

## Aspiration Project

- 70% of high growth, high wage jobs will require some form of education and training after High School
- VSAC research shows that the gap in “aspirations” between students whose parents do not have post-secondary education (1<sup>st</sup> Gen) and students whose parents do have post-secondary education (2<sup>nd</sup> Gen) varies widely across the state
- VSAC has identified High Schools where this gap is the widest
- The Aspirations work is a partnership with these high schools to develop programs and services designed to close this equity gap
- We work with 4-5 high schools at a time
- Projects last two to three years with the goal of becoming self-sustaining and then new high schools are selected
- Currently the funding is carved out of student grant funding—we are hoping to have it become an appropriated program so that it doesn’t come out of grant funding

## 802Opportunity

- VSAC research shows that the gap in Vermont’s post-secondary continuation rate is driven by lower enrollment by HS students in 2-year programs
- CCV serves as a critical access point for many Vermont students of all ages
- CCV has some of the highest published tuition in the Nation
- Students coming from families earning less than \$30,000, through the combination of the Federal Pell Grant and the VSAC grant, can go tuition free
- We are requesting funding to increase the threshold to students coming from families earning less than \$50,000
- This represents students coming from roughly 1/3 of Vermont families
- CCV is the most cost-effective (per the Select Committee report) and is a gateway to UVM and four-year degree offerings at the VSC