HBCU PROMISE Legacy Program



Why Self-Help is Extending Our Promise

Self-Help is a mission-driven family of nonprofits with 80 credit union branches in 10 states. For over 45 years, we've advanced strategies to disrupt economic inequality and expand opportunity. In 2022, we launched the HBCU Promise+ Initiative to provide products, services, career opportunities, and financial education to HBCUs and their communities, supporting mobility and reducing debt.

In 2025, we expanded with the HBCU Promise+ Legacy Program to strengthen institutional support. Guided by insights from the Initiative, the Legacy Program targets priorities identified by HBCUs: capital access, national partnerships, operational stability, and financial literacy. Within two years, it aims to grow sector investment by \$200M to meet urgent and evolving needs.

Why HBCUs?

HBCUs are essential pillars of our communities, providing valuable opportunities for students of color

HBCUs are at risk of financial hardship, accreditation threats and uncertainty

Application rates have climbed, and we aim to help HBCUs and their growing communities thrive

Our 3-Pillared Approach

After engaging with HBCU Presidents, we developed the HBCU Promise+ Legacy Program to engage with partners through three essential pillars:

HBCU Legacy Fund

- ▶ Direct lending for construction projects, expansion, and operating needs
- Creative financial advising for operational excellence and strategic growth

2 Legacy Accelerator Program (HBCU-LAP)

Consultative advice will be offered regarding:

- Accreditation risks associated with financial stability and management
- Revenue generation deal assessment and thought partnership
- Collaborative innovation & commercialization
- ▶ Philanthropic & advancement strategies

3 Ownership, Wealth, & (Personal) Development (OWND) Pathways HBCU community members will have access to:

- Financial literacy and mental health education
- Ongoing financial management advisement
- Access to resources for home and business ownership equity

Why Self-Help?

Self-Help has demonstrated our mission commitment by:

- Providing more than \$11B in financing to 165K borrowers
- Outperforming the market in lending to underserved borrowers and businesses
- Marshaling our CDFI and partner networks to invest in community resources like commercial real estate, childcare centers, affordable housing, and faith-based institutions

Partner with Us

We are in search of leading philanthropists and donors, university leaders and scholars, and technical experts. Connect with us to:

- Request support as an HBCU representative
- Invest in or assist with the **HBCU Legacy Fund**
- Offer services for HBCU-LAP

If this applies to you, please reach out to Dr. Shandra M. Jones: shandra.jones@self-help.org

