director

Emily Fitzmaurice I Director of Policy & Public Affairs

Hiba Agha I Research & Development Associate



WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Your financial support allows us to continue researching the complex issues around inequity in higher education and making policy recommendations that have a concrete impact on student's lives.

Please consider supporting our work.

[DONATE](#)

THANK YOU

