

## **College Spark Washington elects new education and business leaders to board of trustees**

College Spark Washington, a private foundation in Seattle, announced the election of two new trustees: Jesús Hernández, Chief Executive Officer at Community Choice Healthcare in Wenatchee and Ed Taylor, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Jesús Hernández established his role at Community Choice Healthcare as Director of Programs and Marketing in 2001. He was then promoted to Chief Executive Officer where he oversees institution direction and the administration of the Community Choice Healthcare consortium while providing oversight and leadership on multiple grant projects. He gained experience in finance, healthcare, K-12 education, higher education, and economic and community development through his various professional, civic engagement, and elected service positions including board member for the Wenatchee School District since 1997. Mr. Hernández earned his masters degree in public administration from the University of Washington and bachelors degree in business administration from Washington State University.

Ed Taylor is vice provost and dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs at the University of Washington in Seattle where he oversees educational opportunities that deepen and enrich the undergraduate experience. Dr. Taylor joined the UW's College of Education in 1995 as an assistant professor. His research and teaching focus on diversity and leadership in education and social justice and he has written, taught, and presented extensively on these topics. Dr. Taylor earned his PhD in educational leadership and policy studies from the University of Washington. At Gonzaga University, Taylor earned his masters degree in counseling psychology and bachelors degrees in sociology and psychology.

“We are pleased to have distinguished education and business leaders join the College Spark Board of Trustees. Both of these leaders bring a unique set of skills, knowledge, and expertise that will benefit the foundation’s work and mission, helping low-income students become college-ready and earn their degrees. I look forward to accomplishing great things with them,” says Gus Kravas, Chair of the College Spark Washington Board of Trustees.

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*[College Spark Washington](#) funds programs across Washington state that help low-income students become college-ready and earn their degrees. Grantees include community-based organizations, K-12 schools and districts, community and technical colleges, four-year colleges and universities, educational nonprofits, and public agencies. College Spark began supporting access to higher education in 1978 by managing student loan programs. In 2004, the loan operations were sold and an endowment created supporting its grant-making mission.*