



VERBUMDEI
JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL

IMPACT REPORT

2024

verbjesuit.org/impact

Our Mission & Values

Verbum Dei Jesuit High School is a Jesuit Catholic, Cristo Rey high school that offers young men from supportive families of limited resources a college prep curriculum, corporate work experience, and faith formation that prepares them to graduate from college as men-with-and-for-others who serve their communities and pursue a more just and humane world for all.

Excellence

We promote the highest level of effort from students, faculty, and staff in academics, work, and extracurricular activities.

Generosity

Inspired by Jesus' message — "Anything you did for one of my brothers or sisters, however humble, you did for me" — we practice selflessness and service to others.

Integrity

We uphold honesty, respect, and moral responsibility in all aspects of life and decision-making.

Resilience

We grow stronger in the face of adversity by practicing perseverance.

Cooperation

The Verb thrives on mutual support, where every individual receives the necessary attention, encouragement, and resources required to succeed.



Cristo Rey Network

Verbum Dei Jesuit is a member of the Cristo Rey Network of schools whose mission is to "transform urban America, one student at a time." Through an education model that combines rigorous academic coursework with real-world corporate work experience, students from Cristo Rey Network schools are prepared to successfully get to and through college.

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Dear Verbum Dei Jesuit...

At Verbum Dei Jesuit High School, our motto, "Work Hard. Play Hard. Pray Hard." is more than a phrase—it is the foundation of everything we do. These words reflect our Jesuit mission to form men for others, inspiring our students to excellence in academics, athletics, and spirituality while preparing to make meaningful contributions to the world.

The 2023-24 annual impact report highlights the transformative power of your partnership in helping us live out this motto.

Work Hard

In the classroom and through our Corporate Work Study Program, our students exemplify dedication and resilience. This year, 90% of our students are working in corporate jobs, gaining invaluable professional experience that bridges the gap between education and career goals. Their commitment to learning and growth is a testament to the strength of our academic programs and the unmatched opportunities your support provides.

Play Hard

Beyond the classroom, Verbum Dei students embrace the joy and discipline of athletics and other extracurricular activities. This year, we launched new programs to foster teamwork and leadership, and we laid the groundwork to rebuild and enhance our athletic offerings, including the football program. Through these initiatives, our students learn the value of perseverance, camaraderie, and setting high goals—qualities that shape their character and futures.

Pray Hard

At Verbum Dei, prayer is not only part of our daily rhythm but also a wellspring of strength, hope, and purpose. Through retreats, service projects, and campus ministry, our students deepen their relationship with God, each other, and the broader community. This spiritual foundation is a vital part of forming young men who lead with compassion and integrity.

Your generosity and belief in Verbum Dei Jesuit High School make this all possible. Together, we are building a community where our students grow in mind, body, and spirit. As you reflect on the stories and achievements shared in this report, I hope you see the direct impact of your investment in our mission.

Thank you for walking with us as we guide our young men to live out the Jesuit ideals of faith, scholarship, and service. Please continue to keep Verbum Dei in your prayers, as we do for you.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

James Russell, SJ



Community Stats

 **302**
STUDENTS

CLASS BREAKDOWN

2024 → 60

2025 → 71

2026 → 84

2027 → 87

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

80% Hispanic/Latino

17% African American

3% Other



COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

94% 4-Year Institution

5% 2-Year Institution

100% College Acceptances

\$5.5M Merit-based Scholarships



CLASS OF 2024 COLLEGE DESTINATIONS

University of Notre Dame

Santa Clara University

Loyola Marymount University

St. Johns University

University of Southern California

Cal State Dominguez Hills



Corporate Work Study



AID BREAKDOWN

\$23,000 Cost per student

(\$8,500) CWSP Contribution

\$14,500

(\$11,800) VDJHS Guaranteed Scholarship

\$2,700 Max Tuition Cost Annually

(\$1,500) Avg. Additional Aid

\$1,200 Avg. Family Contribution (\$120/mo)



AVG. COST OF EDUCATION

\$23,000

No student is turned away for inability to pay

.....
AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD
INCOME PER CAPITA

\$15,423

.....
AVERAGE FAMILY
CONTRIBUTION

\$1,200



Board Member & Corporate Partner **Amana Valencia**



Amana Valencia's journey from Washington Heights in New York to Watts, Los Angeles, is one defined by faith, family, and the transformative power of education. A former educator and now a successful entrepreneur, Amana and her husband—who grew up just down the street from Verbum Dei Jesuit—first connected with the school after learning about the Cristo Rey Network, which they have been champions of.

Since then, their family business, Express Employment Professionals, has become a proud Corporate Work Study partner, hosting Verbum Dei students and offering them real-world experiences that build confidence, networks, and ambition. Now a dedicated board member, Amana leads with purpose and passion, inspired by students who, like her, dream boldly and work tirelessly to change the course of their lives and their communities.

"These young men aren't just employees for a year — they are future leaders, business owners, & changemakers."

Beyond the Nest

Col. Michael Black '82

Colonel Michael Black '82 is a native of Compton, California and has earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and Juris Doctor from Southern University. Commissioned through Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), he served over 27 years in the U.S.

Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, retiring in 2018. His distinguished career included assignments in the U.S. and overseas, with expertise in criminal, administrative, and operational law. He now serves as Associate Deputy General Counsel in the Army General Counsel's Office, focusing on civilian personnel policy. As a proud member of the Class of 1982, Colonel Black is committed to giving back to Verbum Dei and supporting the next generation of leaders to achieve their potential and dreams.



"Verbum Dei is the foundation of my character, discipline, and commitment to service. The faculty & staff believed in my potential and challenged me to aim higher, both academically and personally."



96%

**YEAR-OVER-YEAR
JOB RETENTION**

.....
*highest of ALL
Cristo Rey Schools*

84%

**STUDENTS IN
FUNDED JOBS**

.....
*14% increase
from last year!*

LIST OF PARTNERS

Entertainment & Media

- ASM Global
- Bond
- Underground Films

Legal

- Bird & Marella, PC
- Buchaleter Nemer, PLC
- Kelly, Trotter, & Franzen
- Cotchett, Pitre, & McCarthy LLP
- Foley & Lardner, LLP
- Fox Rothschild, LLP
- Hogan Lovells
- Kirkland & Ellis, LLP
- Latham & Watkins
- Law Office of Glenn N. Kawahara
- Lewis Roca
- Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell, LLP
- O'Melveny & Myers
- Sheppard, Mullin, Ritcher, & Hampton

Education

- CA African American Museum
- California Science Center
- Charles Drew University
- Loyola Law School
- Loyola Marymount University
- Mount St. Mary's University
- USC ICT

Transportation

- Allen Lund Company, Inc.
- Bob Smith Toyota
- LA County Metro

Real Estate

- CGI+ Real Estate Investments
- Shea Properties

Healthcare

- California Hospital Medical Center
- California Medical Pharmacy
- Children's Hospital LA
- St. Mary's Medical Center
- Torrance Memorial Medical Center
- Venice Family Clinic

Financial Services

- CalPrivate Bank
- Capital Group Companies Inc.
- City National Bank
- Commonwealth Partners
- Crescent Capital Group
- First Republic Bank
- Hotchkis & Wiley Capital Management
- Payden & Rygel
- Post Advisory Group
- TCW
- Western Asset Management
- Causeway Capital Management

Engineering & Technology

- Aerospace Corporation
- Harley Ellis Devereaux
- Glenair
- Partner Engineering & Science
- Raytheon Technologies
- Violane LLC

Parishes & Churches

- American Martyrs Church
- St. Paul the Apostle

Non-Profit

- All Sum Jobs
- Archdiocesan Youth Employment
- Catholic Charities of Los Angeles
- Center for Nonprofit Management
- East LA Community Corporation
- LA Voice
- Good Shepherd Shelter
- Los Angeles Mission
- Operation Progress
- Specialty Family Foundation
- St. Joseph Center
- St. Paul the Apostle
- Vista Del Mar Child & Family Services
- Watts Rising
- Youth Research Vox

Professional Services & Other Businesses

- Arthur J. Gallagher
- Express Employment
- Gath Insurance
- Generation Connect
- Jonathan Club
- Salsbury Industries
- Operating Engineers Funds
- Wood Expressions

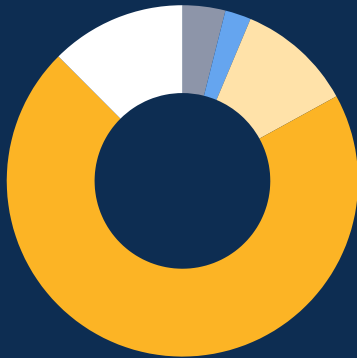
**Listed partners are from the 2023-24 school year*

FY 2023-24 Financials



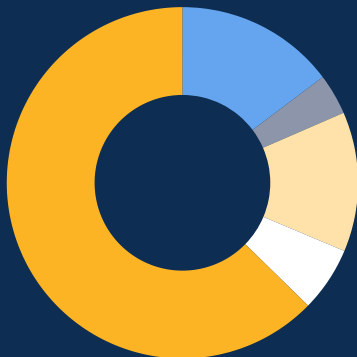
EXPENSES

Academics & Student Programs	\$5,505,687
General & Administrative	\$2,046,733
Development	\$757,618
TOTAL	\$8,310,038



REVENUES*

Tuition/Fees	\$535,402
Catholic Education Foundation	\$352,750
Corporate Work Study	\$1,449,101
Contributions	\$9,574,990
Other Income	\$1,693,630
TOTAL	\$13,605,873



CONTRIBUTIONS

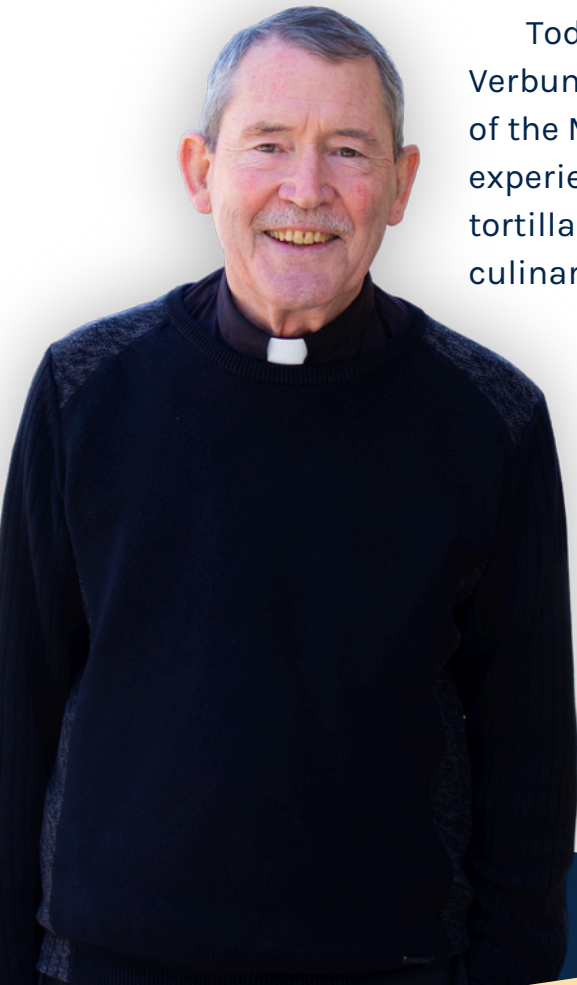
Individual Gifts	\$1,409,862
Corporate Gifts	\$360,654
Foundation Gifts	\$1,231,987
Events	\$572,487
Capital	\$6,000,000
TOTAL	\$9,574,990



JON FULLER, S.J.

Fr. Jon Fuller, S.J. brings a lifetime of compassion, courage, and intellectual rigor to Verbum Dei Jesuit High School. A Jesuit priest and board-certified family physician, Fr. Fuller has spent decades standing at the front lines of some of the world's most pressing public health and moral challenges, including the HIV/AIDS crisis. His journey has taken him from the early days of medical training at UC San Diego to the heart of the epidemic at San Francisco General Hospital and later to Boston Medical Center, where he spent 34 years providing care in one of the nation's largest HIV/AIDS clinics serving marginalized communities.

What makes Fr. Fuller's approach so unique is his ability to blend faith and reason, a perspective shaped by his background in STEM. He encourages students to see no contradiction between scientific inquiry and spiritual reflection, instead teaching them how both can work together to deepen their understanding of God's creation. Whether he's discussing physics, engineering, or theology, he challenges students to ask tough questions, seek truth, and apply their knowledge in ways that serve others. His teachings empower students to see their education as a tool for both personal growth and social change, a core value of the Verbum Dei mission.



Today, Fr. Fuller shares his wisdom and generosity with the Verbum Dei Jesuit community as a math tutor and moderator of the MASA Club. Through MASA, he invites students to experience the joy of preparing and serving homemade tortillas, building community through shared tradition and culinary skill.

What may seem like a simple cooking club is, in Fr. Fuller's hands, a living lesson in service, fellowship, and the sacredness of gathering around the table.

“The most important thing we can do is take care of each other. If our students get that, the rest is details!”

GENEROUS BENEFACTORS

Gifts received between July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

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Andy and Rita Zimbaldi



THANK YOU!



PLANNED GIVING

Creating Sustainable Impact • Empowering through Education • Establishing a Personal Legacy.

**Making a planned gift is more than a charitable act—
it's a powerful way to shape the future.**

Why Planned Giving?

A well-planned gift creates benefits for you and your loved ones and a lasting legacy at Verbum Dei.

Your planned gift—such as a bequest, charitable trust, or IRA beneficiary designation—will help ensure that future generations of students will continue benefiting from a transformative Jesuit education that empowers them to achieve their fullest potential.

Planned gifts also offer practical benefits to donors, such as tax savings and potential income generation. You'll create a lasting legacy for you and your family, while providing our school critical resources for years to come.

Your generosity today helps build a brighter tomorrow for Verbum Dei Jesuit. Please join us as we continue empowering young men to lead lives of purpose and service, creating lasting change for generations to come.

The Verbum Dei Magis Society

Donors who make planned gifts become members of the Verbum Dei Magis Society. There is no minimum gift requirement—simply inform us of your intended bequest or other planned gift so we can acknowledge your generosity.

Magis Society members receive invitations to special school events and programs, along with recognition in our Annual Report and other publications. Your public support inspires others to follow your example and strengthens our future sustainability.

Contact us about Planned Giving today!

Stephanie Andrade, VP of Mission Advancement,
323.614.8491 or advancement@verbjesuit.org

Or visit verbjesuit.org/giving/planned-giving
to learn more.

Use the chart on the reverse side to learn more about which planned gift types might be best for you.

There are numerous types of planned gifts you can make to Verbum Dei Jesuit depending on your personal estate planning and tax planning needs.

Type of Gift	How It Works	Benefits for Donor	Benefits for VDJHS
Bequest & Trusts	Name VDJHS as beneficiary in your will or trust.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A gift that costs nothing during your lifetime • Keep control of assets and change the designation of your bequest easily • Reduce the taxable amount of estate 	Ensures our future strength and long-term success.
Retirement & IRA Plan Gift	Designate VDJHS as a beneficiary in your IRA, 401(k) or 403(b).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid double taxation on retirement assets • Change the designation of beneficiaries easily • Reduce the taxable amount of estate 	Ensures our future strength and long-term success.
Appreciated Securities	Contribute long-term appreciated stock or other marketable securities to us.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid capital gains tax on appreciated amount • Receive a full fair market tax deduction • Afford a larger gift to us with no cost to you 	Delivers immediate benefits to our school and our students.
Real Estate Gift	Donate real estate property to VDJHS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid capital gain tax on the sale of property • Immediate income tax deduction for full value • Removes taxable asset from the estate 	Delivers immediate benefits to our school and our students.
Life Insurance	Name VDJHS as beneficiary and owner for a policy you no longer need or a new policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meaningful gift to us at little cost to you • Receive a full fair market tax deduction for your gift 	Ensures our future strength and long-term success.
Retained Life Estate	Give all or a percentage of your home to VDJHS and continue to reside in it for life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate income tax deduction for full value • Retain lifetime residency • A significant gift with no affect on your lifestyle 	Delivers immediate benefits to our school and our students.
Charitable Gift Annuity	Establish a gift annuity contract that transfers donation to VDJHS; we pay you a fixed income for life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed payments for life for 1-2 people • Avoid paying a capital gains tax • Immediate income tax deduction 	Ensures our future strength and long-term success.
Charitable Remainder Trust	Create a trust with cash or property that pays income to you/others; the principal remainder goes to us.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variable or fixed income for life • Avoid capital gains tax • Immediate income tax deduction • Provides protection from inflation 	Ensures our future strength and long-term success.
Charitable Lead Trusts	Create a trust with cash or property that pays regular income to us; the principal remainder goes to you/heirs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain control of assets during lifetime • Assets pass on to your heirs with significantly reduced exposure to gift or estate tax • Best for assets expected to appreciate rapidly 	Delivers immediate benefits to our school and our students.
Blended Gifts	Combine giving types to increase the impact by making a current donation combined with a gift designed to be executed in the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the benefits and impact of an immediate gift • Also gives the benefit of future financial and tax benefits, while creating a legacy • Structure is very flexible and is geared to your personal goals and preferences 	Delivers immediate benefits to our school and our students.



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