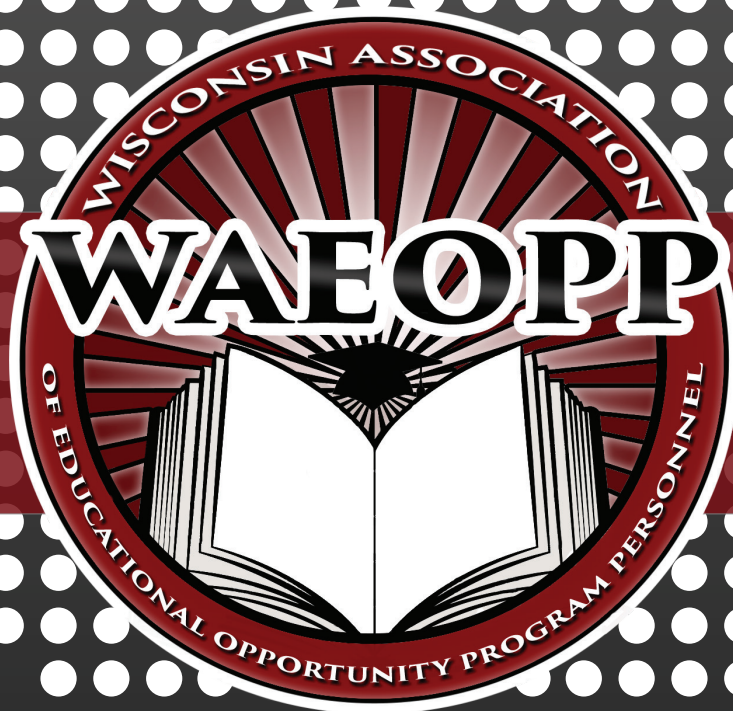


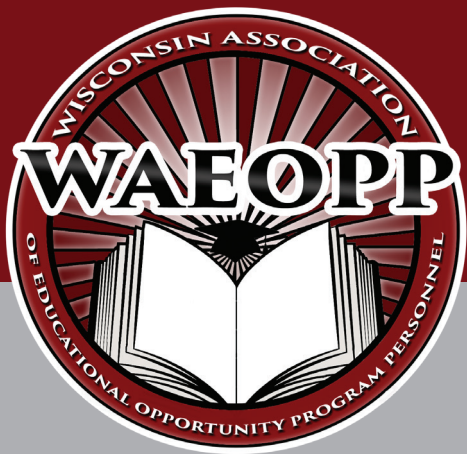
# FACTBOOK

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2020-2021

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## WAEOPP MISSION

The mission of the Wisconsin Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (WAEOPP) is to support its members in promoting equal opportunity in education for students from disadvantaged backgrounds including first-generation, limited income, veterans, students with disabilities, and students from racially and ethnically underrepresented populations. To this end, the association:

- Addresses the needs and interests of its constituents, including:
  1. Current and prospective students of TRIO programs,
  2. Alumni of TRIO programs,
  3. Staff of TRIO programs,
  4. Administrators, faculty, and staff of higher educational institutions,
  5. Individuals in public and private agencies and organizations that collaborate with or support the mission of the association.
- Provides professional development, resources, and networking to its members to foster effectiveness in TRIO programs, communication between programs, and education related to changes in legislation and regulations.
- Provides opportunities to its student participants, including scholarships and conferences, to lessen the achievement gap in higher education.
- Educates and advocates with institutional administration, state leaders, and national leaders on the importance of effective TRIO programming as it relates to increasing the number of disadvantaged students that complete higher education degrees.
- Promotes research studies, education, conferences, and other activities that support the mission of the association.

In addition, WAEOPP values ethical efforts to advocate for disadvantaged students' rights to pursue higher education. The Association is committed to the belief that every person should be afforded the opportunity to prepare for, attend, and graduate from college.

# TRIO PROGRAMS

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTERS

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**Population Served:** Adults, 19 years or older, pursuing postsecondary education as a first-generation and low-income student.

**Services Offered:** Academic advising, personal counseling, career workshops, college application assistance & test preparation, financial & economic literacy education.

## MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM

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**Population Served:** Undergraduate students from underrepresented populations who wish to pursue graduate education.

**Services Offered:** Opportunities for mentorship & scholarly activities, summer research internship, seminars & workshops to prepare students for graduate study, and assistance with graduate school admissions processes.

## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

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**Population Served:** Students attending postsecondary education who qualify as low-income, first-generation and/or students with disabilities.

**Services Offered:** Academic tutoring, assistance in college course selection, assistance completing financial aid & scholarship applications, financial aid & economic literacy education, assistance applying for graduate programs, assistance in transferring from 2-year to 4-year programs.

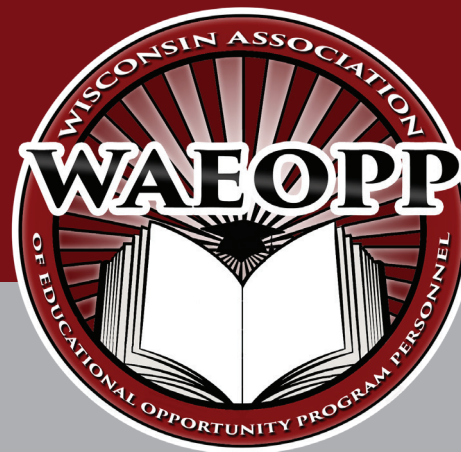
## TALENT SEARCH

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**Population Served:** Students age 11-27 pursuing postsecondary education who come from disadvantaged backgrounds such as low-income and first-generation.

**Services Offered:** Academic, financial, and career counseling, exposure to college campuses, tutoring services, assistance in completing college admissions process, and publicize and assist with financial aid applications.

# TRIO PROGRAMS



## UPWARD BOUND

**Population Served:** Students between the ages of 13-19 who have completed 8th grade and qualify as low-income or potentially first-generation college students.

**Services Offered:** Academic instruction in math, science, composition, literature & foreign language, tutoring & mentoring, academic, financial and personal counseling, assistance completing college & financial aid applications and career exploration.

## UPWARD BOUND (MATH & SCIENCE)

**Population Served:** Students between the ages of 13-19 who have completed 8th grade and qualify as low-income or potential first-generation college students.

**Services Offered:** Summer Programs consisting of intensive math & science training, year-round counseling & advising, computer training, exposure to university faculty who do research in math and science, scientific research conducted under the guidance of a faculty or graduate student mentor.

## VETERANS UPWARD BOUND

**Population Served:** Veterans who meet military service requirements stipulated in the authorizing statute and who are low-income, prospective first-generation college students who are preparing to enter a post secondary institution

**Services Offered:** Intensive basic skills development for GED completion, refresher classes for subjects required in college, academic, financial & personal counseling, tutoring services, and assistance completing college and financial aid applications.

## WAEOPP BOARD



### ***PRESIDENT***

Melissa Luedtke  
Student Support Services  
Marian University

### ***PRESIDENT-ELECT***

Maggie Cinto  
Upward Bound Math & Science  
Marquette University



### ***PAST-PRESIDENT***

Angie Hugdahl  
Upward Bound  
University of Wisconsin-Superior

### ***TREASURER***

Alex Kurowski  
Student Support Services  
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh



### ***SECRETARY***

Sarah Wynn  
McNair Scholars  
University of Wisconsin-Stout

### ***MEMBER-AT-LARGE***

Jeff Christensen  
Upward Bound  
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point



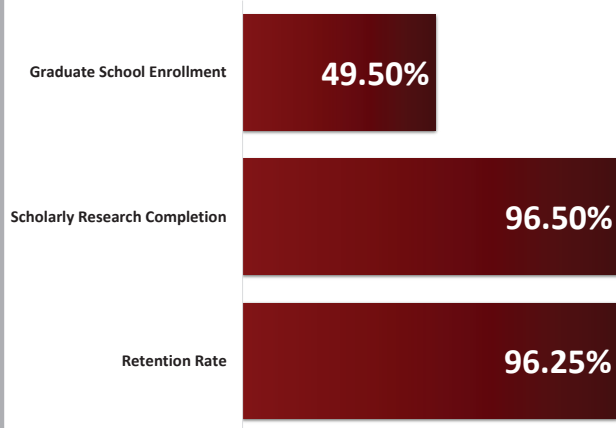
### ***MEMBER-AT-LARGE***

Laiya Thomas  
Gear Up/Talent Search/Upward Bound  
Wisconsin Department of Public  
Instruction

# PROGRAM DATA

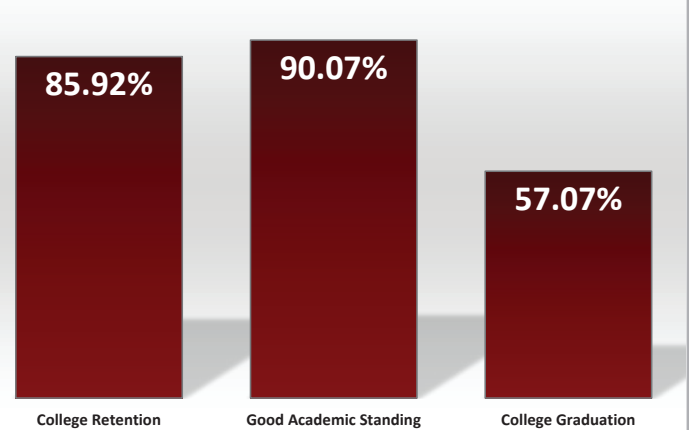
## Wisconsin TRIO Programs Outcomes (2019-2020)

### McNair Scholars Program



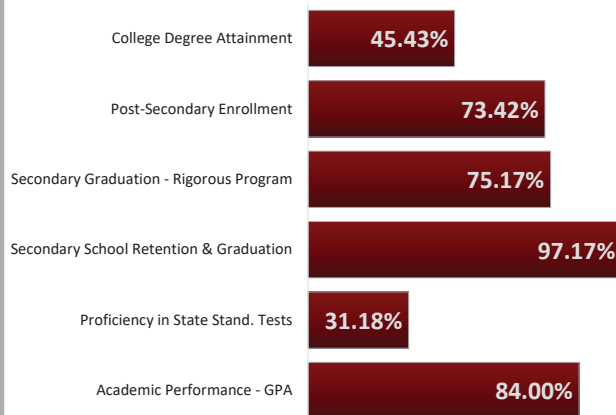
## Wisconsin TRIO Programs Outcomes (2019-2020)

### Student Support Services



## Wisconsin TRIO Programs Outcomes (2019-2020)

### Talent Search, Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math and Science



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**TOTAL  
PROGRAMS  
FUNDED**

10,463

**TOTAL  
PARTICIPANTS  
SERVED**

## FUNDING BY DISTRICT

District	# of Programs	Total Funding
District 1	2	\$607,982
District 2	11	\$3,319,216
District 3	19	\$6,584,148
District 4	14	\$5,285,874
District 5	3	\$846,641
District 6	9	\$2,667,769
District 7	7	\$2,167,068
District 8	4	\$1,324,217

**WISCONSIN  
TOTAL 2020-2021  
PROGRAM FUNDING**

**\$22,802,915**



# SUCCESS STORIES







WISCONSIN

# DISTRICT one

## **ALEXIS TALBERT - Criminal Justice** *Gateway Technical College; TRIO SSS-D*



TRiO SSS-D has been a great support system emotionally and physically. TRiO SSS-D has been a great part of my college experience. I am hard of hearing, so some things are not always easy. I am a proud TRiO member, and they are always there for me when I need assistance.

I am studying criminal justice studies to be a lawyer. The goals I have achieved are amazing because TRiO-SSSD helped me reach my goals of being successful and ready for college. The goal I plan on reaching is transferring to the University of Wisconsin- Parkside next year to get my bachelor's degree and then continuing onto law school, hopefully with the least amount of debt as possible.

## **IESHA TONEY - Human Services** *Gateway Technical College; TRIO SSS-D*



I joined TRIO SSS-D in 2018 but was never really involved. When COVID hit I was not able to handle school the way I did in the past. The help TRIO gave me along with Disability Support Services and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program was amazing. I didn't have a laptop when we went online, so TRIO lent me one so I was able to continue my education. The real support came from being a part of all the activities that TRIO continued to hold during the year. I wasn't alone in my house just doing my classwork but I was a part of a community that knew and cared about me. It was a support from TRIO that helped me keep on going.

## **IKER SOTO - Business Management** *UW-Parkside; TRIO SSS*



The Student Support Services (SSS) Summer Bridge helped me meet people a week before school began. All of my friends came from the SSS TRIO program. The SSS program has allowed me to go to the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute Conference and The National Student Leadership and Diversity Conference. I was also able to meet new people from across the nation, and it helped me build my connections. At the conferences, I learned about more important issues facing Latinos, and they helped me better understand the electoral process. The SSS Program gave me the opportunity to guide first-year students as a Peer Coach, and I made great connections and friendships with advisors and student mentees. As a Peer Coach, I am working to develop particular skill competencies such as leadership and communication.

# DISTRICT one



## **MARIA TORRES - Business Management** *UW-Parkside; TRIO SSS*

I am a first-generation student, and TRIO has helped me with getting my classes together, since I don't have that help from my own family who just completed middle school. With the Student Support Services (SSS) TRIO program, I wasn't alone, lost, or confused. Also, they introduced me to different resources at school. Out of those resources, I met new people, and I made connections with the faculty, the university, and the community. TRIO helped me persist, and now I'm close to graduation.

TRIO invited me through an email to work as a Peer Coach. I did want to join as a Peer Coach, because I remember my TRIO mentor in my freshman seminar who helped me get resources I needed as a freshman. I am working on developing technology and leadership skills as a Peer Coach. TRIO also introduced me to Latinos Unidos (LU), and I was part of this student organization. I became the treasure of LU my sophomore year in college.



## **BRIJHAN HACKNEY - Sports Management** *UW-Parkside; TRIO SSS*

TRIO Student Support Services allowed me to reach my full potential as a first-generation college student. I participated in a TRIO Summer Bridge Program which helped me feel more comfortable with starting college. I was able to walk through the college and see how the college was set up, which helped me be more confident and prepared for higher education. The program made my entire experience in college easier and smoother. TRIO advisors helped me set up my schedule each semester, and they helped me meet people with similar backgrounds. TRIO helped me to be more prepared and focused, and I was able to achieve my goal of graduating in four years.

While completing my college studies, I worked at several jobs to help finance my education including working at the RecPlex recreational facility in Kenosha, at the Summerfest annual music festival held in Milwaukee, and for the Public Works Department in the Village of Whitefish Bay. I also completed an internship for Sport Event Management at UW-Parkside. While serving in this internship, I helped with set up of equipment and hospitality for all spring sports including, basketball, soccer, volleyball, track, and wrestling. I currently have a second interview for a second internship with the Milwaukee Bucks.







WISCONSIN

## **DISTRICT two**

**ABDUL MOHAMMED SAED**

**Intended Major: Nursing**

*Forward Service Corporation; TRIO Upward Bound*



Upward Bound has significantly helped me. The most helpful things were making the college application process so much easier and preparing me for the transition to college.

Ever since his family immigrated to the United States from Iraq, Abdul has dreamed of attending UW-Madison. He plans to attend UW-Madison in the fall and study nursing. His ultimate career goal is to become a nurse anesthetist.



**NUKARI SHARPE**

**Intended Major: Business/Marketing**

*Forward Service Corporation; TRIO Upward Bound*

Upward Bound has helped motivate me to do better in school and go on to college. I want to earn a business degree and grow my small business: Pretty Little Miss Cosmetics.



**BRIAN WIEDENFELD**

**Agricultural & Applied Economics**

*UW-Madison; TRIO SSS*

Coming to UW as a first gen student, the complexities of college life were hard to navigate. I was appreciative to have the support of CeO, especially the mentor program, to help guide me in my first year. Advice from CeO advisors and mentors made it easier in my difficult decision to change majors and I'm forever grateful for their encouragement!



**CHRISTOPHER WILSON - Computer Science**

*UW-Madison; TRIO SSS*

CeO has positively impacted my time in college by keeping me informed about resources that make college life easier! I learned about SuccessWorks, UHS services, Foodshare, Housing resources, etc! They even have leadership positions that I was able to leverage to build my leadership and communication skills while paying it forward. Now I am about to graduate and feel the most prepared for life after a good relationship with CeO.



# DISTRICT three



## **EMILY SWENSON - Economics** *UW-La Crosse; TRIO SSS*

Before even attending my first day of classes as a freshman at UWL, I knew I had a place where I belonged on campus, and that's thanks to TRIO.

TRIO has impacted me because it has made me feel comfortable in a new environment, more confident in my learning abilities, and safe in a new area in my life. For example, I spent a lot of time with the math tutor, Tracie, during my first year to get help with calculus and statistics. Because I made that immediate connection with the math lab so early on in my career, I am still comfortable asking Tracie for help whenever I am struggling. In addition, I made some pretty nice friends just by hanging out in SSS because everyone seems so happy to be there. Thanks to them, I will be graduating on time and with a degree that I am 100% passionate about. I couldn't be more thankful for the time I spent with SSS and the TRIO program, and I am honored to be recognized by this student success story, so thank you.

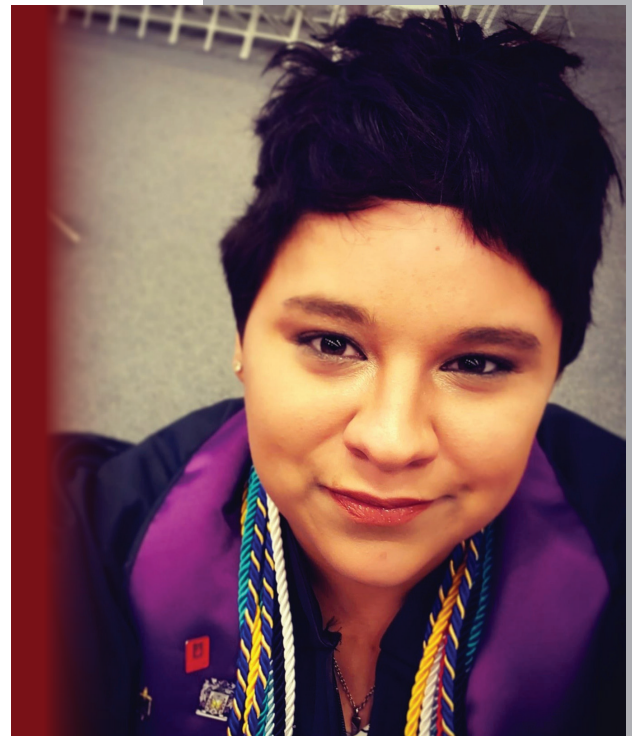


## **MAGDALENA ROCHA** **Sociology & Criminal Justice** *UW-Stevens Point; TRIO Upward Bound*

College had always been something my mother pushed for us to do, but we lacked the skills or practical knowledge necessary to do so. This is where Upward Bound filled in the gaps and became not only an invaluable resource for me, but a second family.

Since I graduated from the program in 2015, I have stayed connected with the program through volunteer work and becoming a Tutor Advisor for the program for the past few years. With Upward Bound, I never felt that I was alone or left adrift without any resources—knowing that Judy and the rest of the program staff were always there for me, even after graduation, gave me the confidence to take on challenges and take chances I do not feel I would have otherwise.

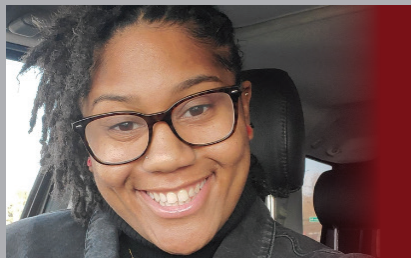
Even now, in my pursuit of a Master's in Social Work, I find that I'm still connected with Upward Bound through tutor advising and take great pride in being a role-model and guide for students from similar situations. I hope that by seeing how I've grown and changed in the program, and especially how my sister has grown and changed, we can both help the next several generations of Upward Bound students feel more secure in their college journeys.





WISCONSIN

# DISTRICT three



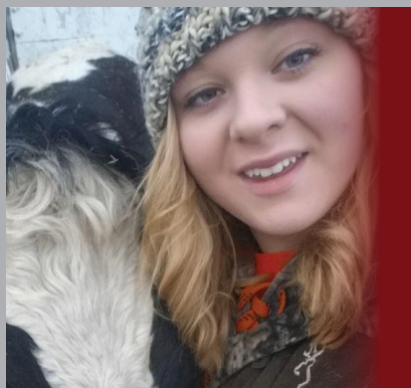
**AMAREA WITT**  
*UW-River Falls; TRIO SSS*

SSS has changed my life. Not only did SSS help me navigate the confusion of being a college student, but SSS has also equipped me with skills in professionalism, financial literacy, career readiness and academic success which will help me navigate the real world upon graduation. I am grateful to have been apart of SSS and meet other students I can call my family.



**ASHLEY LOZANO**  
*UW-River Falls; TRIO SSS*

SSS has impacted my academic and personal journey tremendously because they provided me with so many important resources and support that helped me succeed in my classes. I also met a lot of amazing people along the way, and was able to form an amazing connection with my coach, Amy.



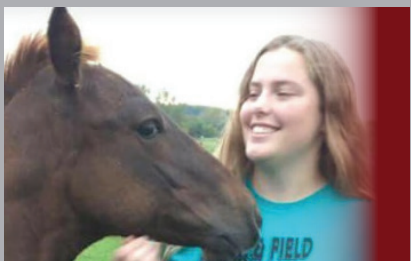
**CERRINA HANNA-STOKES**  
*UW-River Falls; TRIO SSS*

Throughout my years here at River Falls, SSS has helped me in a number of ways. With being in SSS, I was able to create friendships that have been some of the best and lasted in college and beyond. I also had a wonderful SSS coach, Rose that I was able to go talk to when things weren't going right or when I needed someone to talk to. SSS has also taught me a great deal of hard work. It has taught me that by staying on top of my game, I was able to succeed and push through the hard times and come out where I wanted to be. Through SSS I was able to find many resources and connect with many people that helped me succeed in my journey. I will forever be grateful for this opportunity, thank you.



**RACHEL HARRIS**  
*UW-River Falls; TRIO SSS*

SSS has always provided me with support and guidance. The program gave me a new insight on life while introducing me to amazing experiences. There are so many inspirational encounters that I never would've gone through if SSS was not there to push me. It is more than a "college readiness" program, it is a family. A family that I am so grateful to have been part of.



**SAVANAH CRITES**  
*UW-River Falls; TRIO SSS*

SSS has helped me grow and adjust to college life. I've done things through the program that I never would have seen myself doing and I'm very grateful for that.

# DISTRICT four



## **SHATORIAE (TORI) GARNER**

*UW-Milwaukee; TRIO Upward Bound Math & Science*

TRIO has had an impact on me because while being in this program, I've found some type of idea of what I want to do in my life and it has had a good impact on my career choices. Before I was a member of the program, I had no idea on what I wanted to do but with the help of the very amazing administration, I have a very clear idea of what field I would like to work in. This is thanks to their guidance.

My goals in life are just to make everyone around me proud. It would mean the world to me if I graduated from an HBCU with a bachelor's degree and attend graduate school.



## **NICOLE LOPEZ**

*Marquette University; TRIO Upward Bound Math & Science*

TRIO has made a great impact on my life. Since I joined TRIO, I accomplished great amounts and quality academic work. TRIO also aided me in socializing and creating a friendly environment, allowing me to prosper socially. Some of my greatest memories consist of activities from the summer portion of UBMS. With TRIO, I was able to have double the high school experiences. This is especially appreciated since COVID prevented in-person learning.

My goals are to attend college, get my college degree, and become a legal engineer. A legal engineer is a lawyer for engineering-based companies. I wanted to pursue this route after TRIO allowed me to experience the IT field.







WISCONSIN

# DISTRICT five

## **TRINITY ROSA - Social Work & Psychology** *UW-Whitewater at Rock County; TRIO SSS*



The TRIO program here at UW-W@Rock has impacted my college career in various ways but the most obvious is the amount of guidance we receive. I joined the program by chance due to being a first-generation college student and have received nothing but support. My advisor and the other team members in the department go above and beyond to ensure each student has the resources needed to succeed in their college career. From tutoring access, quiet study areas or 1-on-1 counseling the TRIO program has everything you may need. I'll be sad to leave when I transfer this year!

## **DEANNA RENTERIA** *UW-Whitewater at Rock County; TRIO SSS*



TRIO has been the foundation of my college experience. My freshman year I was a desk worker in the TRIO Learning Support Center. This was a gateway for me to get more involved in my school's community. I got to know the advisors and various faculty members. I learned a lot of small things about professionalism in the workforce that I will be able to develop and apply within my career. TRIO has provided the tools I needed to be not only successful at our two-year school but a 4-year university as well.

My goal going into college was not only to maintain good grades but to also get involved in my school's community. My sophomore year, a TRIO advisor asked if I would be interested in participating in a student mentor program. That was a positive experience for me. My goal was to help welcome them into our school just as the TRIO advisors had welcomed me.

## **ISABELLA WNTORF** *UW-Whitewater; TRIO Upward Bound*



One of the big things that have helped me is the Saturday Colleges. During these meetings we have conversations about a wide variety of things and we talk to different successful people. When talking to these different people that are living very successful lives, it pushes me to work harder so that I too will one day be just as successful, if not more successful. The Upward Bound program has given me access to different resources that have helped me as well.

I am still young so my future is still very big. I have set lots of little goals for myself to achieve along my way to achieving my ultimate goal of becoming a successful physical therapist.



# DISTRICT six



## KAYLAE ALLISON

*Forward Service Corporation; TRIO Upward Bound*

Upward Bound is quite possibly the best thing to have ever happened to me. Growing up, I felt helpless and lost. I had little direction, was bitter, introverted, and angry at the world. Upward Bound has taught me how to be open, accepting, honest, independent, fun-loving, caring and unique. Chris, Mike, Jane, and all of the other counselors have helped me make the best decisions for myself for the past four years. They have never once made me feel guilty for any bad grade or decision. Without them, I would not be headed to UW-Madison in the fall majoring in Psychology. In the future, I hope to become a college professor, psychiatrist, or work for a TRIO program to help kids who were like me reach their full potential.



## NICHOLAS ENGEBREGTSEN

*Marian University; TRIO Upward Bound Math & Science*

Growing up, my parents both worked tirelessly to provide our family with what we needed. They strived to give my sister and I the opportunity to attend a four-year college. As a freshman in high school, I joined Marian University's Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) program and set my sights on college like never before. TRIO/UBMS paved the way for me to make the right decisions, create connections, and recognize that I was capable of much more than I ever thought possible. I graduated from Marian University in Fall 2020 and was hired as a Middle School English teacher before even finishing my student teaching placement.



## KARELY RODRIQUEZ-JIMENEZ

**Psychology, Spanish & Criminal Justice Minors**  
*UW-Oshkosh; TRIO SSS & McNair Scholars*

Looking back at my junior self now, I thank her for taking a chance and throwing herself into what seemed like a scary, unattainable summer with the McNair Program. I not only received mentorship from the professor I did research with, but I was also connected with McNair alumni who were in my shoes just a few years ago. We were given opportunities to present at multiple virtual conferences, opportunities I took advantage of despite the fact they were scary and nerve-racking. While I still have pangs of imposture syndrome, I am far more confident: I can conduct research, write an amazing research paper, and I can present my work. I can go to graduate school and grow even further.





WISCONSIN

# **DISTRICT six**

**SYDNEY SCHMIDT - Psychology**  
*UW-Oshkosh; TRIO SSS & McNair Scholar*



McNair has helped me not only learn more about how to apply to graduate school, but it has helped me to refine the skills that I will need to get into and succeed in my graduate program. Despite the stress of the pandemic, my cohort collaborated with each other to keep everyone motivated to reach deadlines and succeed in their research. Now that I've actually written a literature review, gone through multiple revisions, and learned APA formatting, I realize how much I am capable of. McNair gave me the confidence to reach out to labs researching Autism Spectrum Disorders, and my dream to study clinical psychology is within reach.

**JESSICA MARTINEZ - Spanish Bilingual Education**  
*UW-Oshkosh; TRIO SSS*



I always knew that I wanted to be a teacher, but it was through SSS that I realized how much more I can do while I earn my degree. As a first-generation student, my goal was to get into college and graduate top of my class. Drowning in a sea of possibilities, first year Learning Groups allowed me to gain confidence in public speaking, knowledge about campus, building professional networks, problem-solving, career exploration, the idea of earning a graduate degree and the possibility of working in higher education.

TRIO taught me that my degree does not limit me to teaching and learning just in a classroom, I can see myself one day in higher education. I want my students and peers to see that no matter where you come from or what you go through, a positive attitude and vulnerability to ask for help along the way can mean achieving things you could only dream about. "¡Sí, se puede!"

**KALITA FORE - Health Information Management**  
*Lakeshore Technical College; TRIO SSS*



Kalita Fore is a student in the Health Information Management program. As a first-generation college student, she is very appreciative of the wide variety of support services offered through Lakeshore Technical College's SSS program. Her experience at LTC also includes the honor of being chosen as the 2020 Wisconsin Technical College Student Ambassador. Her and her husband have seven children, 3 of whom are still at home. She feels the experiences of being involved in SSS and other leadership experiences have helped her grow into the person she is today!

Kalita says, "I was excited to find ways to give back, to help other students who may need encouragement or someone they can relate to. Being involved has forced me to learn new time-management skills, encouraged growth in communication skills and also taught me that there is an abundance of individuals willing to offer support to ensure your success."



# DISTRICT seven



## **MILAIKA BURNS**

*Forward Service Corporation; TRIO Upward Bound*

I joined Upward Bound when I was a freshman in high school. The most helpful thing for me has been the college and career searches. I have received some great advice from the leadership conferences and from listening to guest speaker Alonzo Kelly. Also the summer program is really fun! I enjoyed meeting new people and seeing new places. My advice to other students would be "Don't be afraid to ask for help on anything. Everybody is always willing to help, so just ask!"

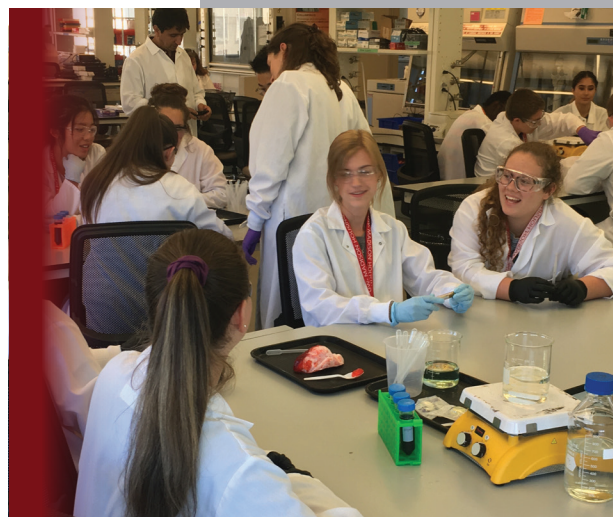


## **AALIYAH BOWERS**

*Forward Service Corporation; TRIO Upward Bound Math & Science*

TRIO has allowed me to not only experience new things, but open doors for me I never thought would be possible. Through this group, I have travelled to some great places, met amazing people, learned from professionals in all different fields, and learned more about post-secondary options. I have always been wary about life after high school, and TRIO has assured me and taught me that I am capable of going to the college of my dreams and be able to do what I want to do.

Completing high school, getting a college degree from my top college choice, and having a successful career are all top goals for me. Since my freshman year in High School, I have been dead set on pursuing a career in marketing, and I am still pushing for this goal. I would like to have a job in sports marketing where I can combine my love for sports and my love for business together.



## **AMANDA FOSTER - Legal Studies**

*UW-Superior; TRIO SSS & McNair Scholars*

TRIO has helped me grow into a leader of my peers and community by working as an SSS Success Coach and by doing research pertaining to legal aid that directly impacts my community.

My biggest goal is to either start or work within a non-profit legal aid center in Douglas County, WI to provide services that just don't exist today.

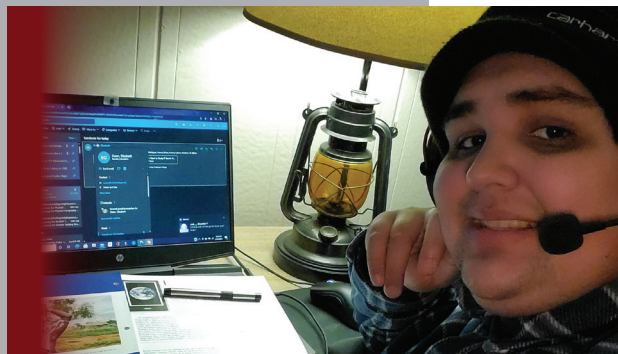




WISCONSIN

# DISTRICT seven

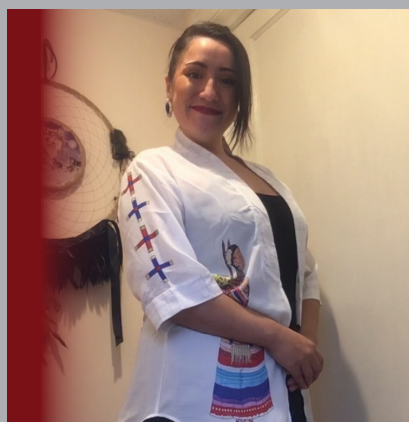
**GAVIN D'ACQUISTO - Archeology**  
*DPI WEOP; TRIO Talent Search*



TRIO really helped me get into college. Before, I didn't really have any incentive, but they helped me get money through scholarships and grants that has really pushed my desire for a higher education.

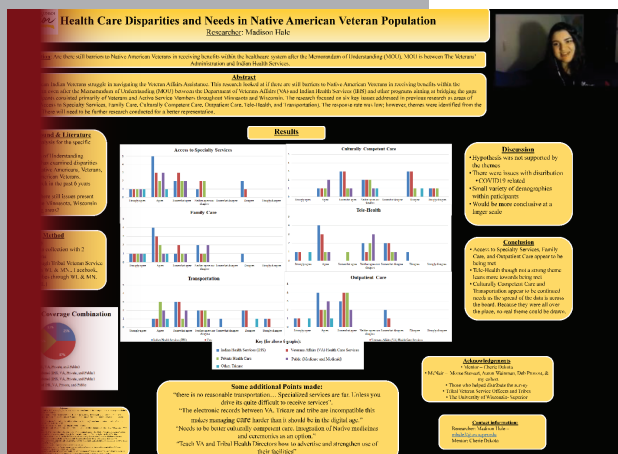
My first semester of college was amazing. I honestly thought I wouldn't have done that well, but I passed all my classes with flying colors. I very often see most people just kind of have the information come into one ear and leave the other, but I really want to remember some of the things I've learned from my instructors.

**JESSICA SMITH - Legal Studies**  
*UW-Superior; TRIO McNair Scholars*



Since going through the McNair Scholar program I have been contracted to do national training work on issues of violence against Indigenous people. I trained the judicial council of California on how they can better support native LGBTQ2 victims and have done similar training across different agencies nationally. I was named 2021-22 Newman Civic Fellow and received the Tommy Thompson Leadership scholarship for my ability to lead and promote change. My resume has grown exponentially since starting the McNair Scholar Program, for me it was more than research. It has been the start of a life-changing career that allows me to fight for the safety and equality of Indigenous people in systems that they have been oppressed by for hundreds of years. I got accepted into the University of MN-Duluth Master's in Tribal Administration and Governance program, which I will start simultaneously in Fall 2021 while finishing at UWS. I would not be where I am at today if it were not for the McNair Scholar Program.

**MADISON HALE - Social Work**  
*UW-Superior; TRIO Upward Bound, SSS, & McNair Scholars*



TRIO has supported me through the best and most challenging parts of my educational journey. These programs helped me build skills and confidence to not only attempt to reach goals but to not give up on them. I started in fall 2018 pursuing a Social Work bachelor's and was able to make the honor roll list almost every semester. I have had the great honor to be a part of some amazing efforts on campus through Student Government, Academic Service Learning, Newman Civic Fellowship, TRIO, and Work-Study with the Equity Diversity and Inclusion department. Now I am a senior about to graduate this May 2021, one full year early. I never really thought I would make it this far yet now I am looking at graduate programs with an acceptance into three advanced standing programs.



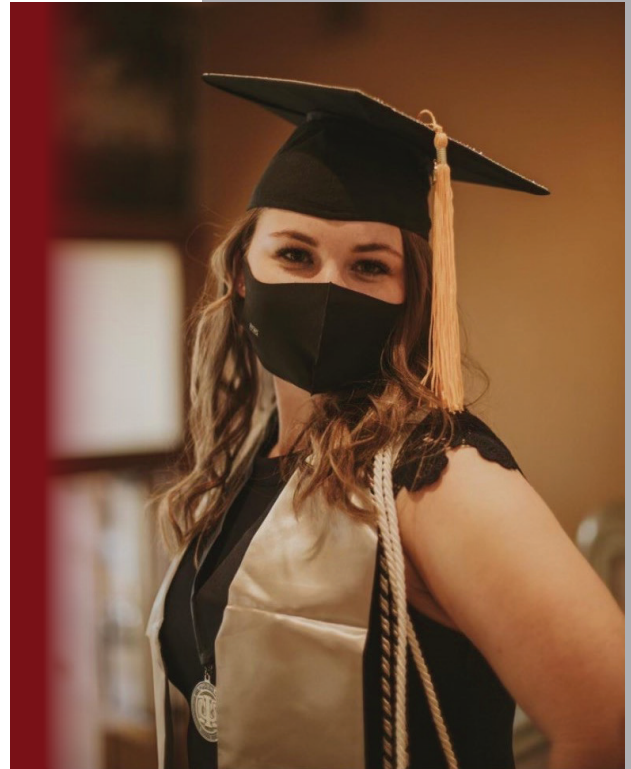
# DISTRICT eight



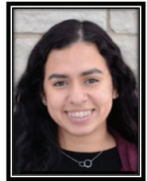
**TIFFANY JOHNSON**  
**Master's in Clinical Mental Health Counseling**  
*Forward Service Corporation; TRIO Upward Bound*

TRIO has helped me make college a realistic and achievable goal. TRIO also prepared me to study for classes in college. During summer program, I was one of the students who didn't like study hour. Study hour was a skill I have always implemented during college. When you look at my schedule, there was always a scheduled study time. Upward Bound summer program taught me how to be the best most unapologetic version of myself. It gave me the skills to make friends in college and be confident in who I am. My advisors were my biggest cheerleaders getting me through the hurdles of high school. Without them, I doubt I'd be the individual I am today.

I graduated a semester early from my undergraduate program in Criminal Justice and Rehabilitation with a minor in Psychology, Magna Cum Laude, during a pandemic. During my undergraduate program I completed two internships. The first was with the Department of Corrections, the second was at a residential treatment center in Minnesota. These experiences made me a quality job candidate and I landed my first professional role with Lutheran Social Services before I ever graduated with my undergrad. That is definitely my best accomplishment. My current goal is to graduate with my Master's in Clinical Mental Health Counseling with a GPA of 3.5 or better.



# VIDEO TESTIMONIALS



## TRIO Works!

### Adellie "Addie" Requena

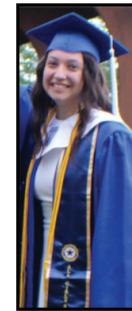
**Marian Graduate:** Anticipated Spring 2022

**Major:** Psychology

**Minor:** Culture, Media and Gender Studies

#### Other:

- Studied abroad semester in Italy 🌐
- Currently researching graduate schools to pursue a Master's degree in Counseling.



## TRIO Works!

### Gabrielle "Gabby" Blohowiak

**Marian Graduate:** Anticipated Spring 2024

**Major:** Radiologic Technology

#### Other:

- TRIO Peer Leader for 2021-2022
- Dean's List
- Badger Girls State participant
- High School National Honor Society member



## TRIO Works!

### Reginald "Reggie" Parson

**Marian Graduate:** Spring 2013

**Major:** Homeland Security

**Minors:** Criminal Justice & Pre-Law

#### Other:

- Spring 2013 Commencement Speaker
- Visited Capitol Hill with WI TRIO in 2018
- Completed M.P.A. in 2015 at UW Oshkosh
- J.D. Univ. of Maine School of Law 2019

Parson was the student spotlight in the Maine Law Magazine.

Spring 2018 he was appointed to the Portland Police Department's Citizens Review Sub-committee.

**Current Employment:** Staff member for Maine Speaker of House of Representatives



## TRIO Works!

### Lillie Lee

**Marian Graduate:** Anticipated Fall 2021

**Major:** Elementary/Middle Education

**Minor:** Spanish

#### Other:

- Inaugural recipient of TRIO EOA regional Phyllis Gray Memorial Scholarship
- Model UN trip participant to NY 🌐
- 2020 Marian TRIO Excellence Award Recipient

