

Collaborative Partnerships: Seattle Colleges

Seattle Jobs Initiative (SJI), a nonprofit that supports low-income communities to move into living wage jobs, is a major partner with Seattle Colleges on the Walmart Brighter Futures 2.0 project. SJI provides strategic support to the project, including on our efforts to better identify and track job placement rates among graduates. This is important as one of the major goals of the project is to develop a job placement and tracking system that will serve the entire college district for years to come. SJI has explored many of the avenues for job tracking that are being considered for implementation, and is providing guidance on moving forward with that initiative.

SJI also provides much of our wraparound and navigation support for students. The population that SJI navigators have been able to serve has historically been somewhat limited, often by geography or sector. A contract developed through this project allows SJI navigators to serve students regardless of geographic and industry affiliation. Additionally, much of our existing job placement data is available as a result of the work of SJI navigators, who have developed relationships with many of the students in the Walmart Brighter Futures program and are able to call graduates directly to learn about their employment status.