

How does the Collaborative support program staff at participating institutions?

The Kessler Scholars Collaborative | 2022-23 Evidence Brief

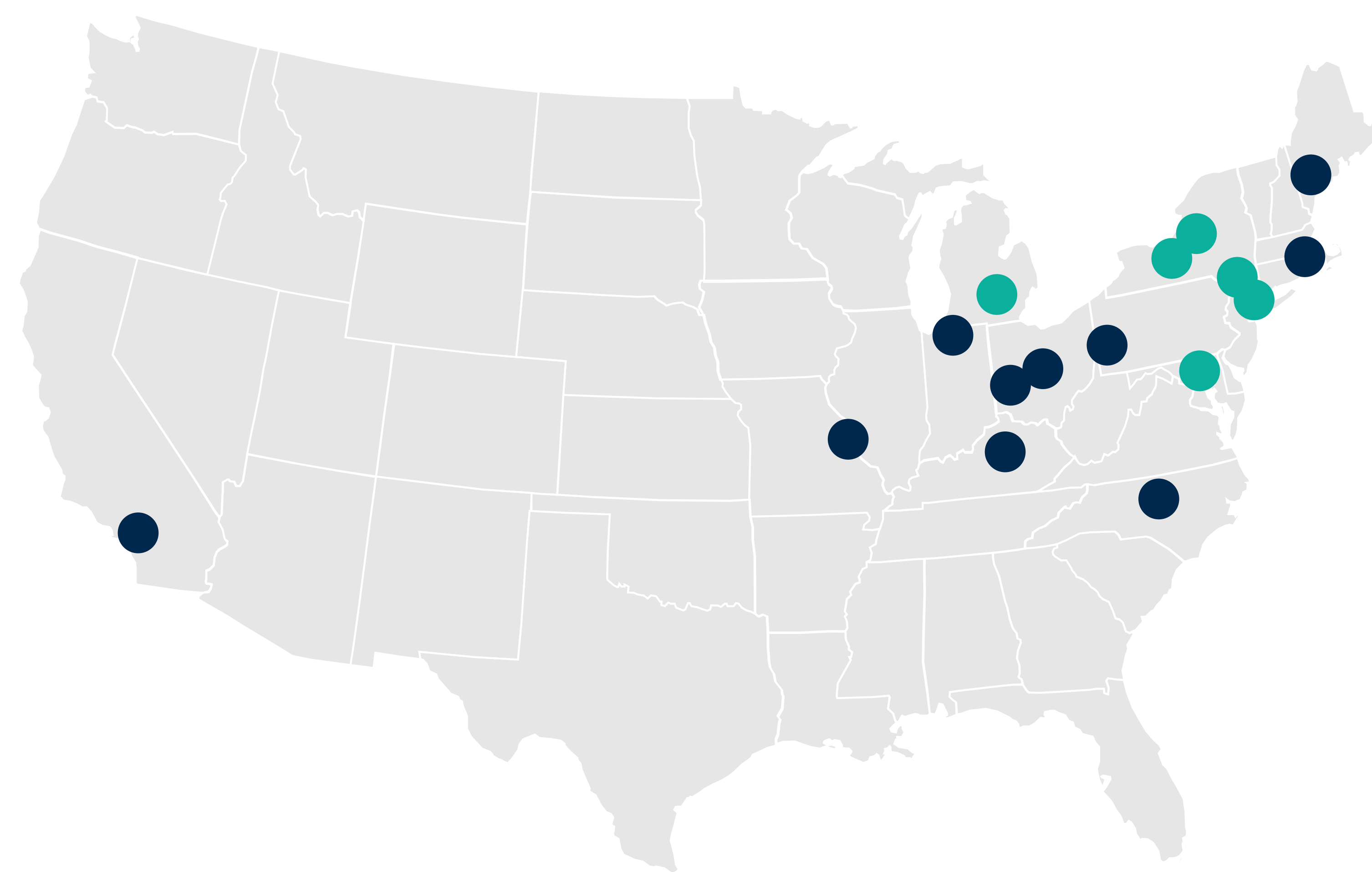
16 Participating Institutions

Inaugural Campus Partners:

- Cornell University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Queens College (CUNY)
- St. Francis College (Brooklyn, NY)
- Syracuse University
- University of Michigan

New Campus Partners (Programs Launch Fall 2023):

- Bates College
- Brown University
- Centre College of Kentucky
- Saint Mary's College (IN)
- The Ohio State University
- University of California, Riverside
- University of Dayton
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Pittsburgh
- Washington University in St. Louis



454 Enrolled Kessler Scholars in 2022-23 across six inaugural partner campuses

*268 expected enrollment of first cohort of Kessler scholars by fall 2023 across 10 new campus partners

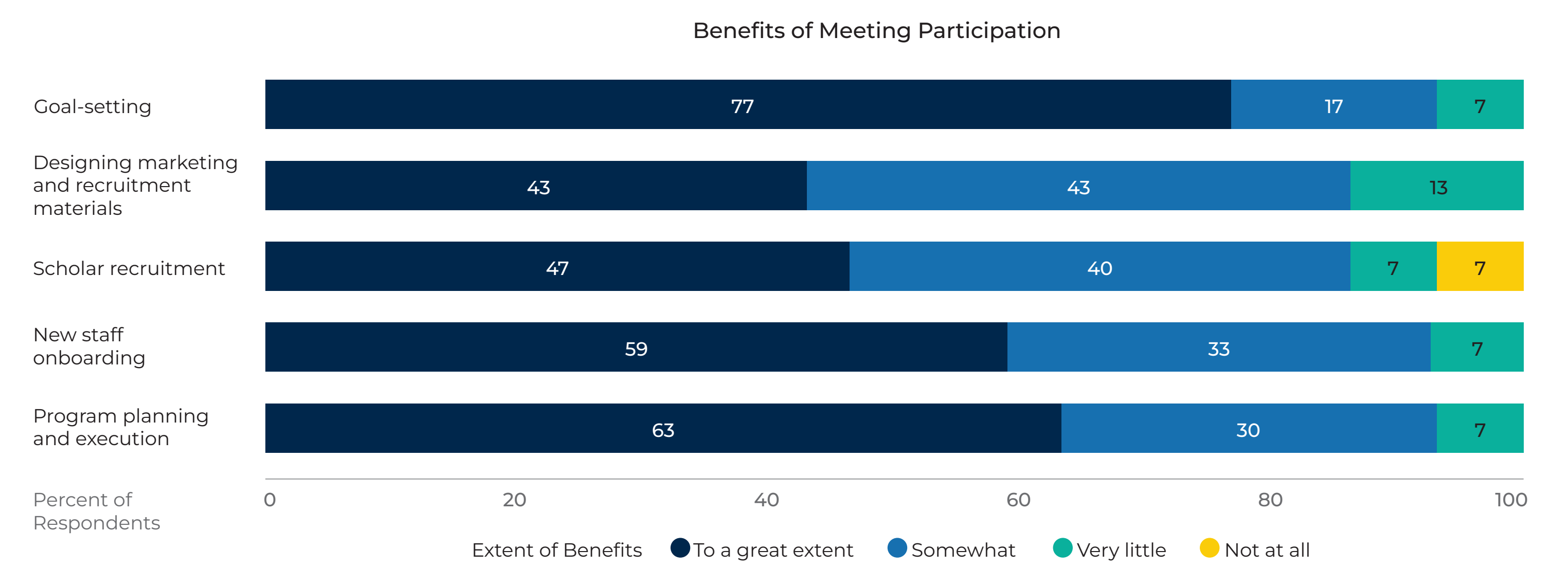
45 Program staff across sixteen partner campuses

*Including program leads/directors, senior leadership in oversight roles and program support staff

What support does the Collaborative provide to program staff?

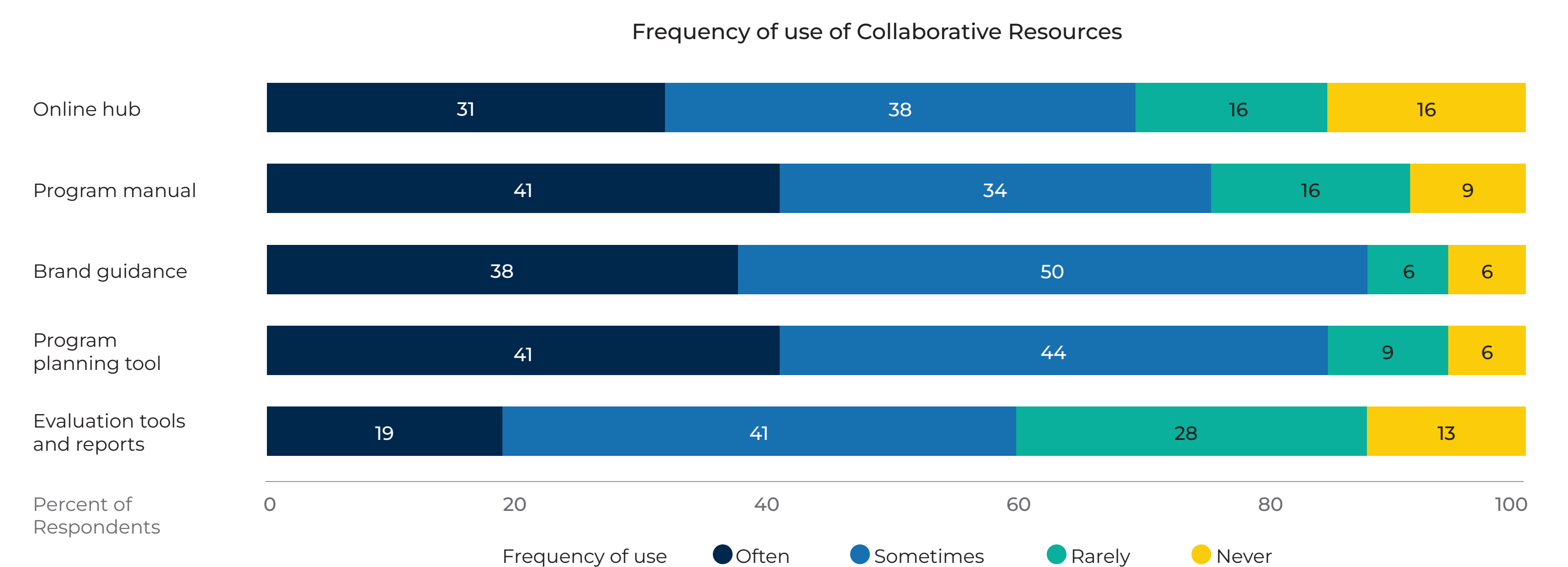
Facilitating regular connections to share knowledge and best practices

- Monthly and quarterly virtual meetings for all campus partners
- Quarterly 1-1 check-ins with a dedicated Collaborative lead for each campus partner
- Annual in-person summer convening for all campus partners



Providing tools, resources and support for program development and implementation including:

- A program manual outlining the Kessler Scholars model and program approach
- An online knowledge hub on the Kessler Scholars website
- Brand guidance and support materials
- A tool (Google Spreadsheet) for program planning and tracking milestones
- Onboarding materials for new staff
- Evaluation tools and reports



How do program staff perceive the support they receive from the Collaborative?

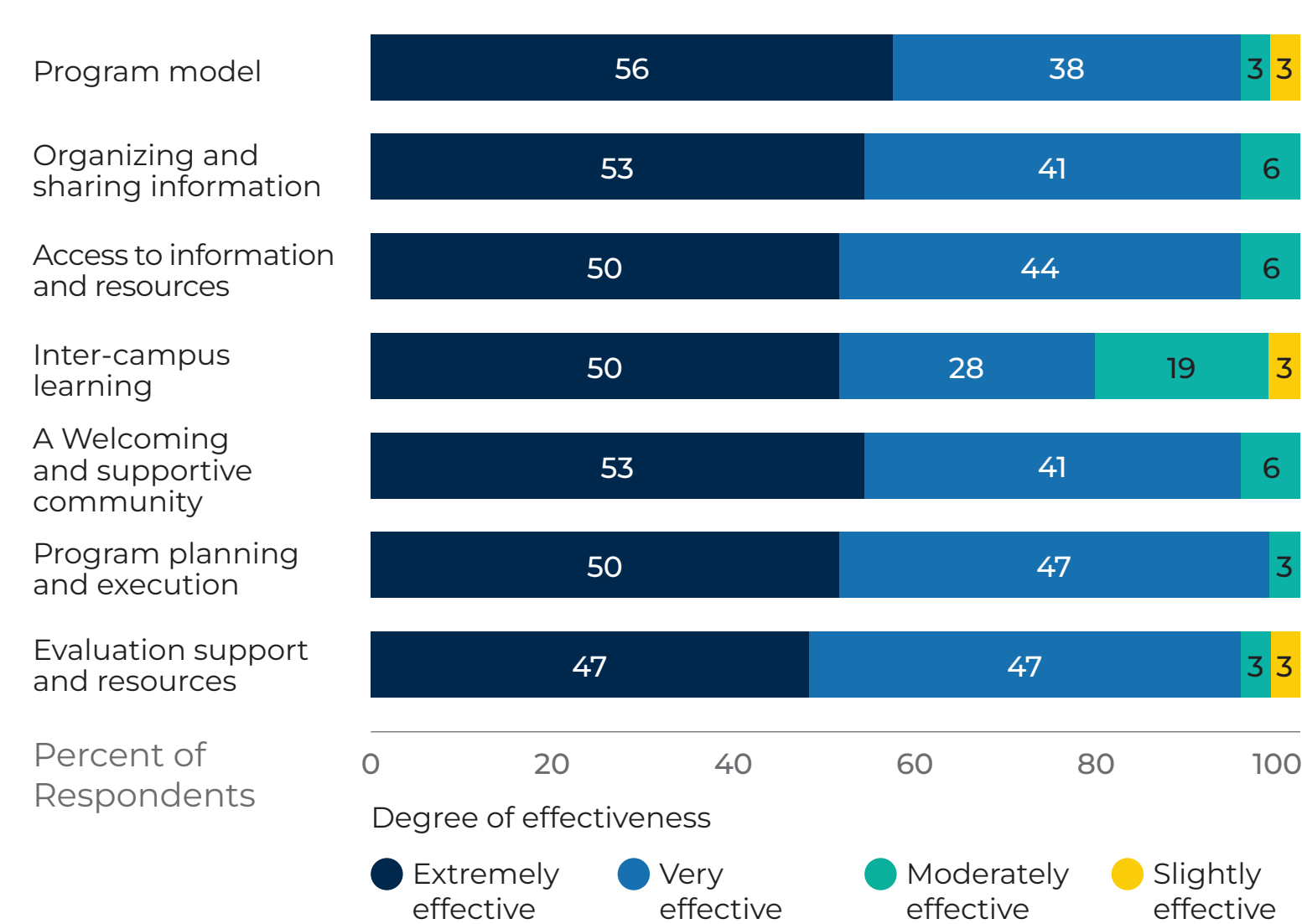
97 percent of program staff find the Collaborative's support to be **highly effective for developing and executing the program**

Over 75 percent of program staff say the Collaborative has provided them with **new learning opportunities and aided in their professional development**

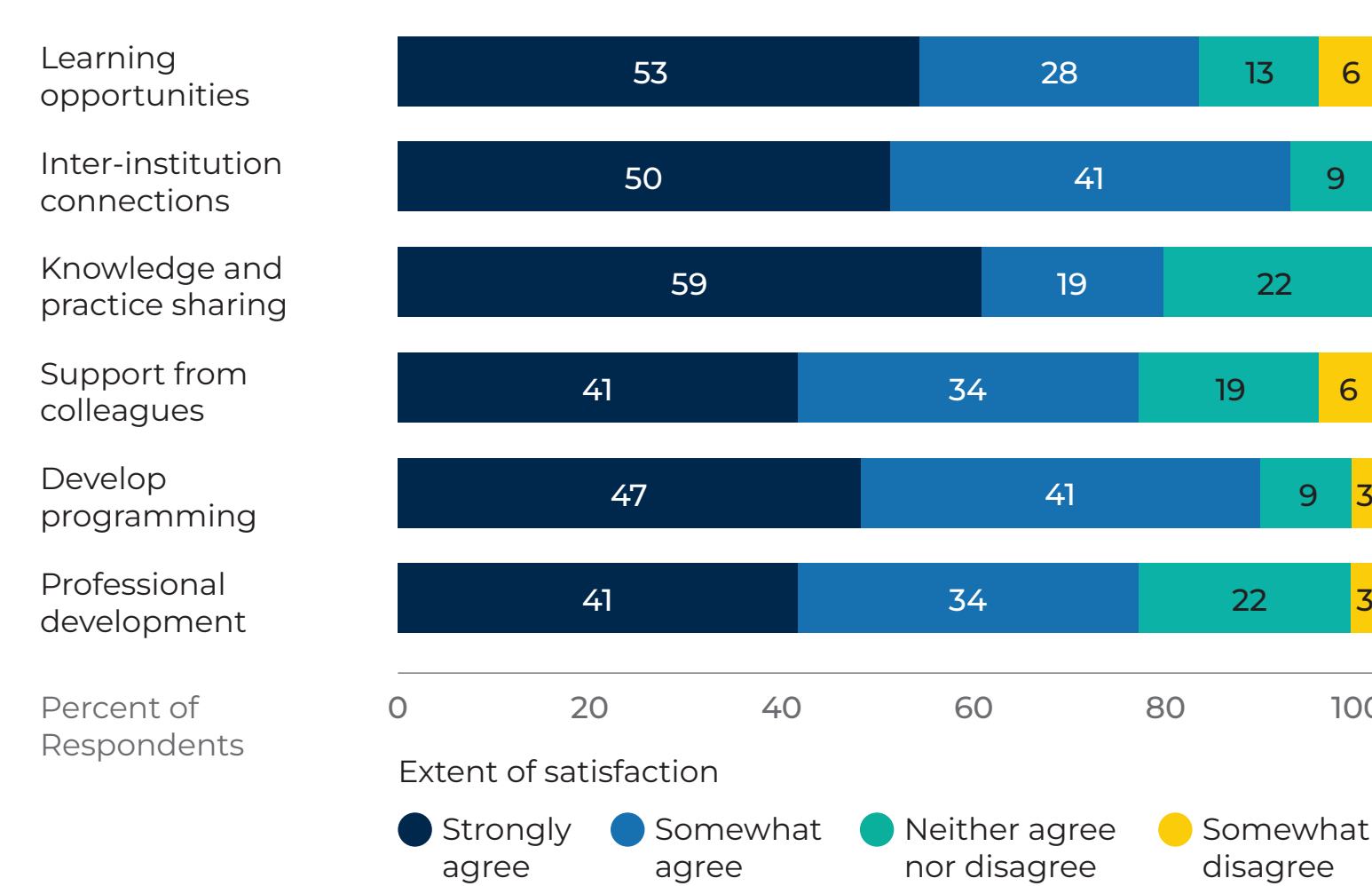
Over 75 percent of program staff **find the resources** provided by the Collaborative to be valuable and highly useful

71 percent of program staff have made **meaningful connections with colleagues at other institutions**, outside of structured meetings led by the Collaborative

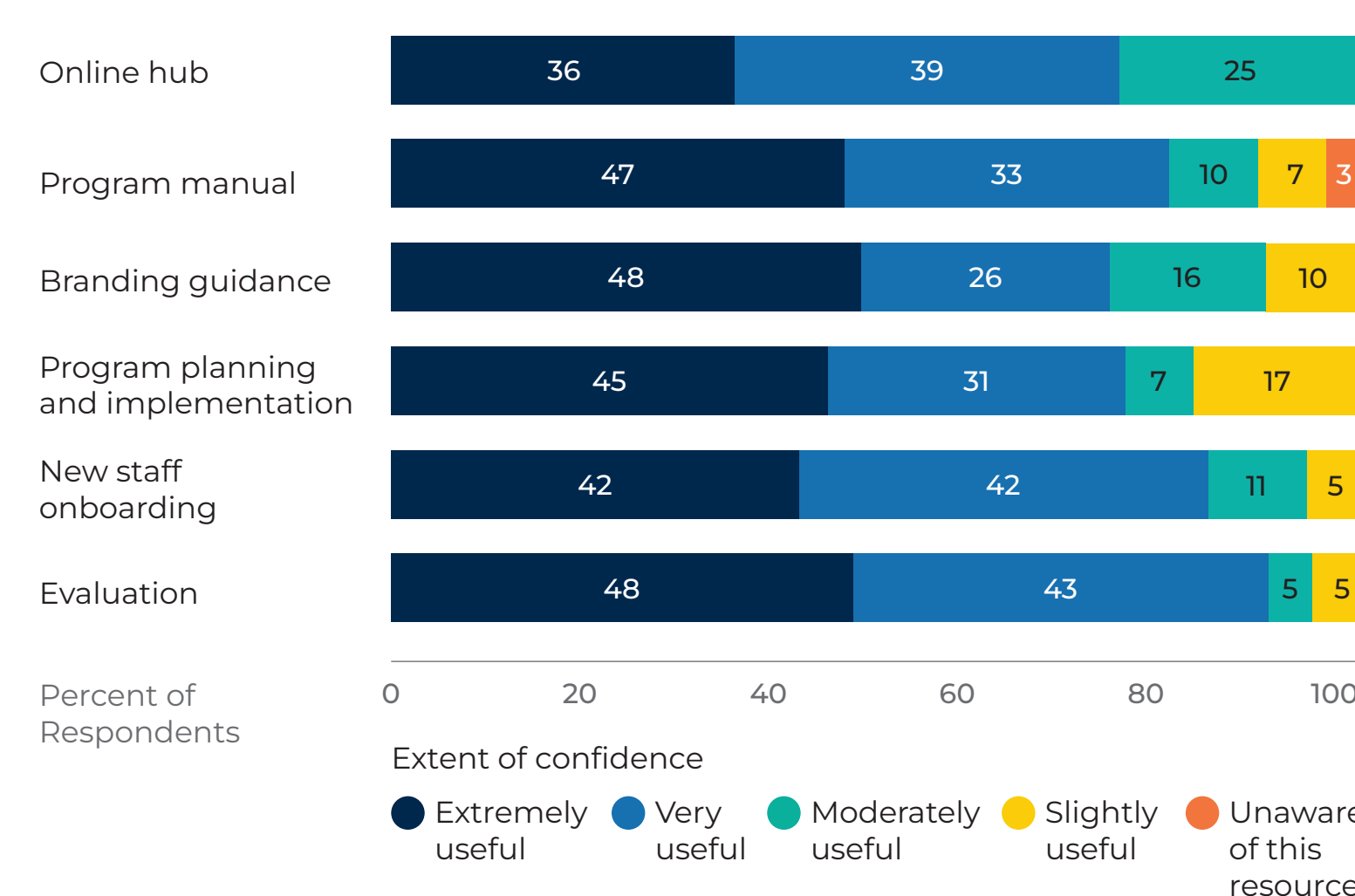
Effectiveness of support by the Collaborative



Benefits of participation in the Collaborative



Usefulness of resources provided by the Collaborative



“We are very fortunate to be a part of the Kessler Scholars Community. Collaborative staff members, are competent, caring and very conscientious.”

- Program Staff

Funded by the Judy and Fred Wilpon Family Foundation and Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Kessler Scholars Program is a comprehensive, cohort-based program designed to support first-generation, limited-income college students through a combination of financial aid and robust, evidence-informed support programming, with the goals of advancing outcomes and closing equity gaps for participants.

Ithaka S+R provides research and strategic guidance to help the academic and cultural communities serve the public good and navigate economic, demographic, and technological change. Ithaka S+R is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit with a mission to improve access to knowledge and education for people around the world. We believe education is key to the wellbeing of individuals and society, and we work to make it more effective and affordable.

Ithaka S+R is leading the multi-site and multi-year evaluation of the Kessler Scholars Program across the entire network and at each of the 16 participating institutions. The 2022-23 evaluation focused on assessing the effectiveness of the Collaborative's support to participating institutions, understanding the program model at each institution, and capturing the backgrounds, experiences and outcomes of students who are participating in the program. The evidence presented in this brief draws on data collected by the evaluation team from surveys of program staff, participant observation at Collaborative meetings and events, and reviews of program documentation. For more information, please contact Ify Oliobi (Evaluation Lead) at ifeatu.olioibi@ithaka.org