

O.D.S.A

Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance



2017 -2018 Oklahoma Programs Fact Booklet

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### Acknowledgements

The Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance (ODSA) TRIO Booklet Committee is pleased to present the 2016-2017 edition of the Oklahoma TRIO Statistics booklet. The goal of this publication is to increase awareness of the TRIO programs and provide insight into their purpose. Many use this booklet as a means of informing individuals of the various efforts of TRIO programs and their effects on education within the state of Oklahoma.

We thank everyone who responded to the call for nominations for the Hall of Fame section. For those of us who work in TRIO, we know of the many success stories our participants have to share, both past and present. The Hall of Fame section represents ODSA's effort to recognize those students for their academic and personal achievements.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank those who work to ensure the accuracy of the information published in this booklet by providing data and information via the internet:

Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance: [www.ods.org](http://www.ods.org)

Council for Opportunity in Education: [www.coenet.us](http://www.coenet.us)

U.S. Department of Education: [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

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## History & Purpose of TRIO Programs

Initiated in response to President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty, TRIO programs began with the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 which created the *Upward Bound* program. One year later the Higher Education Act of 1965 produced the *Talent Search* program. The Higher Education Amendments of 1968 transferred Upward Bound into the Higher Education Act and authorized *Student Support Services*, the third in a series of federal educational opportunity programs that would be known as "TRIO."

In the following decades, the TRIO programs expanded and improved, providing a wider range of services to participants and reaching more students who would need assistance. The Higher Education Amendments of 1972 added the fourth program to TRIO through implementation of the *Educational Opportunity Centers*. In the summer of that same year, *Veterans Upward Bound* was established by Congress as part of a special appropriation. The 1976 Education Amendments authorized the Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs.

New revisions in 1986 helped to create TRIO's sixth program, the *Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement* program. Four years later, in 1990, the *Upward Bound Math Science* program was formed. In 1998, further Higher Education Amendments authorized the TRIO Dissemination Partnership Program, designed to encourage the replication of successful practices of TRIO programs.

The primary purpose of the TRIO Programs is to identify qualified individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, to prepare them for a program of post-secondary education, to provide support services for such students who are pursuing programs of post-secondary education, to motivate and prepare students for doctoral programs, and to train individuals serving or preparing for service in programs and projects so designed. Depending upon the specific program and its authority, there are a number of different permissible and/or required services offered to eligible participants.

- Academic advice and assistance
- Assistance in completing college admission and financial aid applications
- Assistance in preparing for college entrance examinations
- Guidance and assistance in secondary school re-entry
- Personal and career counseling
- Tutorial services
- Exposure to college campuses, as well as cultural events, academic programs, and other sites or activities
- Workshops and mentoring programs
- Instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics through pre-calculus, laboratory science, foreign language, composition, literature, and other subjects
- Special services to enable veterans to make the transition to post-secondary education
- Activities designed to assist students in 2-year institutions secure admission and financial assistance for enrollment in a four-year institution
- Opportunities for research or other scholarly activities designed to provide students with effective preparation for doctoral study

PROGRAM & AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>UPWARD BOUND</b> Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 [P.L. 88-452]</p>	<p>Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families and from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of post-secondary education.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TALENT SEARCH</b> Higher Education Act of 1965 [P.L. 89-320]</p>	<p>The Talent Search program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. Talent Search provides academic, career, and financial counseling to its participants and encourages them to graduate from high school and continue on to and complete their post-secondary education. Talent Search programs publicize the availability of financial aid and assist participants with the post-secondary application process. The program also encourages persons who have not completed education programs at the secondary or post-secondary level to enter or reenter and complete post-secondary education. The goal of Talent Search is to increase the number of youth from disadvantaged backgrounds who complete high school and enroll in and complete their post-secondary education.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES</b> Higher Education Amendments of 1968 [P.L. 90-575]</p>	<p>Through a grant competition, funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and motivate students toward the successful completion of their post-secondary education. Student Support Services (SSS) projects also may provide grant aid to current SSS participants who are receiving Federal Pell Grants (# 84.063). The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>VETERANS UPWARD BOUND</b> Second Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1972 [P.L. 92-306]</p>	<p>Veterans Upward Bound is designed to motivate and assist veterans in the development of academic and other requisite skills necessary for acceptance and success in a program of post-secondary education. The program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll in and complete post-secondary education programs.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTERS</b> Higher Education Amendments of 1972 [P.L. 92-318]</p>	<p>The Educational Opportunity Centers program provides counseling and information on college admissions to qualified adults who want to enter or continue a program of post-secondary education. The program also provides services to improve the financial and economic literacy of participants. An important objective of the program is to counsel participants on financial aid options, including basic financial planning skills, and to assist in the application process. The goal of the EOC program is to increase the number of adult participants who enroll in post-secondary education institutions.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RONALD E. MCNAIR</b> <b>POST BACCALAUREATE ACHIEVEMENT</b> <b>PROGRAM</b> Higher Education Amendments of 1986 [P.L. 99-498]</p>	<p>Through a grant competition, funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to prepare eligible participants for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities. Participants are from disadvantaged backgrounds and have demonstrated strong academic potential. Institutions work closely with participants as they complete their undergraduate requirements. Institutions encourage participants to enroll in graduate programs and then track their progress through to the successful completion of advanced degrees. The goal is to increase the attainment of Ph.D. degrees by students from underrepresented segments of society.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>UPWARD BOUND MATH SCIENCE</b> Higher Education Amendments of 1986 [P.L. 99-498]</p>	<p>The Upward Bound Math and Science program is designed to strengthen the math and science skills of participating students. The goal of the program is to help students recognize and develop their potential to excel in math and science and to encourage them to pursue post-secondary degrees in math and science, and ultimately careers in the math and science professions.</p>



## Professional Organizations

The TRIO programs have both state and regional professional organizations. These non-profit organizations provide their members the guidance and support needed to promote and guard the idea of educational opportunity for all TRIO eligible individuals. These associations assist the TRIO community in achieving its educational goals. The purpose of these organizations is to:

- Promote professional competency, efficiency, and to partner members and others associated with, and concerned about, student assistance programs
- Foster the development, improvement, and extension of educational opportunities for TRIO eligible persons
- Provide for improved communication between institutions and agencies sponsoring student assistance programs
- Foster a commitment to develop bold and innovative educational programs designed to provide opportunities for eligible participants to initiate, continue, or resume secondary and/or post-secondary education
- Promote and provide individual and cooperative studies, research, workshops, seminars, conferences, effective models, and related activities to fulfill the purposes of the association
- Develop, maintain, and disseminate data pertinent to resolving issues to all bona fide participants and officials of student assistance programs
- Participate in ethical efforts geared to guarantee all membership equal rights, privileges, and benefits

### ***Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance (ODSA)***

Oklahoma established its first TRIO programs in 1966, which is the year six Upward Bound programs opened their doors for their first summer component. Over the next four years, the program directors held informal meetings to discuss the challenges and issues they faced.

Walter O. Mason, often known as “The Father of TRIO,” called for his fellow program directors to organize state-wide professional associations. Through his encouragement, a handful of program directors (including Mr. Mason) established the Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance in 1971, becoming one of the first states to have a professional organization for TRIO personnel.

Today, ODSA serves nearly 300 TRIO professionals within the state of Oklahoma and membership continues to grow. Through its annual conference, ODSA continues to promote, develop and improve the educational opportunities for eligible individuals in Oklahoma.

### ***Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs (SWASAP)***

Under President Nixon’s administration, the TRIO programs were decentralized and administered from 10 regional centers. These regional agencies were given full authority to fund, defund, and administer programs in their area. This environment created inconsistency in policy and priorities among TRIO programs.

In an effort to restructure their relationship with Washington officials, regional associations emerged. In 1972 the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, Louisiana and Arkansas formed the Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs. Later on, the regional associations were realigned and SWASAP no longer includes the state of Arizona.

Currently serving over 130,000 participants, SWASAP encourages and supports members in their endeavor to serve the national and regional needs of the targeted population by conducting an annual meeting of TRIO members from each participating state.

## What are the Federal TRIO Programs?

Upward Bound  
Talent Search  
Student Support Services  
Veterans Upward Bound

Educational Opportunity Centers  
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement  
Upward Bound Math Science  
Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs

TRIO offers seven educational outreach programs that are designed to motivate, support, and advocate for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Many of the students that receive help through the TRIO programs may not otherwise have the opportunity for an education beyond high school. Training programs were also established to educate individuals and organizations regarding the objectives of TRIO. The programs provided by TRIO can be found in over 1,000 colleges, universities, and other agencies in America, and assist students in conquering not only economic difficulty, but class, social, and cultural barriers, as well.

The TRIO programs have had a major impact on education in America, with more than 2,800 programs currently serving nearly 790,000 low-income, first generation individuals. The TRIO programs are committed to providing an equal educational opportunity to all individuals and currently serve over 7,000 disabled students and approximately 6,000 military veterans. Participant's ethnic backgrounds vary with 35% Caucasian, 35% African-American, 19% Hispanic, 4% Native American, 3% Asian-American, and 4% listed as "Other," which includes multiracial students.

In many communities, the TRIO Programs are some of the only programs available that help students to overcome the class, social, academic and cultural barriers to higher education. The educational and human services offered through the TRIO Programs are distinguishable from all other counseling programs in America because TRIO Programs are:

### **One-on-One**

As most TRIO Programs serve fewer than 250 students, TRIO counselors have an opportunity to work one-on-one with each student. TRIO professionals get to know each student on a first-name basis. TRIO counselors are personally committed to the success of their students.

### **Performance Based**

Each TRIO Program operates against specific, measurable outcome objectives as clearly defined in each approved grant proposal. TRIO Program Directors are held accountable and must meet their stated objectives each year to remain funded and able to help participants in their targeted service area.

### **Focused on Early Intervention**

Three of the TRIO Programs, Talent Search, Upward Bound, and Upward Bound Math Science are early intervention programs. These programs effectively reach students in grades six through 12 who have "college potential" but often do not recognize or understand their academic and career options beyond high school. Each year, these three programs keep thousands of promising young low-income and minority students in school and focused on career and college success.

### **Targeted Toward First Generation and Low-Income**

Two-thirds of the students in the TRO Programs come from families with incomes under 150% of the poverty level, where neither parent earned a baccalaureate degree. In most cases, parents who have no higher education experience, do not understand the post-secondary process, and do not necessarily value a higher education.

**Built on Relationships**

Over a period of several months or years, TRIO professionals build both personal and professional relationships with their students. Such positive relationships are critical to the success of every TRIO Program. The staff of each TRIO Program creates a climate of support for students as they strive to move out of poverty and dependence. As a result of these strong positive relationships, many TRIO college graduates periodically return to their programs to encourage and inspire current students.

**Committed to Tough Cases**

In most cases, students in the TRIO Programs are poor and are desperately trying to climb out of "the vicious cycle of poverty in America." Many students come to TRIO from neighborhoods that are filled with violence, discouragement, negativity and hopelessness. A single parent raising several children, an older child helping to raise younger siblings, a physically-disabled person with few financial resources, and a struggling high school student trying to escape a life of poverty describe the young people and adults who turn to the TRIO Programs for assistance.

**Consistent and Intense**

TRIO Programs and TRIO professionals are consistently available to their students. Many TRIO programs enable students to meet with counselors during the summer, in the evening or on weekends. In fact, some TRIO professionals, as part of their specified program objectives, visit students at home to discuss courses or career plans.

**Comprehensive and Cultural**

The academic and human services as administered through the TRIO Programs are comprehensive and must go far beyond the traditional services offered by high school or college counselors. Many students in the TRIO Programs receive instruction in literature, composition, foreign languages, mathematics and science. In addition, students receive assistance in completing college admission and financial aid applications, tutorial services, and exposure to cultural events.

**Reality Based**

Like their students, many TRIO professionals had to overcome class, social, academic and cultural barriers to succeed in higher education. As a result, they can effectively relate to their students and know how to motivate young people and adults in spite of the obstacles that often serve to discourage students from low-income families.

**Community Based**

Community need is determined by the community, not the federal government. TRIO Programs are funded based on clear evidence that the program is needed in a particular community or town. Criteria used in determining need in a specific area include income level, education attainment level, dropout rates, student-to-counselor ratio, social and economic conditions, and overall demographic data.

**Non-Bureaucratic**

TRIO Programs do not involve a large federal bureaucracy because they are direct grant programs funded in rank order on the basis of competitive proposals. In fact, TRIO Programs only exist where local organizations see the need for such services and have successfully applied for federal support. Despite substantial increases in the number of TRIO students and programs, fewer federal employees are working with TRIO today than 20 years ago.



## National TRIO Funding

### Totals FY 2017

<i>TRIO Program</i>	<i>Funding FY 2017</i>	<i>Number of Projects</i>	<i>Number of Participants</i>
Upward Bound	\$312,052,710	956	70,001
Talent Search	\$151,772,998	473	312,855
Student Support Services	\$310,042,423	1,069	202,913
Veterans Upward Bound	\$18,186,172	64	8,407
Educational Opportunity Centers	\$50,649,719	142	199,722
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Programs	\$45,896,206	187	5,234
Upward Bound Math Science	\$58,256,458	211	13,132
TRIO Training Programs for Federal TRIO Programs	\$2,804,995	13	2,536 <i>(number of staff trained)</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$949,661,681</b>	<b>3,115</b>	<b>814,800</b>

**Total Funding ..... \$949,661,681**

**Total Number of Awards ..... 3,115**

**Total Number of Participants ..... 814,800**

**Oklahoma TRIO Funding**  
**Totals FY 2017**

<i>TRIO Program</i>	<i>Funding FY 2017</i>	<i>Number of Projects</i>	<i>Number of Participants</i>
Upward Bound	\$7,476,973	23	1,668
Talent Search	\$4,308,514	15	8,781
Student Support Services	\$7,850,750	29	4,986
Veterans Upward Bound	\$818,366	3	379
Educational Opportunity Centers	\$2,589,071	6	9,955
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Programs	\$1,194,032	5	133
Upward Bound Math Science	\$2,005,936	7	445
TRIO Training Programs for Federal TRIO Programs	\$262,880	1	300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,506,522</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>26,647</b>

**Total Funding .....\$26,506,522**

**Total Number of Awards .....89**

**Total Number of Participants ..... 26,647**

## Upward Bound (UB)

**Program Description:**

The Upward Bound program attempts to generate skills and motivation necessary for success in education beyond high school. Participants are students currently enrolled in high school who meet the low-income and/or potential first generation college student requirements and who are willing to prepare themselves for entry into post-secondary education.

**Participant Eligibility:**

Student must have completed the eighth grade, be between the ages of 13 and 19 (unless they are a veteran participant), be enrolled in high school, be planning to attend college, and need the services Upward Bound provides in order to fulfill their goals. Two-thirds of the participants must be low-income and be potential first generation college students. The remaining participants must be low-income *or* first generation. Participants are selected based on recommendations from their counselors, teachers, and social service agencies.

**Sponsoring Institutions:**

Upward Bound programs may be sponsored by institutions of higher education, public and private non-profit agencies, and in exceptional cases, secondary schools.

**Application/Funding Process:**

Competitions for regular Upward Bound funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

**Services Provided:**

- Instruction in math through pre-calculus, lab science, foreign language, composition, literature, & other subjects necessary for success in education beyond high school
- Academic, financial, or personal counseling
- Exposure to cultural events
- Tutorial services
- Information on post-secondary education opportunities
- Information on student financial assistance
- Assistance in completing college admissions testing and applications as well as financial aid applications
- Exposure to the range of career options where the disadvantaged person might be under-represented

**Oklahoma UB Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded .....\$7,476,973  
 Number of Awards..... 23  
 Number of Participants..... 1,668

**National UB Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded .....\$312,052,7105  
 Number of Awards.....956  
 Number of Participants.....70,001

UB 2012-2013 Annual Performance Report Data				
	Oklahoma		National	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Graduates	443	-	15,686	-
Graduates Enrolled in College	340	76.7	13,334	85.0
Total Successful Outcomes		95.6		96.3

*\*most recent APR data available at time of publication*



## Talent Search (TS)

**Program Description:**

The Talent Search program identifies eligible young people who have the desire and potential for success in post-secondary education. TS encourages participants to continue in and graduate from secondary schools, or to return to high school if they have dropped out. The goal of TS is to have participants enroll in some form of post-secondary education.

**Participant Eligibility:**

Students must be between the ages of 11 and 27, and have completed five years of elementary education. In any given project, two-thirds of the participants must be low-income persons who are also potential first generation college students.

**Sponsoring Institutions:**

Talent Search programs may be sponsored by institutions of higher education, public and private non-profit agencies, and in exceptional cases, secondary schools.

**Application/Funding Process:**

Competitions for Talent Search funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of non-competing continuation application.

**Services Provided:**

- Student academic, financial and personal counseling
- Career exploration and aptitude assessments
- Assistance with the re-entry process to high school or college
- Information on post-secondary education
- Personal development workshops in areas such as test taking and study skills
- Assistance in completing college admissions testing and applications as well as financial aid applications
- Personal growth activities focused on sixth, seventh and eighth graders
- Tutoring sessions for students with academic needs
- Parental involvement
- Mentoring
- Workshops for families of participants

**Oklahoma TS Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded ..... \$4,308,514  
 Number of Awards..... 15  
 Number of Participants ..... 8,781

**National TS Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded ..... \$151,772,998  
 Number of Awards..... 473  
 Number of Participants ..... 312,855

TS 2013-2014 Annual Performance Data				
	Oklahoma		National	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total # Participants	8,997	-	305,983	-
Graduates Enrolled in College	986	73.9	48,750	79.7
Graduates Applied for Financial Aid	1,021	79.8	53,079	84.5
Total # Successful Outcomes	8,549	95.6	284,012	92.8

*\*most recent APR data available at time of publication*

## Student Support Services (SSS)

**Program Description:**

The Student Support Services Program provides supportive services to disadvantaged college students to enhance their potential for successfully completing the education program in which they are enrolled and to facilitate their transition to the next level of higher education.

**Participant Eligibility:**

To receive assistance, student must be enrolled, or accepted for enrollment, in a program of post-secondary education at a sponsoring institution of higher education and have an established need for academic assistance. All participants must be low-income, first generation, and/or physically disabled.

**Sponsoring Institutions:**

Student Support Services Programs may only be sponsored by institutions of higher education. Each applying institution must be prepared to assure that each student participating in the project will be offered sufficient financial assistance to meet that student's full financial need.

**Application/Funding Process:**

Competitions for Student Support Services funding are held every five years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

**Services Provided:**

- Instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics and other subjects necessary for success in education beyond high school
- Tutorial services, mentoring, and information about career options
- Academic, financial, and personal counseling
- Exposure to cultural events
- Assistance in obtaining student financial aid
- Assistance in securing admission and financial assistance for enrollment in four-year institutions (function of SSS at two-year institutions)
- Assistance in securing admissions and financial assistance for enrollment in graduate and professional programs (function of SSS at four-year institutions)
- May be specifically designed for students of limited English proficiency

**Oklahoma SSS Funding, FY 2017:**

Total Awarded ..... \$7,850,750  
 Number of Awards.....29  
 Number of Participants ..... 4,986

**National SSS Funding, FY 2017:**

Total Awarded .....\$310,042,423  
 Number of Awards..... 1,069  
 Number of Participants ..... 202,913

SSS Annual Performance Report Data 2012-13 and 2013-14				
	2012-13 Cohort		2013-14 Cohort	
	OK	National	OK	National
Persistence	84.9%	87.3%	87.0%	87.9%
Completion at 4 year	43.2%	50.4%	40.9%	50.7%
Completion at 2 year	44.8%	39.0%	44.1%	39.2%
Successful Outcomes	80.9%	84.3%	82.0%	84.2%

*\*most recent APR data available at time of publication*

## Veterans Upward Bound (VUB)

### Program Description:

Veterans Upward Bound is designed to motivate and assist veterans in the development of academic and other requisite skills necessary for acceptance and success in a program of post-secondary education. The program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll in and complete post-secondary education programs.

### Participant Eligibility:

Participants must meet military service requirements stipulated in the authorizing statute and be low-income, prospective first-generation college students who are preparing to enter a post-secondary institution. The program requires that at least two-thirds of the participants in a project be both low-income and first-generation. The remaining participants must be either low-income or first-generation military veterans who served in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for more than 180 days and received other than a dishonorable discharge; was discharged because of a service connected disability; was a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces called to active duty for a period of more than 30 days; or was a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces who served on active duty in support of a contingency operation on or after September 11, 2001; and have a high risk for academic failure.

### Sponsoring Institutions:

Institutions of higher education, public and private agencies and organizations including community-based organizations with experience in serving disadvantaged youth, combinations of such institutions, agencies and organizations, and as appropriate to the purpose of the program, secondary schools.

### Application/Funding Process:

Competitions for Veterans Upward Bound funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

### Services Provided:

- Instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics and other subjects necessary for success in education beyond high school
- Academic, financial, or personal counseling
- Exposure to cultural events
- Tutorial services
- Information on post-secondary education opportunities
- Information on student financial assistance
- Assistance in completing college admissions testing and applications as well as financial aid applications
- Exposure to the range of career options where the disadvantaged person might be under-represented

### Oklahoma VUB Funding, FY 2017:

Awarded ..... \$818,366  
Number of Awards ..... 3  
Number of Participants ..... 379

### National VUB Funding, FY 2017:

Awarded ..... \$18,186,172  
Number of Awards ..... 64  
Number of Participants ..... 8,407

## Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC)

**Program Description:**

The Educational Opportunity Centers program provides assistance and information to adults who seek to enter or continue in a program of post-secondary education.

**Participant Eligibility:**

The program targets persons who express a desire to enroll, or re-enroll, in a post-secondary program, and those who request information and assistance in applying for admission and/or financial aid. At least two-thirds of the students must be low-income, first generation college persons, age 19 or above, who need services in order to pursue a post-secondary education. If the services of an Talent Search program are not available in the target area, persons under 19 may be served by an EOC.

**Sponsoring Institutions:**

Educational Opportunity Centers programs may be sponsored by institutions of higher education, public and private non-profit agencies, and in exceptional cases, secondary schools.

**Application/Funding Process:**

Competitions for Educational Opportunity Centers funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

**Services Provided:**

- Academic, financial and personal counseling
  - Career exploration and aptitude assessments
  - Personal and group counseling
  - Assistance with entry or re-entry into a GED or other program of secondary education
  - Assistance in completing college admissions applications and testing
  - Assistance with financial aid applications
  - Coordination with nearby post-secondary institutions
  - Basic academic skills classes
  - Media activities designed to involve and acquaint the community with higher education opportunities
  - Tutoring and mentoring programs

**Oklahoma EOC Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded ..... \$2,589,071  
 Number of Awards ..... 6  
 Number of Participants ..... 9,955

**National EOC Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded ..... \$50,649,719  
 Number of Awards ..... 142  
 Number of Participants ..... 199,722

EOC Annual Performance Report Data 2013-14		
	OK	National
Total Low Income, First Generation Students Served	9,254	186,481
College Ready Participants Enrolled in Postsecondary Education	4,004	69,932
Rate of Postsecondary Enrollment	62.3%	57.6%
Total Successful Outcomes	53.9%	44.4%

*\*most recent APR data available at time of publication*

## Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair)

**Program Descriptions:**

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement program (also known as the McNair Scholars program) provides opportunities at the undergraduate and graduate levels for research or other scholarly activities at institutions or graduate centers designed to provide students with effective preparation for doctoral study.

**Participant Eligibility:**

Students must be enrolled in a degree program at an eligible institution. In any given project, two-thirds of the participants must be low-income persons who are also potential first generation college students. The remaining participants must be from a group who is under-represented in graduate education.

**Sponsoring Institutions:**

McNair Scholars programs may only be sponsored by institutions of higher education.

**Application/Funding Process:**

Competitions for Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement programs funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

**Services Provided:**

- Opportunities for research
- Summer internships
- Tutorial services
- Academic counseling
- Seminars
- Assistance in obtaining student financial aid
- Assistance in securing admission to graduate programs
- Mentoring programs
- Exposure to cultural events

**Oklahoma McNair Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded.....\$1,194,032  
 Number of Awards ..... 5  
 Number of Participants .....133

**National McNair Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded..... \$45,896,206  
 Number of Awards .....187  
 Number of Participants ..... 5,234

McNair Scholars Annual Performance Report Data 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13				
		# Bachelor Degree Recipients	# Enrolled in Graduate School	Cumulative Enrollment Rate
2012-13 Cohort	Oklahoma Programs	37	26	70.3%
	All Programs	1,939	1,152	59.4%
2011-12 Cohort	Oklahoma Programs	37	28	79.6%
	All Programs	1,958	1,103	56.3%
2010-11 Cohort	Oklahoma Programs	37	26	63.6%
	All Programs	1,958	1,171	59.0%

*\*most recent APR data available at time of publication*

## Upward Bound Math Science (UBMS)

**Program Description:**

The Upward Bound Math Science program initiative seeks to strengthen the math and science education of participating students and assists them in demonstrating competency in those areas.

**Participant Eligibility:**

Students must have completed the ninth grade, be between the ages of 13 and 19 (unless they are a veteran participant), be enrolled in high school, be planning to attend college, have an interest and aptitude for careers in math and science, and need the services UBMS provides in order to fulfill their goals. Two-thirds of the participants must be low-income and be potential first generation college students. The remaining participants must be low-income or first generation. Participants are selected based on recommendations from their counselors, teachers, and social service agencies.

**Sponsoring Institutions:**

Upward Bound Math Science programs may be sponsored by institutions of higher education, public and private agencies and organizations, and in exceptional cases, secondary schools.

**Application/Funding Process:**

Competitions for funding are held every four years. Second, third, and fourth year funding is based on approval of a non-competing continuation application.

**Services Provided:**

- Six weeks of intensive math (including computer science) and science programs during the summer (this summer instructional component is designed to simulate a college-going experience)
- Year-round academic, financial, or personal counseling
- Exposure to experts performing research activities in math and science
- Tutorial services
- Core curriculum instruction including mathematics through pre-calculus, laboratory science, hands-on experience in laboratories, as well as in computer facilities and at field sites
- Computer training
- Participant-conducted scientific research under the guidance of a faculty member or graduate student serving as the participant’s mentor

**Oklahoma UBMS Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded ..... \$2,005,936  
 Number of Awards ..... 7  
 Number of Participants..... 445

**National UBMS Funding, FY 2017:**

Awarded ..... \$58,256,458  
 Number of Awards ..... 211  
 Number of Participants..... 13,132

UBMS Annual Performance Report Data 2012-2013				
	Oklahoma		National	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Graduates	50	-	2,267	-
Graduates Enrolled in College	40	80.1	1,981	87.4
Total Successful Outcomes	-	94.90	-	97.3

*\*most recent APR data available at time of publication*

## Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs

Directors and staff employed by the Federal TRIO Programs are able to receive funding for further enhancement of knowledge, abilities and proficiency in their specific projects by means of the Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs. Through this program, employees may obtain experience by means of conferences, seminars, internships, workshops and/or publication of manuals. Topics for learning will be established by the Secretary of Education, and announced in the Federal Register notice for application.

The Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs can include:

- Improving student retention
- Counseling services
- Student testing
- Working with specific TRIO populations
- Legislative and regulatory requirements
- Program evaluation
- Assisting students in securing adequate financial aid
- The design and operation of model TRIO projects
- New directors training
- Use of appropriate educational technology
- Training Opportunities for Federal TRIO Programs' Personnel

### Oklahoma TRIO Training Funding, FY 2017:

Awarded ..... \$262,880  
Number of Programs Awarded ..... 1  
Number of Staff Trained ..... 300

### National TRIO Training Funding, FY 2017:

Awarded ..... \$2,804,995  
Number of Programs Awarded..... 13  
Number of Staff Trained..... 2,536

### National Comparisons By Fiscal Year

<i>TRIO Program</i>	<i>FY Year</i>	<i>Funding</i>	<i>Projects</i>	<i>Participants</i>
<b>Upward Bound</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$312,052,710</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>70,001</b>
	FY 16	\$270,228,385	810	61,747
	FY 15	\$263,412,436	813	61,361
	FY 14	\$264,578,959	814	61,458
	FY 13	\$249,857,649	816	59,143
	FY 12	\$269,229,023	826	62,576
	FY 11	\$305,387,247	951	64,262
<b>Talent Search</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$151,772,998</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>312,855</b>
	FY 16	\$150,635,825	481	318,723
	FY 15	\$134,520,595	449	310,199
	FY 14	\$134,613,873	450	310,747
	FY13	\$128,116,544	452	299,683
	FY 12	\$135,968,652	454	313,641
	FY11	\$138,658,540	461	319,678
<b>Student Support Services</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$310,042,423</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>202,913</b>
	FY 16	\$302,405,536	1,071	203,290
	FY 15	\$297,256,676	1,081	205,263
	FY 14	\$288,631,903	1,027	202,492
	FY 13	\$274,739,441	1,027	197,663
	FY 12	\$290,325,810	1,028	202,750
	FY11	\$290,572,674	1,029	202,921
<b>Veterans Upward Bound</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$18,186,172</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>8,407</b>
	FY 16	\$13,852,595	49	6,587
	FY 15	\$13,548,241	49	6,566
	FY 14	\$13,706,511	49	6,566
	FY 13	\$13,036,887	50	6,404
	FY 12	\$14,392,377	51	6,831
	FY 11	\$13,180,173	47	5,780



**National Comparisons By Fiscal Year, continued from previous page**

<i>TRIO Program</i>	<i>FY Year</i>	<i>Funding</i>	<i>Projects</i>	<i>Participants</i>
<b>Educational Opportunity Centers</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$50,649,719</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>199,722</b>
	FY 16	\$56,186,996	165	225,678
	FY 15	\$46,606,423	126	189,733
	FY 14	\$46,876,529	126	189,733
	FY 13	\$44,063,593	126	181,581
	FY 12	\$45,901,792	126	189,131
	FY 11	\$47,676,723	128	192,196
<b>Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$45,896,206</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>5,234</b>
	FY 16	\$36,589,491	151	4,338
	FY 15	\$35,701,197	151	4,293
	FY 14	\$35,600,323	151	4,293
	FY 13	\$34,060,382	152	4,191
	FY 12	\$37,270,374	158	4,482
	FY 11	\$46,118,554	200	5,419
<b>Upward Bound Math Science</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$58,256,458</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>13,132</b>
	FY 16	\$44,050,368	162	10,176
	FY 15	\$43,050,368	162	10,034
	FY 14	\$43,083,035	162	10,034
	FY 13	\$40,519,232	162	9,687
	FY 12	\$44,141,410	166	10,265
	FY 11	\$33,812,44	131	6,992
<b>TRIO Training Programs</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$2,804,995</b>	<b>13*</b>	<b>2,536*</b>
	FY 16	\$2,736,577	13*	2,536*
	FY 15	\$1,524,998	8*	1,306*
	FY 14	\$1,524,998	8*	1,306*
	FY 13	\$1,326,776	6*	1,101*
	FY 12	\$1,399,998	6*	1,161*
	FY 11	\$3,528,612	10*	2,500*
		<i>* # of programs</i>	<i>* # of staff trained</i>	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$949,661,681</b>	<b>3,115</b>	<b>814,800</b>
	FY 16	\$876,924,679	2,902	788,755
	FY 15	\$835,620,934	2,839	786,629
	FY 14	\$828,616,131	2,787	759,453
	FY 13	\$785,720,464	2,791	790,837
	FY 12	\$838,629,436	2,815	799,748
	FY 11	\$878,934,965	2,957	843,363

### Oklahoma Comparisons By Fiscal Year

<i>TRIO Program</i>	<i>FY Year</i>	<i>Funding</i>	<i>Projects</i>	<i>Participants</i>
<b>Upward Bound</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$7,476,973</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1,668</b>
	FY 16	\$7,252,383	23	1,672
	FY 15	\$7,186,627	23	1,656
	FY 14	\$7,314,521	24	1,713
	FY 13	\$7,047,691	24	1,656
	FY 12	\$7,436,627	24	1,713
	FY 11	\$8,795,320	29	1,794
<b>Talent Search</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$4,308,514</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8,781</b>
	FY 16	\$4,143,778	15	8,943
	FY 15	\$4,143,778	14	9,075
	FY 14	\$4,143,778	14	6,075
	FY 13	\$3,927,058	14	5,943
	FY 12	\$4,143,778	14	6,075
	FY 11	\$4,143,778	14	6,075
<b>Student Support Services</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$7,850,750</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>4,986</b>
	FY 16	\$8,092,748	30	5,286
	FY 15	\$7,869,663	30	4,470
	FY 14	\$6,371,729	24	4,378
	FY 13	\$6,160,087	24	4,470
	FY 12	\$6,500,039	24	4,470
	FY 11	\$6,500,039	24	4,470
<b>Veterans Upward Bound</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>\$818,366</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>379</b>
	FY 16	\$540,908	2	254
	FY 15	\$525,153	2	250
	FY 14	\$525,153	2	250
	FY 13	\$497,687	2	236
	FY 12	\$525,153	2	250
	FY 11	\$1,015,929	4	480

Oklahoma Comparisons By Fiscal Year, continued from previous page

<i>TRIO Program</i>	<i>FY Year</i>	<i>Funding</i>	<i>Projects</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Educational Opportunity Centers	FY 17	\$2,589,071	6	9,955
	FY 16	\$2,525,922	6	9,955
	FY 15	\$2,240,491	5	8,955
	FY 14	\$2,240,491	5	8,955
	FY 13	\$2,083,558	5	8,654
	FY 12	\$2,240,491	5	8,955
	FY 11	\$2,240,491	5	8,955
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program	FY 17	\$1,194,032	5	133
	FY 16	\$711,717	3	83
	FY 15	\$690,988	3	81
	FY 14	\$690,987	3	81
	FY 13	\$654,848	3	80
	FY 12	\$690,987	3	81
	FY 11	\$899,549	4	104
Upward Bound Math Science	FY 17	\$2,005,936	7	445
	FY 16	\$1,957,009	7	445
	FY 15	\$1,900,008	7	435
	FY 14	\$1,900,008	7	435
	FY 13	\$1,800,638	7	426
	FY 12	\$1,900,008	7	435
	FY 11	\$1,839,888	7	383
TOTALS	FY 17	\$26,506,522	89	26,647
	FY 16	\$24,556,708	85	26,638
	FY 15	\$24,556,708	84	25,742
	FY 14	\$23,186,667	79	24,982
	FY 13	\$22,171,567	79	24,373
	FY 12	\$23,437,083	79	24,982
	FY 11	\$25,434,994	87	25,264

# Oklahoma TRIO Programs Overview (by program)

## Adult Programs

**SSS**

Northwestern Oklahoma State University	144	\$220,378.00	Regular
Redlands Community College	200	\$267,134.00	Regular
Cameron University	235	\$408,570.00	Regular
Murray State College	250	\$374,854.00	Regular
University of Central Oklahoma	124	\$232,265.00	Veterans
Oklahoma State University/ Oklahoma City	200	\$307,218.00	Regular
Western Oklahoma State College	180	\$255,702.00	Regular
Eastern Oklahoma State College	250	\$297,205.00	Regular
Seminole State College	160	\$261,387.00	Regular
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College	160	\$266,932.00	Regular
East Central University	120	\$232,265.00	Veterans
Rose State College	144	\$232,265.00	Regular
Seminole State College	120	\$232,265.00	STEM
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	300	\$364,371.00	Regular
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	140	\$232,265.00	TeacherPrep
University of Central Oklahoma	144	\$232,265.00	ESL
Connors State College	180	\$261,385.00	Regular
East Central University	144	\$232,265.00	Regular
Bacone College	165	\$297,205.00	Regular
Oklahoma State University	140	\$232,265.00	Regular
Oklahoma City Community College	160	\$242,392.00	Regular
University of Central Oklahoma	124	\$232,265.00	STEM
University of Central Oklahoma	165	\$243,987.00	Regular
University of Central Oklahoma	144	\$232,265.00	TeacherPrep
University of Central Oklahoma	103	\$232,265.00	Disabled
Carl Albert State College/ Poteau & Sallisaw	285	\$446,880.00	Regular
Tulsa Community College	165	\$232,265.00	Regular
Northeastern State University	175	\$304,777.00	Regular
Southern Nazarene University	165	\$243,193.00	Regular
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,986</b>	<b>\$7,850,750.00</b>	

# Oklahoma TRIO Programs Overview (by program)

Adult Programs Cont.

<b>EOC</b>	Rogers State University	3204	\$607,609.00
	Carl Albert State College	1675	\$523,569.00
	Tulsa Community College	1000	\$242,823.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	1620	\$513,238.00
	East Central University	1456	\$459,932.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	1000	\$241,900.00
<b>Total: 9955</b>			<b>\$2,589,071.00</b>

<b>VUB</b>	University of Central Oklahoma	125	\$263,938.00
	Redlands Community College	125	\$263,938.00
	East Central University	129	\$290,490.00
<b>Total: 379</b>			<b>\$818,366.00</b>

<b>McNair</b>	University of Oklahoma/ Norman	27	\$237,333.00
	Southern Nazarene University	28	\$232,041.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	25	\$232,256.00
	Oklahoma State University	25	\$232,265.00
	East Central University	28	\$260,137.00
<b>Total: 133</b>			<b>\$1,194,032.00</b>

Secondary School

<b>TS</b>	Seminole State College	500	\$246,000.00
	Quality Educational Services for Today & Tomorrow, Inc.	500	\$246,000.00
	American Indian Resource Center, Inc.	737	\$362,547.00
	Northeastern State University	500	\$246,000.00
	Northeastern State University	500	\$246,000.00
	Southeastern Oklahoma State University	861	\$423,612.00
	Carl Albert State College/ Poteau	508	\$246,492.00
	Rose State College	500	\$246,000.00
	Cameron University	775	\$370,476.00
	Oklahoma State University	500	\$246,000.00
	Oklahoma State University/ Oklahoma City	513	\$252,396.00
	Seminole State College	700	\$344,400.00
	University of Central Oklahoma	500	\$245,999.00
	Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	500	\$246,000.00
	Carl Albert State College/ Poteau	687	\$340,592.00
<b>Total: 8,781</b>			<b>\$4,308,514.00</b>

# Oklahoma TRIO Programs Overview (by program)

## Secondary School Programs Cont.

### UB

University of Oklahoma	63	\$263,915.00
Oklahoma State University/ Oklahoma City	78	\$358,301.00
University of Central Oklahoma	75	\$323,133.00
Carl Albert State College	105	\$465,586.00
Northeastern State University	60	\$263,937.00
East Central University	60	\$263,671.00
Oklahoma City Community College	75	\$327,939.00
Cameron University	66	\$312,855.00
Oklahoma Panhandle State University	63	\$276,407.00
Western Oklahoma State College	74	\$324,982.00
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	61	\$263,938.00
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	60	\$263,938.00
Seminole State College	52	\$263,938.00
Seminole State College	77	\$353,542.00
East Central University	124	\$535,860.00
Oklahoma State University	60	\$282,320.00
Redlands Community College	64	\$302,381.00
Northeastern Oklahoma A & M College	68	\$309,507.00
Northern Oklahoma College	62	\$263,938.00
Quality Educational Services for Today & Tomorrow, Inc.	63	\$277,134.00
Quality Educational Services for Today & Tomorrow, Inc.	63	\$277,134.00
Southwestern Oklahoma State University	85	\$399,699.00
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	110	\$502,918.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1668</b>	<b>\$7,476,973.00</b>

### UBMS

Seminole State College	52	\$263,938.00
Seminole State College	62	\$263,938.00
Northwestern Oklahoma State University	61	\$263,938.00
Southeastern Oklahoma State University	68	\$310,549.00
East Central University	66	\$313,558.00
Carl Albert State College	74	\$326,077.00
University of Central Oklahoma	62	\$263,938.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>\$2,005,936.00</b>

## U.S. Congressional Delegation from Oklahoma

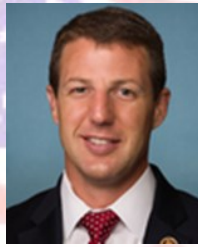


Senator Jim Inhofe  
[www.inhofe.senate.gov](http://www.inhofe.senate.gov)  
202-224-4721  
@InhofePress

Senator James Lankford  
[www.lankford.senate.gov](http://www.lankford.senate.gov)  
202-224-5754  
@SenatorLankford



Rep. Jim Bridenstine  
District 1  
[bridenstine.house.gov](http://bridenstine.house.gov)  
202-225-2211  
@RepJBridenstine



Rep. Markwayne Mullin  
District 2  
[mullin.house.gov](http://mullin.house.gov)  
202-225-2701  
@RepMullin



Rep. Frank Lucas  
District 3  
[lucas.house.gov](http://lucas.house.gov)  
202-225-5565  
@RepFrankLucas



Rep. Tom Cole  
District 4  
[cole.house.gov](http://cole.house.gov)  
202-225-6165  
@TomColeOK04



Rep. Steve Russell  
District 5  
[russell.house.gov](http://russell.house.gov)  
202-225-2132  
@RepRussell

## Oklahoma TRIO Programs Overview (By Congressional District)

### District 1: Representative Jim Bridenstine

Tulsa Community College—SSS, EOC  
 Northeastern State University-Broken Arrow —TS,UB

TRIO Programs ..... 4  
 Total No. of Students Served..... 1,725  
 Total Amount Awarded..... \$985,025

### District 2: Representative MarkWayne Mullin

American Indian Resource Center, Inc.—TS  
 Bacone College—SSS  
 Carl Albert State College—UB, TS (2), SSS, EOC, UBMS  
 Choctaw Nation—TS  
 Connors State College—SSS  
 Eastern Oklahoma State College—SSS  
 Murray State College—SSS  
 Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College—UB, SSS  
 Northeastern State University—TS , SSS  
 Quality Educational Services for Today & Tomorrow, Inc.—UB (2),TS  
 Rogers State University—EOC  
 Southeastern Oklahoma State University—UB (2), TS, SSS(2), EOC,  
 UBMS

TRIO Programs .....27  
 Total No. of Students Served..... 13,308  
 Total Amount Awarded..... \$9,334,376

### District 3: Representative Frank Lucas

Northern Oklahoma College—UB  
 Northwestern Oklahoma State University—UB, SSS, UBMS  
 Oklahoma Panhandle State University—UB  
 Oklahoma State University—UB, TS, SSS, MS  
 Redlands Community College—UB, SSS, VUB  
 Southwestern Oklahoma State University—UB  
 Western Oklahoma State College—UB, SSS

TRIO Programs ..... 15  
 Total No. of Students Served..... 1,844  
 Total Amount Awarded..... \$4,095,285

### District 4: Representative Tom Cole

Cameron University—UB, TS, SSS  
 East Central University—UB (2), SSS (2), VUB, EOC, MS,  
 UBMS  
 Rose State College— TS, SSS  
 University of Oklahoma—UB, MS

TRIO Programs..... 15  
 Total No. of Students Served ..... 3,937  
 Total Amount Awarded .....\$4,659,592

### District 5: Representative Steve Russell

Oklahoma City Community College—UB, SSS  
 Oklahoma State University/OKC—UB, TS, SSS  
 Seminole State College—UB(2), TS (2), SSS(2), UBMS(2)  
 Southern Nazarene University—SSS, MS  
 University of Central Oklahoma—UB, TS, SSS(6), EOC, UBMS,  
 MS, Trio Training, VUB

TRIO Programs ..... 28  
 Total No. of Students Served ..... 5,833  
 Total Amount Awarded .....\$7,432,244





# ODSA 2017 TRIO Achievers

## Alisha Brown, MS - Langston University, SSS



Alisha Brown is the Vice President of the Stapleton Foundation for sustainable urban communities and the Founder and Director of its be well Health and Wellness Initiative. Her focus is to advance equity through community based strategies to ensure that all people have the opportunity to live a healthy and prosperous life regardless of their social circumstances. She invented the be well Block Captain community engagement model, an evidence based approach that combines local neighborhood ingenuity with industry expertise. This model builds advocates in our most vulnerable communities to create solutions to our most complex challenges. The model is known nationally and is supported by various organizations including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In her role as the Principal Investigator of the be well be EPIC Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health project of the CDC, she oversees efforts to increase opportunities to physical activity through community engagement in policies, systems and environmental changes.

Ms. Brown has raised and/or leveraged more than \$30 million dollars to advance equity across the state of Colorado. She speaks locally, regionally, nationally and internationally to demonstrate the importance of grassroots involvement. Ms. Brown knows how to engage populations that have the impression that healthy lives and communities can only be achieved by those who have money, power, or access.

As a graduate of Regis University, she earned her Masters of Nonprofit Management degree and was a Colorado Trust Fellow. Ms. Brown earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Broadcast Journalism from the Langston University, a historically Black University in Langston, Oklahoma. She serves on various boards and commissions including the State of Colorado's Health Equity Commission and the City and County of Denver's Board of Environmental Health as the Vice Chair. Ms. Brown is a member of the Denver Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. She is a devote Christian active at the Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church where she serves on the liturgical dance ministry and as a writer for the Christian Scroll newsletter. Her favorite past times are spending time with her family, traveling, shopping and going to sporting events.

## Daryl Legg - Carl Albert State College, EOC



When I was released from incarceration, I was determined to make positive change in my life. The week after I was released I went and enrolled at CASC. It seems as if everything you try to do as a felon you are always told that you can't do this or you can't live here or you can't have this type of job. So I decided to meet with Ms. Miller at Carl Albert State College about my degree plan.

I knew that I had the heart of a counselor but I did not want to be boxed in to that category, just because I was a former drug addict. I don't know how many times I have heard that I should be a certified alcohol and drug counselor. I just wanted to be given an equal opportunity to be whatever I wanted to be. But the fact is, as a felon, you do not have an equal opportunity. I had given up that right when I broke the law.

Ms. Miller was such an encouragement. She was always honest and did not fill me with pipe dreams. She kept me grounded and focused on goals that were obtainable for my situation. In 2003 I graduated with an AA in Psychology/Sociology.

After graduation I went on to enroll at NSU to obtain a BA in Social Work and after receiving 18 hours of sociology classes my advisor there told me that due to my background, I could not major in Social Work and asked me "have you ever thought about welding?". Needless to say I was livid. Never once did Ms. Miller suggest that I attend a trade school. So I changed my major to Psychology and minored in Social Welfare.

In 2006 I graduated with a 3.77 GPA and Cum Laude Honors and then my professional journey began. I was recruited by the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services and by Cherokee Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Department as well. I chose to work for the Cherokee Nation.

It was the best decision of my life. Within three years I was promoted to Director of Vocational programs and was able to follow in Ms. Miller's footsteps. I have been able to assist thousands of Cherokee's in their career plans and have watched them achieve their goals as I have. In fact, I have been able to work with students that Ms. Miller referred to Cherokee nation as well.

In 2013, I was able to play an instrumental part in developing the "Coming Home" Reentry program for ex-offenders. Since the onset of the program we have helped 365 participants upon their release from incarceration. Our programs boasts of only having a 10% recidivism rate after three years from release. The National federal rate is 67% and the State rate is 27%. Because of this program, in 2014, I was honored by President Barack Obama as a "Champion of Change" for my efforts in reentry to employment. That same year I also received the 2014 Statesman of the Year Award for Cherokee Nation.

In 2015, I ran for public office as the City Commissioner for Sallisaw, Oklahoma, District 4 and won by 65% of the votes. That is when I truly realized that I had been forgiven of my past actions. In 2016, I was appointed by the Secretary of Labor, Thomas Perez, to the Native American Employment and Training Council and in February 2017 I was granted a full pardon by Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin. Again, I want to say thank you for the nomination and I want to say thank you to Ms. Miller for giving me the proper guidance. I cannot imagine where I would be right now if she had advised me to go to welding school.

**ODSA**

**2017-2018**

**Hall of Fame**

**Planting Seeds For A Brighter  
Future**

# **2017 ODSA Scholarship Recipients**

**Walter O. Mason Scholarship \$500**

**Aspen Schmidt**

**Oklahoma State University -SSS**

**Dr. Mitchem Scholarship \$500**

**Jarrold Greiner**

**Southeastern Oklahoma State University - TS**

**\$400.00 Awards:**

**Ashley Unsinn -- Cameron University SSS Program**

**Cecilia Young -- Southeastern Oklahoma State  
University TS Program**

**\$300.00 Awards:**

**Destinee Askinson -- Tulsa Community College SSS Program**

**Alissa Meek -- Northeastern State College TS Program**

**\$250.00 Awards:**

**Bethany Holley -- Rose State College SSS Program**

**Karen Vargas -- Oklahoma State-Oklahoma City TS Program**

**\$150.00 Awards:**

**McKenzie Morgan -- Northeastern Oklahoma State University TS**

**Program DeAdrian Noble -- Rose State College SSS Program**

**Sierra Posey -- Northeastern Oklahoma State University TS Program**

# DISTRICT 1



**Alexandra G Riffe**  
**Tulsa Community College**  
**Educational Opportunity Center**

There has been many advantages of participating in the TRIO/EOC program at Tulsa Community College. My TRIO/EOC academic counselor, John Thao revealed to me, a single mother with a child that going back to school for college can be possible. He was my liaison who guided me through the pre-college process making it less daunting. He really encouraged and helped me believe that going back to school was possible especially given my situation raising a child by myself. He walked me through the whole process of applying for admissions and FAFSA. Now I am attending college on a full ride pursuing my dream studying sign language to become an interpreter. TRIO/EOC and John really made this possible for me because if it was not for them, I would have put off the idea of going to college.

# DISTRICT 1



## **Cheala Green**

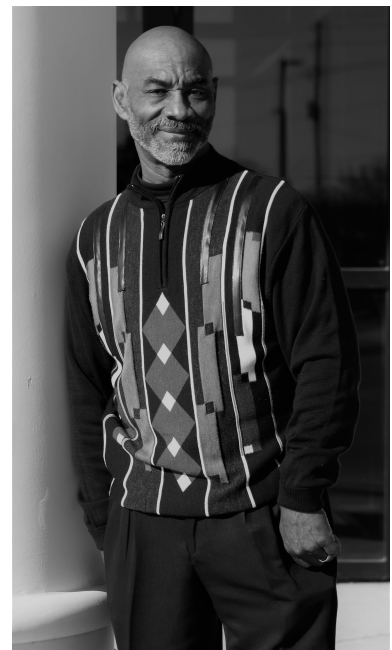
### **Tulsa Community College Student Support Services**

Participating in a TRIO program offers many academic advantages, like free tutoring, early class enrollment, and one on one academic advising; however, the best advantage is the emotional support. My TRIO program offers great encouragement. Not only do they encourage you through your classes, but also to be involved and connected. They offer a host of events that allow you to connect with other students. By connecting with other students, you are no longer going through your college journey alone. You make friends for study groups or to enjoy in a social setting. You become bonded and encouraged through relationships with other TRIO students. This allows me to strive harder for success, which is the reason I participate in TRIO at Tulsa Community College.

## **Joseph F Adams**

### **Tulsa Community College Metro Campus Student Support Services**

The advantage of participating in a TRIO program are having the ability to sit with a counselor and plan out your course of action on what subjects to take and when you should take them, having the ability to have a personal tutor available whenever you are struggling with a particular subject, the ability to interact with a great group of individuals who have the similar interests and likes. There are field trips and outings where the students as a whole get together and fellowship with each other and have a great time. The TRIO staff are all caring individuals who place its student members first and foremost. They are all knowledgeable about the path that the student member should take when it is time to choose the courses that should be taken and what time of the semester they should be taken. I have had a wonderful experience with the staff and would recommend that every student that has the chance and the qualifications should participate in the program.



# DISTRICT 1

**Nicole, S. Tarver**

**Tulsa Community College - Metro Campus  
Student Support Services**



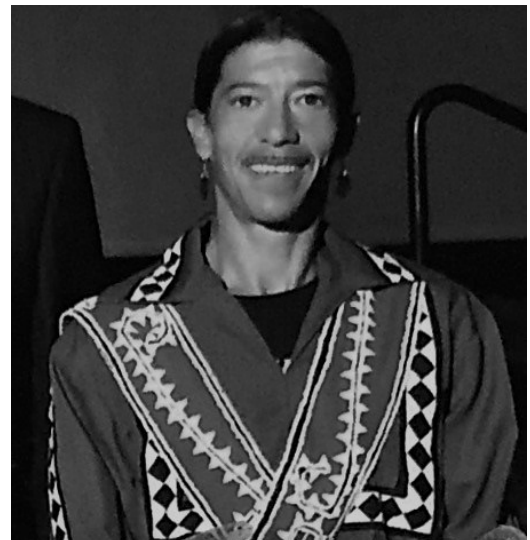
During my time at Tulsa Community College, being a member of TRIO SSS has been beneficial to me in many ways. TRIO counselors have helped me during early enrollment through advising and the scheduling of classes. Additionally, they have helped me throughout the semester by providing resourceful information, along with their professional opinion, to assist me in choosing a major that coincides with my needs and aspirations.

TRIO counselors have assisted me by providing a list of occupations associated with the major I was considering and by communicating with me about any other interests and its potential job outlook. Furthermore, the counselors in TRIO have helped me excel academically because they have acknowledged the effort I put into achieving academic success and have continued to encourage me and remind me that I am moving in the right direction.

**Tim Maxville**

**Tulsa Community College  
Educational Opportunity Center**

TRIO's Educational Opportunity Center will be any student's advantage. TRIO improved my financial and economic literacy and had recommended me for a Fall and Spring semester's tuition waiver at Tulsa Community College and I won it! I beat out 20 other students. My counselor is knowledgeable about scholarship searches and I was given many chances for financial aid. I got help applying for TRIO's scholarships and tribal scholarship opportunities. TRIO encouraged and believed in an older nontraditional student, father, and husband, such as myself when no one else did. TRIO is giving me educational and financial opportunities that I did not know existed to further my education. This blue collar worker can see a path and a future career in Native American leadership that I will love and will make me and my family financially independent. Take advantage of being a participant. TRIO Works... for me and will for you!



# DISTRICT 1

**Cleo Theresa Berninger  
Tulsa Community College  
Educational Opportunity Center**

"There are far too many bright, curious minds who feel they have no hope to access higher education because it is utterly out of the realm of their expectation...for whatever reason (and those reasons are legion!). The TRIO program connects, helps, mentors individuals in to the world of higher education who otherwise may not make it to school or through school. I am one such individual.

As a TRIO 'graduate' I am the first person in my family to earn any kind of degree, am more gainfully employed because of the experience and my children are now also college graduates. Upon my graduation I was qualified for a pay grade increase and became promotable within the organization.

I learned of TRIO in 2003 at a resource fair for adult women/non-traditional students with an interest in furthering their education. I followed up in office where they sat with me and helped, **SIDE-BY-SIDE HELPED ME(!)** figure out how to complete that first terrifying FAFSA form and after that, provided sane and informed moral and mental support. TRIO remained as a touch base resource as I went through the seemingly endless maze of applications for school and scholarships. My first class in 2003, graduated 2008 with a BA in Philosophy. During that time I was a single mother of two boys, working part time and middle-aged...no spring chicken! It was super challenging, yes. Both of those boys are now adult men, both are now graduates of the University of Tulsa.

It takes time to grow...and services such as TRIO need to exist through time so as to continue helping people gain connection and grow in to the lives they wish to lead. Without the TRIO program, how many people would lose hope and lose heart without that support? TRIO is a truly effective program in building a more functional community and a better society because it exists to help at the granular level: side-by-side, with real people. I know, I was (and am) one of those people!"





# District 2



**Vallerie J. James**

**Southeastern Oklahoma State University  
Student Support Services**

TRIO has helped me tremendously! I am a non-traditional student. I was overwhelmed when I began my freshman year, but thanks to this program I found the courage to pursue an excellent college career. I have received outstanding support from my Student Support Services family. I feel very blessed to be a part of such an organization. The TRIO program has helped with grants that has helped me financially, and encouraged me to do my very best. My SSS family are always so helpful with any questions or concerns I may have regarding my college education. I truly believe that I would not be as successful without them.

This program has assisted me in enrollment. They have given me a friendly, uplifting, and motivated environment to do my studies. I cannot express how thankful I am that this program is available at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

**Jacobi T Crowley**

**Southeastern Oklahoma State University  
Student Support Services**

TRIO made it possible for me to be true to myself with the services that were provided. Now that I am a true testament to the trio programs. I will spend a great deal of my life letting students like me know that it can be done. TRIO makes it possible for the student who may have difficult times understanding work. TRIO makes it possible for the student whose family may not have the finances to provide them with a quality higher education. TRIO makes it possible for the impossible, and I am grateful to be a part of this family. With Trio services I was able to graduate college with a bachelor's degree. Now I am focusing my efforts on public service by running for State Senate. Without that advisers, tutors, and educators of the trio programs none of this would be possible.

So I say, Thank You!



# DISTRICT 3



**Bernard E Wheeler**

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University**

**Upward Bound Math and Science**

It's the fact that you get to go different places and meet a lot of new people and have an awesome experience

**Billie D Buckingham**  
**Northwestern Oklahoma State**  
**University**

**Upward Bound Math and Science**

It has gotten me ready for the next year, and I have known more information than other classmates just for taking a summer class.



# DISTRICT 3



**Logan W. Hicks**

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
Upward Bound Math and Science**

They made me more sociable than I am now. Upward Bound has helped in my weakness in my learning. I have gained so many friends. I have enjoyed my years at Upward Bound joining was the best decision I ever made in my life

**Cherina M Cagwin**

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
Upward Bound**

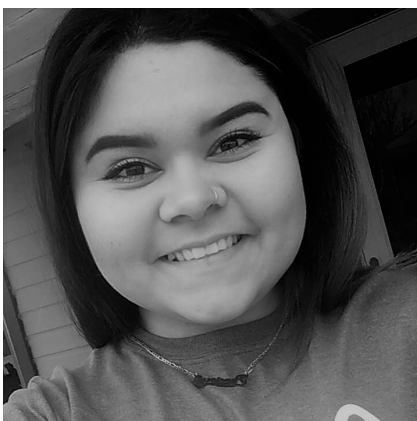
The TRIO program has a lot of benefits. They have tutors that will help you during the school year if your falling a little behind. It also shows you what you can expect when you go to college. Not only do you get all that but you get to meet new people and travel to other states in the United States.



**Precious Ramos**

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
Upward Bound**

TRIO has helped me excel academically more than anyone would know. I am able to take college classes as a concurrent student, but without TRIO I would not be able to. I have excelled tremendously in my school work and the program has allowed me to work ahead and help others that have a hard time understand the subject. Without TRIO, I would not be in the position I am in. I would like to thank those in charge of TRIO for giving students like me an opportunity to better ourselves.



# DISTRICT 3

## **Korry Mackenzie Day Northwestern Oklahoma State University Upward Bound**



Hello, I invite you to hear my story and my gratefulness for the Upward Bound Program. My story is oft-misinterpreted as sad or melancholy although it has never been as such. I have always had the necessities of life and have been gifted with many luxuries as well.

But my socioeconomic class has almost always affected my future when taken into account my 7 brothers, and more directly my twin brother. My parents were penny pinchers and although creating the savings needed to finance one college education is plausible, the cost of two is almost impossible.

The Upward Bound Program is important to me because of the security and focus it lends me. Not only does it aid me in financial support, but with tutors and educational help as well. It helps me break the barriers by going to and finishing college. It gives me a professional outlet in which I can voice my concerns and worries and be met with honest information on how to solve them.

Ultimately, I have a wide range of interests that range from botany and poetry, to political activism. My teachers, friends, and family have been a tremendous help, but I believe that with that with the extra motivation and focus that Upward Bound lends me I will be able to head in the right direction and secure my future. At times, I found myself asking, "Is college something I want to do?" It wasn't until later that I found that that thought was paralleled by the idea that it wasn't possible for me to go to college. I think Upward Bound will be able to help me hone down and pinpoint my career choice in a way that won't leave me sidestepping what I actually want to do.

Throughout the program, I have been consistently reassured that college is something I can and will achieve. It's something that my socioeconomic status won't affect. It has given me the possibility of securing my future and given me the opportunity to contribute back to the community that has helped me so much.

# DISTRICT 3



## **Danielle D. Frye**

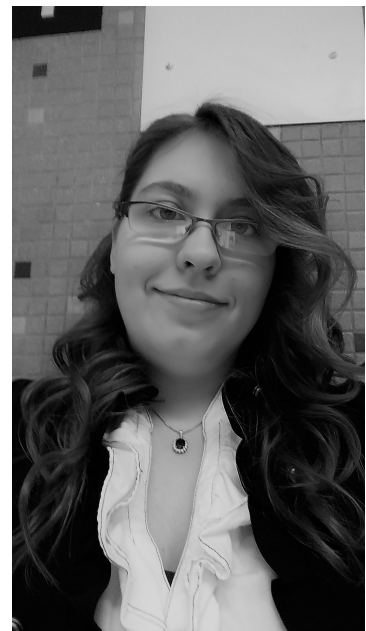
### **Oklahoma State University - Stillwater Student Support Services**

Two of the many advantages of participating in a TRIO program are the workshops and the connections that you make within the program. The workshops that are conducted throughout the semester actively help you become a successful student as well overcome daily obstacles that one may encounter in college: Such as stress, finance management, and tips toward academic success. In regards to connections, the program itself is so diverse that there are many different opportunities for networking.

## **Laura M. Lyness**

### **Oklahoma State University - Stillwater Student Support Services**

TRIO has allowed me to focus on my academic career by providing me with helpful resources and support on campus. This support has been tremendously helpful when I've worried about personal issues that were making college seem overwhelming. I was very sick and in the hospital at the beginning of the Fall 2016 semester and I considered withdrawing because I did not want to drag my GPA down by doing poorly. I struggled to turn in decent work on time, but my coordinator insisted that I could do it. When I talked to my coordinator he recommended some medical resources and helped me make goals that broke class work into more manageable pieces. My coordinator was a big reason why I decided not to drop all of my classes. I ended that semester with a 4.0 with the help of the emotional support, tutoring, and workshop resources.



# DISTRICT 3



**Se, Veyon M. Willis-Hill**  
**Oklahoma State University - Stillwater**  
**Student Support Services**

"When I first came to Oklahoma State University, I was suffering from anger and depression due to family issues that were occurring. I was placed with Ms. Bianca Boyd and not only did she become my adviser but she became my mentor and even an older sister to me. Over the years I have experienced isolation from family & the loss of my brother and sister. However, the love that the TRiO program has shown me has been indescribable. TRiO became my family away from family. When I felt like dropping out Bianca, Justin, and Jesus all encouraged me to push through because they seen greatness in me. I will forever be grateful and thankful for this program because now after 5 years I can walk across the graduation stage and say I made it due to God placing people in my life that believed in my abilities to succeed."

# DISTRICT 4

**Alexis M. Terry**  
**Cameron University**  
**Student Support Services**

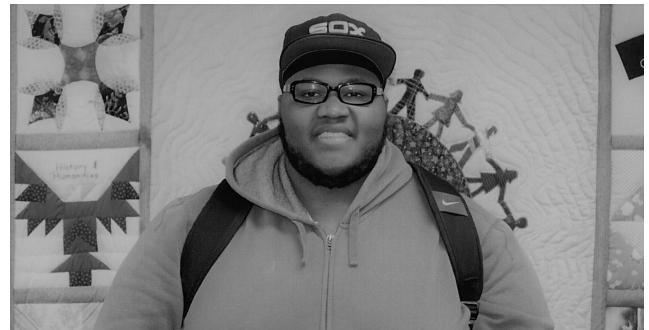


When I began college in 2009, I went undiagnosed with narcolepsy, a sleep disorder characterized by uncontrollable bouts of sleep. My grades suffered. I took a break from school because I felt like my dreams were unobtainable. Joining the TRIO program changed my perspective. The leaders and advisors saw a beauty in me I did not know I possessed. I was encouraged to endure and set my sights on things within my control. TRIO encouraged me to communicate with my professors and stay focused on the end goal: graduation. I have gained the fervor to be granted multiple scholarships, a job on campus and even maintain a 4.0 GPA at Cameron University. TRIO offers moral, spiritual, emotional and social support. My involvement provides me the motivation to persevere. Thanks to the support from TRIO, I have curbed depression and anxiety and I am on track to graduate in May 2018.

**Dontaye K Abram**  
**Cameron University**  
**Student Support Services**

The barriers I have encountered prior to joining TRIO SSS consisted of time management and lacking confidence and class preparation. I didn't know time management played such a role for my success in education. TRIO helped me better understand its importance. My confidence and preparation suffered.

There were times I felt embarrassed and refused classroom participation because of it. I felt my ideas weren't any good and my input wasn't necessary. I'd put up a wall and shied away from anyone who would attempt picking at my brain. With TRIO, they show interest and worked diligently. Reducing my wall down to rubble, whenever I'd feel left out TRIO would reassure me that I wasn't. They started me with a supply bag and helped with other miscellaneous issues I never imagined their capability to assist with. TRIO goes the extra mile. I can't express enough how well TRIO looks over me.



# DISTRICT 4

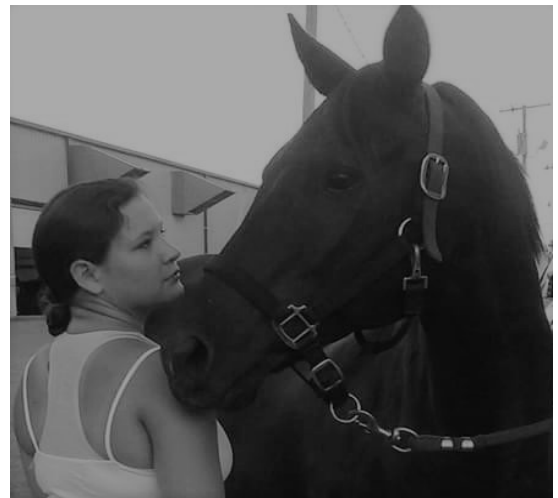


**Colin To**  
**Cameron University**  
**Upward Bound**

TRIO offers more help with my goals than my own high school. They give me opportunities that keep me on track with my higher education with tutoring and college prep courses. They simulate our experiences in college by providing actual classes and lessons that gives us real life skills we will need for college. They input rigorous courses during the school year and during our summer sessions to practice and enhance our abilities in independence, academics, and leadership.

**Hannah M. Spoon**  
**Cameron University**  
**Upward Bound**

TRIO has helped me excel academically by challenging me to do my very best in school. They have helped me make goals and achieve those goals. They have also helped me study, revise essays and finish homework. Above all TRIO has made sure I had the support and tools to do my best, and I thank them for that.





# DISTRICT 4



**Jenifer Thoma**  
**East Central University**  
**Upward Bound**

"TRIO has furthered my high school education by helping me with my work, providing tutoring if needed, and encouraging me to push myself harder mentally. It has also helped me to realize my academic potential as a student."

**Patrick M. West**  
**East Central University**  
**Upward Bound**

TRIO has continuously helped me further my education. During the school year at the monthly meetings whenever I needed help with my regular classwork I could get help from our teachers, faculty, and even other students. The summer program has excellent teachers that help me be prepared for the upcoming school year. This contributed to my high grades along with my drive to learn. My GPA was a 3.93 after my sophomore year and with the help I was receiving from TRIO I was able to raise my GPA to a 4.2 at the end of my junior year. I was able to ask questions about my English essays and refine my mathematics skills some to achieve perfect scores on my homework. Also, taking concurrent classes through my TRIO program helped me to experience the amount of effort needed to excel in college.



# DISTRICT 4



**Jerod D. Hearrell**  
**East Central University**  
**Veterans Upward Bound**

The TRIO programs have helped me in so many ways, they are there to answer all my questions and have given me the tools necessary to start back to college. They have also given me the tools and resources to help me while I have been in school such as tutoring, computer resources, and study environments where I am surrounded by other veterans that understand the issues that we face returning to college. They have been there to assist with enrollment, financial aid, and just any other issue that arises throughout each semester. Veterans upward bound helped me look at all my options when first enrolling to get me into the right degree for me also helped me with the entire application processes. They also gave me tests to help see where I was at and offered me tutoring programs for any places that I was lacking in.

**Kim Dickson**  
**East Central University**  
**Veterans Upward Bound**

The first advantage of participating in TRIO was the VUB staff members helped me get enrolled at East Central University including paying for my transcripts. Another great thing that this program provides is that they put on an educational boot camp just before school started which helped me brush up on my academic skills and they got me in contact with the testing and accessibility department as well as the Veterans Student Support Services. The VUB staff also helped me fill out my application for the Social Work program and gave me copies of all my transcripts which was a big help in the process. Lastly, I know that I can come to anyone on the staff at any time if I should have any problems at all and they will go out of their way to help me.



# DISTRICT 4



**Trey D. Richmond**  
**East Central University**  
**Veterans Upward Bound**

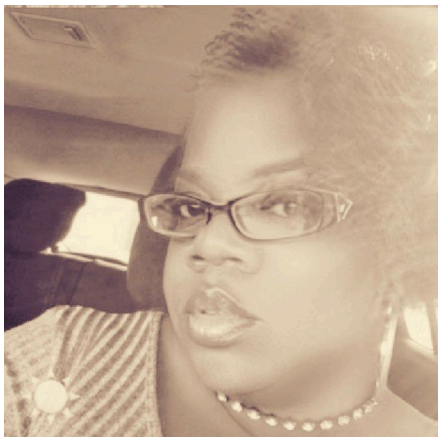
During the beginning of my college experience I did not know what I wanted to do. I started to let my grades slip away and almost failed out. Thanks to the help and guidance of veterans U.B. I am now making straight A's and achieving my goals.

**Emily M Crouch**  
**Rose State College**  
**Student Support Services**

I am a first generation student and a mother of two. When I decided to come back to school as an adult, I was pregnant with my second child. My interview for TRIO ended up being the day after I gave birth to my son. The wonderful staff allowed me to come in a week later with my newborn son to do the interview. I was so elated to be accepted to the program and at every step the staff has answered emails, phone calls and been available to me any time I've needed help. The last few semesters have been a whirlwind of classes and mommy obligations but I am proud to say I've been accepted to the nursing program my first time applying and I know that if I wasn't a part of this program, I wouldn't have had the confidence and guidance to accomplish my goals as quickly and efficiently as I have. I'm forever grateful for this program!



# DISTRICT 4



**Syrone A. Nero**  
**Rose State college**  
**Student Support Services**

There are many advantages to being in a group of wonderful people who do not judge you and want to see excel in your classes. I enjoy coming to trio because I know I can come in and use the computers and print off all my assignments at one time or come and have a tutoring session to help understand what I'm doing or just coming in laughing and talking with my fellow trio students. I love that I can come to Amber, Leticia, Brandon, Josh or Alexa and they would stop what they are doing just to help always patient and ready I am truly going to miss that.

**Braylon T Warrior**  
**University of Oklahoma**  
**McNair Scholars**

"There are numerous amount of barriers that I have had to overcome while obtaining my college education. Financially it is tough on most students to attend a university such as the University of Oklahoma. There has been many times when I have had to eat ""sleep"" for breakfast lunch and dinner. Eating sleep is essentially overcoming your hunger by just going to sleep. TRIO has helped alleviate my hunger by providing snacks in the lounge we have at the University of Oklahoma. I can always grab some ramen noodles or some popartars which goes a long way when you have little money to spend on groceries for the month. Furthermore free printing is a huge blessing TRIO provides because the printing charges can add up tremendously. Besides financially, I have also had to overcome a death in my family while being in TRIO. TRiO has helped me in that way just by always asking me how my day is going, is there anything we can do to help you, etc.

Without TRIO I would not have the success in college that I do now and honestly do not know how I would make it without TRIO."



# DISTRICT 4



**Chelsea, J, Aguirre**  
**University of Oklahoma**  
**McNair Scholars**

Most students who go off to college have college-educated parents and family friends who they can go to for advice when it comes to academics and their careers. I, however, did not have such a luxury since I am a first-generation college student. With that being said, TRIO has given me mentors and confidants that I can go to for academic advice or advice on anything whether it is about my continued education after college or financial responsibility. Because of TRIO I have been given the tools and mentors who have allowed me to excel academically more than I ever would have been able to if I had not been a part of this incredible organization.

**Myria J. Davis**  
**University of Oklahoma**  
**McNair Scholars**

Next year I will be the first in my immediate family to graduate from a four-year university, which I credit to my eagerness to learn and my father constantly encouraging me to pursue higher education. Yet, I entered college not knowing a lot about the logistics; however, thanks to the TRIO programs offered at my institution, I received help for almost anything I needed whether it be financial assistance, emotional support or guidance throughout my college career. Specifically, the McNair Scholars Program has proven very beneficial because it has provided an opportunity to conduct my own undergraduate research project, as well as guidance through the unfamiliar territory of graduate school applications. Before joining McNair, I was unsure about graduate school, but now I am excited to pursue an advanced program that will allow me to become a licensed therapist, thus engaging in a career path of service to humankind.



# DISTRICT 4



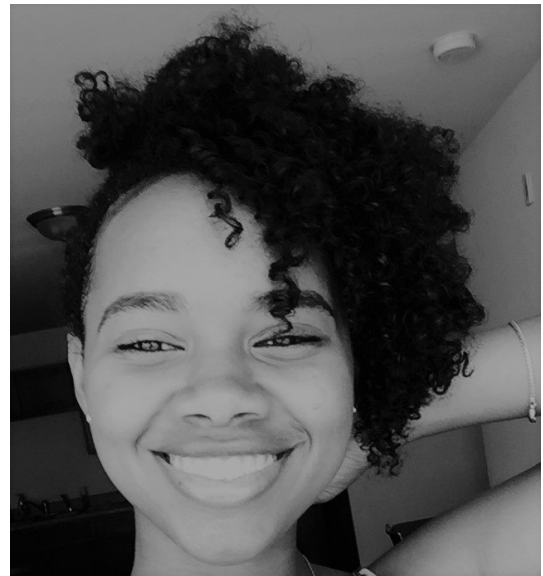
**Cassie D Lewis**  
**University of Oklahoma**  
**Student Support Services**

In 2011 I started my journey in college as a newly widowed mother, and as such I set small goals by attending Rose State College with two online classes. This is where I first learned of TRIO programs, and they provided me with the resources I needed to take the next step in my educational journey. These caring people walked me through each step to get into the University of Oklahoma. I was accepted into Price College of Business in the Fall of 2015, where I continued to grow with Project Threshold at OU. As a first-generation college student, I questioned my own abilities to become a college graduate or if I belonged to such a prestigious university. Each step of the way, the support I needed was provided by TRIO programs, without which I truly do not think I would have been able to reach my goals.

**Crysta D. Williams**  
**University of Oklahoma**  
**Student Support Services**

These words are not enough to truly express how much TRIO and specifically, my advisor and mentor, Mrs. Jackson, have done for me.

I am a non-traditional, military, and first-generation student. Being first-generation, I was not well prepared for college. After adding paying for school on my own along with working I really had no idea where to even start. Finding TRIO was like finding a home. I have been connected with so many resources and have always been given the support that I need to be successful at OU. College can bring forth some trying times and in those moments when I was so exhausted and thought maybe this isn't for me, Mrs. Jackson was there to help me pull through. She has been there for every success and every downfall and I honestly could not have made it this far without her and the resources offered by TRIO.



# DISTRICT 5

**Cheryl A Wolverton**  
**Cameron University**  
**Student Support Services**



"When I started back to college, I was an adult with grown kids. I had put off going because I loved being a mom. But, the semester I started back in Baton Rouge, I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.

I was devastated but determined to continue my degree. The next semester, my husband was laid off--so we moved back to Oklahoma. I had no idea where to go or what to do.

I came to Cameron and someone told me about Student Support Services (I don't remember who). I came up here to see what they were about. I found the nicest group of people who were willing to explain the new college experience (it certainly wasn't like what it was when I'd started in 1981). They coached me and explained things--got me in a math lab. If I hadn't had that math lab, I'm not sure what I would have done.

They helped me find where to go to get help with disability for my progressing ms. When I was ready to quit, they were there to stop me

My mom and Dad both dropped out in 8th grade. My dad because he had to help support his family. My mom, just because. They wanted all of us to get a degree.

I made it because of Student Support Services. I am so thrilled that I am going to go for a masters too. I'll be the first one in my family to pursue that--and teach in a college after. All because of my parents encouragement and Student Support Services."



# DISTRICT 5

## **Jeanna Dodd**

### **Oklahoma City Community College and University of Central Oklahoma Student Support Services**



My biggest barrier was that I never graduated from high school. By not having a diploma it limited me on a personal and professional level. I was laid off in 2009 at the age of 29 and found myself depressed. 6 months later it was put on my heart to "do things right." The first step was to no longer lie on job applications and obtain my G.E.D. Through a friend I was directed to a program offered at Oklahoma City Community College. In addition, I was put into contact with TRIO SSS. The idea of college was intimidating and "people like me" don't go to college. I will never forget the kindness I received from Laura.

She was, at that time, the only TRIO SSS representative. She took me by my hand and walked me through the steps of getting into college. This firm foundation at OCCC allowed me to become confident in myself as a college student and as a person. At OCCC I became a peer mentor, tutor, and TRIO Student of the Year.

## **Meghan N. Been**

### **Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City Student Support Services**

The Project SOAR program along with its staff, is the basis for my academic integrity. The staff go above and beyond to help each student with academic and personal advisement. The director of Project SOAR has seen potential in me that I had not. I was given an opportunity for employment as an Anatomy Tutor through the Project SOAR program. Through my experiences I can now influence fellow students to reach their full academic potential by being a leader and a mentor.





# DISTRICT 5



## **Justin G. Forest**

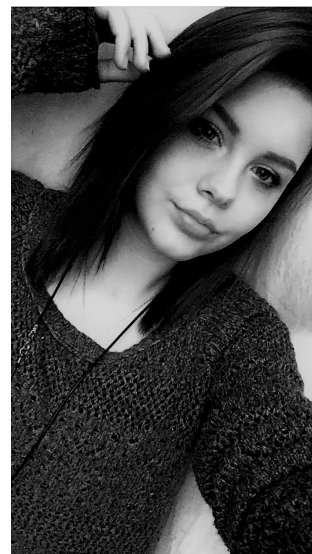
### **Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City Student Support Services**

You get a team full of successful people who believe in you and truly want to see you succeed. Joining Project SOAR has been a great experience and I don't know where I would be as a student if it wasn't for their support and confidence in me as a student and as a person. They have gone out of their way to help me in more ways than I expected. They have pulled through for me and have helped make my college experience go by smoothly. I went through all of my high school years without having some sort of guidance on how I should go about my college decision and and which route to take as a possible career. Thanks to Dr. Carla Wood believed in me and led me to find Project SOAR at OSU-OKC. I came into OSU-OKC wide-eyed and not knowing what or how to do simple things like enrolling in my classes and making serious decisions for myself. I have matured in this short amount of time I have been with Project SOAR. Their efforts go beyond education and I know I can go to them for any problem that I am facing in my classes. They have instilled a desire to go beyond my personal limits and strive for better, because I deserve better and that I can achieve more than I think. They have meant a lot to me and I am proud to be apart of such a great TRIO program.

## **Leslie J A Rice**

### **Oklahoma State University- Oklahoma City Talent Search**

TRIO has influenced my life significantly in many ways I would not be in my state of mind to consider going to college if not for the program. TRIO has helped me explore my academic choices thoroughly and has even improve my learning capabilities. TRIO has taught me to shoot for my dreams even when it seems there is no hope.



# DISTRICT 5



## **Zoie R Simmons**

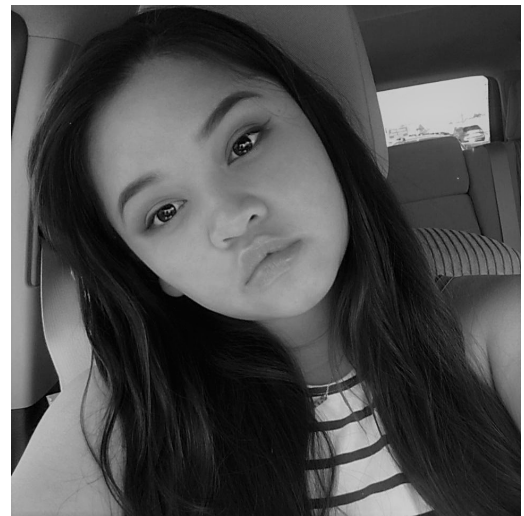
### **Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City Talent Search**

The TRIO program provides an extra resource for me to be able to look at colleges, including the degree programs, the things you need to be able to attend that college, and other things you need for college. It also helps with study skills, ACT practice, and financial aid services. The adults that guide you are amazing and are always there to talk about college or answer any questions you have. The TRIO program also has summer programs that you can attend and learn even more than what you do during school. From sixth grade up until your senior year you are able to participate in this program and I highly recommend it.

## **Jennifer L Vu**

### **Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City Talent Search**

Growing up, I had no idea on what colleges were like, what finances were, and what my interests were. I would always have insecurities if I would make the wrong choices on what I choose in the future, since I had no information on them. That was until I joined OSU-OKC TRIO talent search, where I have gotten to explore different colleges, have gotten financial support, meet new people who shares the same goals as I do, and had an incredible instructor who have guided me to find a plan and a career that I have a passion for. With the help of TRIO, I have gotten to visited many colleges that have struck my view, and I have found where I wanted to go and what my interests are. To be able to find a passion and a goal in life, I owe this all to TRIO, thank you.



# DISTRICT 5



## **Liliana Macias**

### **Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City Talent Search**

TRIO has become my foundation for higher education and college opportunities. Not only has this program helped me narrow down my choices to two great Universities and a major, it has also provided me with countless ways to find any resources I may need in the future. I now know that I always have someone to support me anywhere I go and I will find a way to push through any obstacles. I am given opportunities such as this application, ACT Prep workshops, ACT waivers, and college application fee waivers. This has helped me tremendously as I am able to focus on studying for my AP classes and working on college applications instead of worrying about how I will afford my classes in the future. I am planning ahead academically while Talent Search and OSU-OKC are helping me plan financially.

## **Tammy Ho**

### **Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City Talent Search**

"Growing up the daughter of two Vietnamese immigrants, I was brought up in a very cultural household and did not learn how to speak English until I enrolled in school. I would rely on books, TV programs, and my fellow classmates on the playground to learn English so I could in turn go home and teach my parents. Because my parents did not get the chance to attend school beyond secondary school, the idea of college tours, scholarship applications, and higher education seems only but a dream to them. Although they continually supported me, we were out of our league and our only source of information about college readiness came from friends and co-workers. However, after enrolling in Talent Search, I was presented with opportunities I could seek after high school. Trio allowed me to explore my academic options after high school and helped me push forward to obtain my goals."



# DISTRICT 5



## **Jenny V. Ha**

### **Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City Upward Bound**

Today, I am Jenny Vy Ha, the daughter of Vietnamese refugees, a first-generation student who was born and raised in Oklahoma City. Because of Upward Bound (UB), I am resilient; I am no longer a girl silenced by negativity and afraid of taking risks. More importantly, college stopped feeling like a path of uncertainty because of the unconditional support my counselors provide and the positive energy of my peers, who shared the same uneasiness about higher-education. These people value knowledge, thrived on passion, and live with purpose. They believe in me—more than I ever did in myself—which sparked a determination inside me, helping me escape my Title I, low-income, minority-majority high-school's low success rates. During the three years I spent with UB, I became a true leader; I gained an abundance of lifelong friendships, a flourishing sense of civic engagement, and a desire to prosper outside of my comfort zone.

## **Jesus A. Ibanez**

### **Oklahoma State University- Oklahoma City Upward Bound**

Before Upward Bound I was unsure of where I would end up after high school. The thought of graduating brought fear to a young, first generation, Latino boy. Exposure to a new mindset, new opportunities, and new role models was what a young boy needed to begin his journey towards higher education. This program was the first step I took in this journey, Upward Bound was the first group of people to believe in me and motivate me to better my future. They took me in and have not left me since. Without Upward Bound I would not have the drive, passion, or skill set to be a part of organizations like Oklahoma City Youth Council, Federal Reserve Student Board of Directors, League of United Latin American Citizens, and much more. Before Upward Bound I was a caterpillar, now I have spread my wings.



# DISTRICT 5



## **Renzo E. Villanueva**

### **Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City Upward Bound**

Upon entering Upward Bound I had no idea what I was getting myself into. Even knowing what I wanted to be, a nurse, did not mean I knew what I had to do to become one. Upward Bound introduced me to college and they gave me all the information I needed to get there. But besides teaching me about college, which is so beneficial, Upward Bound became my second family. Being in a room full of people wanting to achieve the same goals as you, inspired me a to become even more. Me, having embodied this idea in my head for all four years of high school, expanded my knowledge and connection with people that help me reach my goals. Without Upward Bound I would not be where I am today, and I would not be in the right position to become the nurse I always wanted to be.

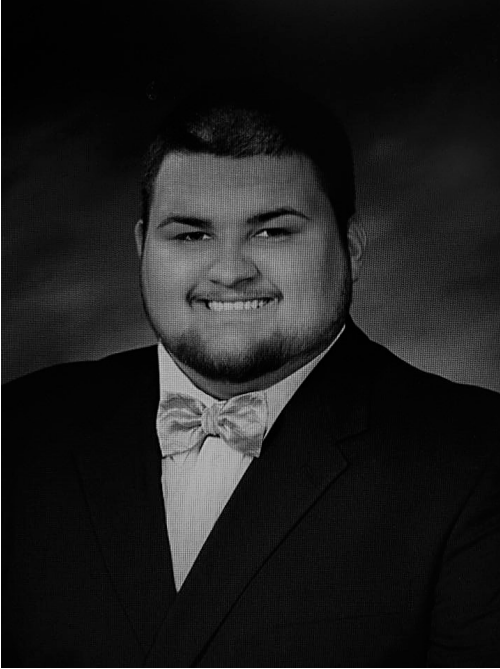
## **Devaunjue V Williams**

### **Seminole State College Upward Bound**

Compared to where I am now, it's hard to fathom that just five years ago I had no plans on furthering my education, as there is no one in my family beyond a high school diploma. Upward Bound encouraged me to consider college an option as it assisted with college prerequisites and obstacles my family could not help with. With the help of the Upward Bound coordinators, I applied to a private university in Oklahoma and originally did not meet the standard requirements to be accepted into the school. However, because this TRIO program was recorded on my resume, I was admitted into the university and rewarded a competitive scholarship due to the uniqueness of my background compared to other applicants. I'm now attending the college of my dreams, on the track to receive a bachelor degree, and goals to acquire a master degree and Ph.D. All thanks to TRIO, I have a new found respect for education which has allowed me to excel not only academically and in life as well.



# District 5



**Dylan W Moore**  
**Seminole State College**  
**Upward Bound**

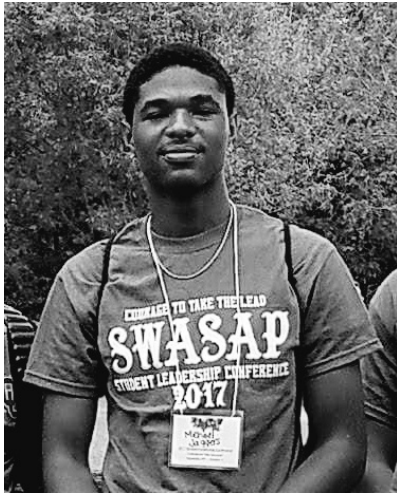
The advantages of participating in a TRiO program is that you get access to resources that you might not have had access to before, your coordinator guides you to make choices that will benefit you and your future, and you have a team of support who never stops believing in you. I feel like a whole new family was added to my life when I was accepted into the Upward Bound program.

**Kyler T Ross**  
**Southern Nazarene University**  
**McNair Scholars**

The McNair Program has given me the opportunity to conduct original research and present that research at conferences and helped connect me to a research mentor. The program has also helped me navigate through understanding graduate school through helping me learn what questions to ask graduate school representatives, critiquing my personal statements, and helping me along the application process.



# DISTRICT 5



**Michael J Jagers**  
**University of Central Oklahoma**  
**Talent Search**

The advantages of TRIO are all the friends you make on the way, and the way it prepares you for college life, and how to apply for colleges.

**Camille Y Gray**  
**University of Central Oklahoma**  
**Talent Search**

"My family hasn't always been financially stable and growing up I had to go without a lot. In school I didn't always have what the other kids had. People always have expected me to drop out before my sophomore year of highschool. Even if I graduated high school, they don't expect me to go to college. Not having everything given to me easily has helped me to be the ambitious person I am today. I know that nothing in this life will be handed to me and that if I want anything I'm going to have to work for it.

All these parts of my life contributed to who I am today and why I strive for a good education. I learned that nothing in life is given to anyone. If I want something I've to work hard for it. I learned that life is not fair ,but that is what it is-life. Sometimes people go through things in life that they do not understand at the time, but these are the things that are more than likely to build character in that person. That is why even though I wish I didn't go through what I did , I see that it helped me to become the person that I am today. Trio has helped me become a better person and to take my education seriously, I am thankful for that."



# DISTRICT 5



**Desiree M Juarez**  
**University of Central Oklahoma**  
**Talent Search**

I got to learn what I need to do successful in college. I also got to meet a lot of new people that will help me push to reach my goal and finish college.

**Nikiah S Scruggs**  
**University Of Central Oklahoma**  
**Upward Bound Math and Science**

The advantages of participating in the TRIO program for me is the extra help you get when you need it. The help of of giving you a great future and a better mindset this program has helped me in so many ways that no other program has. I have been in the TRIO program for five years now and out of those five years I have done things I thought I would never do, I have volunteered, met very important people, and I even got to sing at the capital in front of hundreds of people. This program has a major impact on the lives of many students and I know it can change many lives and help out a lot of familys like me.





# DISTRICT 5



## **Ricardo Diaz**

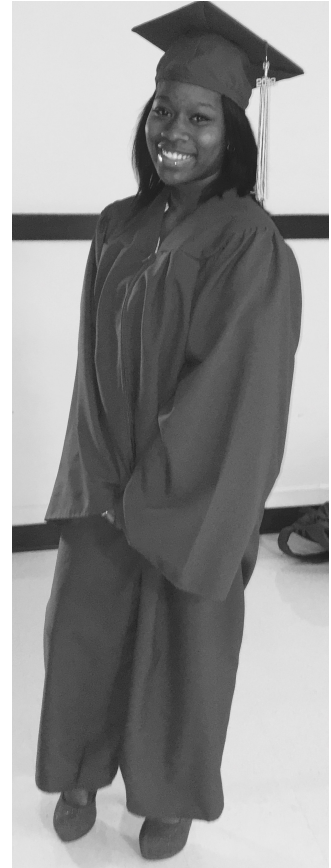
### **University of Central Oklahoma Upward Bound Math and Science**

The advantages are getting to learn new people and new friend and get a better understanding of college.

## **Trinitee Wright**

### **University Of Central Oklahoma Upward Bound Math and Science**

Some of the advantages I had from being apart of TRIO is having mentors that I really look up to. Having people that actually care about you can be really helpful. I've been in TRIO since the summer before my 9th grade year as I am now a senior and over the years I am now looking back at how much I have changed. TRIO is something that every student that comes from a tough background should be apart of. TRIO has a way of helping you stay on track in school and making sure you are on the right track to reach your goals. The ways that you are earning your tuition is by actually being active in the program. There will be TRIO trips involving math & science as well as a fun activity or even community service. Being apart of this will look really great on your resume so applying for jobs or colleges will be more easier and less stressful. The whole point of TRIO is the help individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. I grew up in a single parent home with 4 older siblings. My mom dropped out of school her 9th grade year. TRIO is helping me reach my life time goal which is being the first in my family to graduate college. TRIO has impacted my life by encouraging me to stay engaged and really focused on what I really want in life. I've really matured a lot over the years and if I can start all over again I would. These last four years was the best four years of my life thanks to TRIO.



## **Korry Mackenzie Day**

**1/2/2000 to 2/26/2018**

Korry Day was a senior at Alva High School in Alva, OK, and a participant of the NWOSU Upward Bound program.

Korry touched many lives in many ways, and we are thankful for the time we had with him. We will always remember

Korry for his funny personality, contagious smile, and enthusiasm for getting to know other people and becoming friends to so many. Korry was kind, helpful, and excited about attending the TRIO Summer Bridge program and beginning his college career. We will never forget Korry Mackenzie Day, and he will remain in our hearts forever!

- Jaunita Dotson

Director

Upward Bound

Upward Bound Math and Science

Northwestern Oklahoma State University





[www.odsas.org](http://www.odsas.org)