THE CHALLENGE AND THE IMPERATIVE

In fall 2016, approximately 1 in 5 new entering CSB students came from families with incomes below $50,000. An income level below the comprehensive pre-financial aid price of attendance at the College of Saint Benedict ($55,206). The median family income for this lowest income quintile totaled just $26,743, half the comprehensive attendance price.

Students with family incomes less than $50,000 annually are more likely to be students of color. They are also more likely to come from outside Minnesota.

BIG DREAMS

Our low income students come to Saint Ben’s with high expectations. Perhaps a reflection of the opportunity many see as the first in their family to pursue a baccalaureate degree. They are even more likely than students with higher family incomes to say there is a “very good chance” they will study abroad, go to graduate school, or complete an internship. Financial support will be essential in order to make these experiences possible for all CSB students.

ENDOWMENT PER STUDENT

$31,516. That’s the amount of endowment per student at Saint Ben’s (FY16). CSB’s peer institutions have an average of $94,512 (FY15). Saint John’s endowment per student is $89,446 (FY16). Growing the endowment is the top financial priority of the Illuminating Lives fundraising campaign.

The fastest growing populations of CSB students are first-generation and underrepresented students. These students bring diverse life experiences, high ambition and eagerness to achieve to the college. They will require significantly greater financial resources for financial aid and support for study abroad, internships and research opportunities. Over $37 million has already been raised in this campaign in endowment for students, with a commitment to raise much more.

WANT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION?

Make a gift to the Illuminating Lives campaign.

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