

TRIO NEW MEXICO

| 006 | Spring 2019



The State of the Association

by Erin Weddington – TRIO NM President

TRIO New Mexico has enjoyed yet another successful year supporting our students and members. Some of the major highlights from our year include moving to a brand new website platform following along with SWASAP and using WildApricot. This new platform allows our board, committees, and members greater ease in accessing and sharing resources, sending out communications, and allowing us to house event registration all in one place. We are excited to have a visually appealing and modern online presence. A very special thanks to Treasurer Gloria Valderrama, Magda Martinez-Baca, and the entire Technology and Communications Committee. Our website can be accessed at <https://www.trionewmexico.com/>

In November, our state had a fantastic impact on the SWASAP conference held in Little Rock, Arkansas. Bernadine Booky and Gloria Valderrama worked closely with the professional development committee and workshop proposals to ensure a well-rounded conference. Our state members and

programs donated beautiful items from around our state to include in a raffle basket highlighting wine and nuts from the south, jewelry, a ceramic mug designed by an artist from Jemez Pueblo, blue corn meal from Santa Clara Pueblo, local tea towels, biscochitos, and more. A student from

UNM Gallup TRIO SSS made and donated a one-of-a-kind ceramic TRIO pot which went for the highest bid. We have an incredibly diverse and talented state and it is always fun to share our heritage and culture with the region. Thank you for contributing!



Artist Eric Tsosie, UNM Gallup SSS.

TRIO Day was held on February 22nd at the Santa Fe Community College and despite some touchy weather, the day was a grand success. We thank the hard work of the committee led by President-Elect Kristen Griego and Treasurer Gloria Valderrama- you all did an excellent job in ensuring a smooth and flawless day. We also want to thank Past-President Dawn Blue Sky-Hill for writing and receiving a Paul T. Spraggins grant that allowed the committee to develop a professional development strand in addition to the student development

piece. This was the second year that the t-shirt was designed by a TRIO student to highlight and honor the talent of our incredible students. We also very much enjoyed hearing about advocacy and activism from TRIO Alumnus, JP Martinez. Thank you to Dr. Rudy Garcia for providing training on mental health and to Northern NM College ENLACE for engaging and working with our students. Thank you for your continued support of TRIO!

TRIO NM sent a delegation to attend the Council for Opportunity in Education's annual Policy Seminar held in Washington, D.C. in March. While TRIO has enjoyed increased funding over the past several funding cycles, the programs continue to face proposed cuts and restructuring under the President's budget proposal. Fortunately, our efforts on Capitol Hill continue to promote our programs and the successes of our alumni and we enjoy bipartisan and bicameral support. Please keep an eye out for news regarding the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act that should be forthcoming later this year. We must be ready as a TRIO community to take action for the ensured future of our programs. I would like to thank the delegation that attended Policy Seminar on behalf of TRIO NM: Kristen Griego, Jesslyn Ratliff, Monica Cobos (TRIOAlumnus), Holly Caulder (TRIOAlumnus), Jose Villar, and Erin Weddington.

Finally, we come to the pinnacle event of our year to be held in Las Cruces, NM. Our spring conference theme this year is "Shaping Your Future with TRIO: Ready, Set, Go!" For the very first time we are developing a state level Emerging Leaders Institute which will be held as a pre-conference event and we wholeheartedly thank our co-chairs, Secretary Trese Collins and Bernadine Booky, for working to develop this inaugural event. The conference itself is sure to be a marvelous time for our members and community to network and learn about how to improve services and awareness surrounding TRIO programs. We have an

outstanding committee led by Secretary Collins working on this event. Please thank and congratulate them in organizing this event.

Our board has worked hard this year to pass the baton to the next TRIO New Mexico leaders. Our Finance Committee led by Treasurer Valderrama updated our finance manual and worked hard to separate the roles of Finance Chair and Treasurer

which will allow for more members to share work in steering our association. The By-Laws Committee led by Secretary Collins worked to propose changes to make sure the vision set by our board and committees becomes a reality. The Scholarships Committee led by Ave-lina Martinez and Kurtis Griess separated our pre-collegiate scholarship competition to allow greater equity for all TRIO students. Our TRIO Achiever Com-

mittee led by Jennifer Payne worked to increase connections with our alumni and recognize those who have led in their communities. Professional Development led by Bernadine Booky assisted with SWASAP, TRIO Day, and our spring conference. The Government Relations committee led by Tobe Bott-Lyons is working to increase advocacy and outreach to our governing officials. The board is also working on developing a shared space on Dropbox, yearly calendar and planning manual for future members. It is the perfect time to get involved and join a committee!

I want to thank all of the hard work of our entire association, board, and each committee in working to make this association the unique success that it is. Thank you for working to award scholarships to our students; making flyers for different events; learning new website features; posting to social media; participating in countless meetings, webinars, and conference calls; and demonstrating dedication to our cause. TRIO really does work not just to support our students, but to support our staff and professionals. Thank you for allowing me to lead this brilliant association!



Northern New Mexico College ENLACE presented the student leadership workshops.



From left to right: Erin Weddington, US Representative Xochitl Torres Small (NM CD 2), Jesslyn Ratliff, and Monica Cobos.

San Juan College TRIO attends the 2018 NM Film & Media Industry Conference

by San Juan Community College SSS



The San Juan College TRIO-SSS program traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico November 15 – 17, 2018. The students that attended the conference are in Digital Media and Arts related programs. This conference went over many aspects of the film and media industry for the state of New Mexico. Our students went to multiple sessions that ranged from starting a media business such as Meow Wolf to how to choose a location for a film. During this trip, the students also got the chance to tour the Santa Fe Movie Studio in Santa Fe, New Mexico. During this tour, they got to see and learn how they filmed the TV Show 'Roswell'.

NMSU Upward Bound received supplementary awards

by New Mexico State University - Upward Bound

All three TRIO Upward Bound programs at New Mexico State University have received supplementary awards from the U.S. Department of Education for STEM programming. NMSU's Las Cruces Public Schools/Gadsden Independent School District, Alamogordo Public Schools and Hatch Valley Public Schools TRIO Upward Bound programs each received approximately \$40,000 to include additional science, technology, engineering and mathematics components into the program's curriculum.

Upward Bound is a federally funded TRIO program, whose goal is to increase the rate at which participants enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education. Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families and families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The GISD/LCPS program serves 90 students from five target high schools, while 60 students are supported at both Hatch Valley and Alamogordo.

"STEM education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy and enables the next generation of innovators," said Rosa De La Torre-Burmeister, TRIO Upward Bound-GISD/LCPS Program Director. "STEM is the future, and as educators, it is our responsibility to prepare the leaders of tomorrow by providing a curriculum that allows for STEM computational thinking and project-based learning".



The TRIO Upward Bound programs at New Mexico State University have received supplementary awards for \$120,000 to enhance STEM initiatives into their curriculum. Martin Luna, right, and Marco Esparza, NMSU TRIO Upward Bound summer program participants, discover the difference between physical and chemical changes in a science class as program director Rosa De La Torre-Burmeister looks on.

The TRIO Upward Bound-GISD/LCPS program in collaboration with NMSU's Department of Accounting and Information Systems Assistant Professor Rajaa Shindi have begun including

STEM projects in its Saturday sessions this spring semester. The collaboration involves students applying STEM methods to a community service donation project in conjunction with TRIO Day, Feb. 23rd. At the end of the summer, students will deliver their projects as scientific research and business proposal.

"This isn't about just knowing the material in a

given STEM domain; it's also about the breadth of a student's education," Shindi said. "Computational thinking, problem-solving and critical thinking are vital 21st-century skills. We need to be aligned with what's happening in technology, where so many aspects of professions are rapidly changing and improving.

The STEM initiatives at Hatch Valley have included students creating a digital portfolio, learning how to code using Java and developing digital media projects, according to Lourdes Ambriz, TRIO Upward Bound Program Director for Hatch Valley. In the summer, she hopes to include projects such as a cybersecurity camp at New Mexico

Tech, STEM camp at NMSU, and a partnership with the Bureau of Land Management.

At Alamogordo's TRIO Upward Bound program, students are taking a computer science course during the Saturday sessions with a focus on Java programming using Alice, an innovative environment for story-telling animation. Other STEM activities include participation in the Challenger Learning Center of Las Cruces' Lunar Quest Mission and hands-on experiments involving the physics of flight with wind tunnels, according to Toni Dixon, Alamogordo's Program Director. For more information on the NMSU Upward Bound Program visit <https://trioub.nmsu.edu>.

Staff Highlight: Jenny Quiñonez and Maria Anchondo

by University of New Mexico - Educational Opportunity Center

The University of New Mexico's Educational Opportunity Center recognizes its advisor, Jenny Quiñonez, who last month, reached five years working as an EOC-TRIO professional. Jenny joined EOC with vast experience in grassroots community work, as she held various positions, assisting New Mexico's underserved youth and adults finding better living conditions and educational opportunities.

"Working with TRIO and with UNM's College Enrichment and Outreach Program (CEOP) family has provided me with a wealth of knowledge and experiences that I will always cherish," said Jenny.

Throughout her tenure with the UNM-EOC program, Jenny has mastered all her responsibilities of a TRIO professional, as she not only has the ability to meet the students' educational needs but most importantly, has the sensibility to connect with a culturally and socioeconomic diverse population.

In her desire to help at-risk youth and adults and non-traditional students acquire a post-secondary education, Jenny has reached out to the most disenfranchised groups,

including homeless youth and adults, former inmates, adjudicated youth, battered women, veterans, LGBT individuals, low-income and college first-generation high school students, among other underserved and underrepresented groups in higher education.

In her words, "working with TRIO students has taught me humility and perseverance as well as having acquired leadership skills from my supervisors and colleagues."

Jenny's commitment to TRIO all these years in providing direct educational services and guidance to those individuals in most need, only reveal her dedication, commitment, and passion for promoting educational opportunities at the grassroots level, fulfilling the mission of the UNM EOC program.

"I am grateful for UNM-EOC and the opportunity to be challenged and to work with a program that really makes a difference," she added.

Moreover, the UNM-EOC program also welcomes its new professional advisor, María C. Anchondo, who joined the UNM-TRIO staff three weeks ago. During the 2018 fall semes-

ter, María worked in EOC as a graduate assistant, and, since then, demonstrated her abilities of a TRIO academic counselor, as she swiftly became engaged in all of EOC's advisement and recruitment activities.

Before joining EOC, María worked at UNM's College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), as a student mentor for three years. She is a first-generation college student from Clovis, New Mexico, and enrolled at UNM through CAMP, a US Department of Education's Office of Migrant Education funded program.

"My experience with EOC has been great," María affirms. "I am able to work with students to help them reach their academic goals and encourage more students like me to continue to pursue higher education."

Like María, Jenny is also a UNM CAMP alumnus; thus, their sensitivity in assisting those individuals who have been traditionally left out of the educational system, to pursue postsecondary education. Indeed, TRIO works because it has dedicated and committed professionals like Jenny and María.

LNESC Upward Bound Students Visit Washington D.C.

by LULAC National Educational Service Centers - Upward Bound



From left to right: Alexis Anaya, Jaeann Gonzales, Edith Pacheco and Jacob Lopez.

In September four of our Upward Bound students had the opportunity to visit Washington, DC to advocate for Latino youth access to education. Jacob Lopez (Valley High School), Jaeann Gonzales (Atrisco Heritage Academy High School), Edith Pacheco and Alexis Anaya (Highland High School) were the outstanding students selected from the LNESC Upward Bound Programs to attend the Washington Youth Leadership Seminar. The students met with state representatives from all over the country, visited iconic monuments such as the White House, Lincoln Memorial and Capitol Hill, and toured George Washington University to learn about all the opportunities the school offers. Jacob Lopez from Valley High School said: "DC was an amazing time but my favorite part was meeting with our state representatives to talk about the problems students face in our communities."

The four-day seminar not only allowed our students to learn about education, advocacy, and our nation's capital, but it gave our students the opportunity to meet peers from all over the country including Puerto Rico, that are facing the same challenges they are facing. Jaeann Gonzales summed up her experience in a few words "My experience at the 2018 WYLS in D.C. was amazing, eye-opening, and unforgettable. I created bonds that will last a lifetime, and was able to learn more about myself than ever before." We are proud of our students because they excelled in their visit to Washington, DC and took advantage of every opportunity to learn and grow as students and people, which is what Upward Bound and TRIO New Mexico is all about

UNM Taos Gives Back

by University of New Mexico Taos - Student Support Services

TRIO-SSS participants from UNM Taos joined over 200 volunteers to provide the human power for the annual Taos Feeds Taos Food Drive. Thirteen TRIO-SSS participants along with family members, staff and Dr. Patrick Valdez, UNM Taos CEO, helped assemble over 1100 boxes with donated foods. These food boxes were distributed to families in Taos, Peñasco, Questa and other surrounding communities in Northern New Mexico in December before the holidays. Many of our TRIO-SSS participants were wearing two hats as they were also representing UNM Taos Student Government and PTK Honor Society.

SWASAP Student Leadership 2018

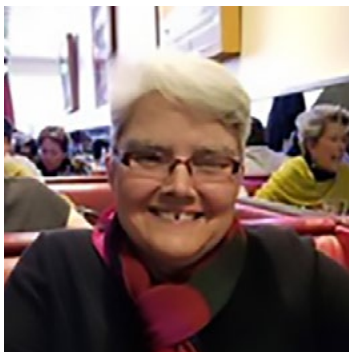
by Alexander D'Angio, University of New Mexico - Upward Bound

I was honored when I was selected to take a group of students to represent the University of New Mexico Upward Bound program to the annual SWASAP student leadership conference in Van, TX. The conference was a fun and exciting opportunity to build relationships with students within our program and to watch them grow and flourish as they interacted with like-minded students from a wide variety of TRIO programs. The conference also proved a fantastic opportunity to connect and share ideas with other educators,

and to see things from a fresh perspective. I was especially impressed by the presentations hosted by Paradigm Shift, which sowed the seeds for deeper conversations with my students regarding what effective leadership looks like in an increasingly diverse world. I look forward to future conferences and working together with other professionals to build a strong network of support for traditionally underrepresented students in post-secondary education.

Staff Highlight: Cynthia Dettman

by Central New Mexico Community College - Student Support Services



CNM is so excited to have Cynthia as part of their team. Cynthia is a retired community college counselor who specialized in working with low-income women returning to school. She is also a former legal aid attorney. She enjoys bringing her listening, writing and research skills to helping TRIO students succeed. She volunteers a full day each week to help students locate scholarship opportunities, craft compelling scholarship essays, and get them submitted. She is also available for writing tutoring as well. "TRIO students have such moving and often dramatic stories of trauma, hard work, and courage. It's an honor to help them tell their stories and to help them minimize their student loan debt. I am humbled every day by their energy, enthusiasm, and hope. I've always admired TRIO programs. I'm happy to be a part of the CNM team!"

Upward Bound Murals Reflect on Mental Health and Raise Awareness

By Clara Garcia, News-Bulletin Editor Dec 6, 2018
Submitted by University of New Mexico Valencia - Upward Bound

BELEN –In an effort to bring shed light on mental health in the community, students with the Upward Bound program created two hand-painted murals depicting different emotions.

The students created two murals, one titled "Happiness" and the other titled "Depression." The "Depression" mural was installed at the Belen Public Library in November, and the "Happiness" mural is currently at the Southwest Family Guidance Center in Los Lunas.

The murals will remain on display in these two locations for three months, during which time the Belen Public Library has display materials that

raise awareness of mental health issues and available resources. Special Teen Hub events will also be held in the library's Teen Room that highlight the challenges of mental health issues for teenagers over those three months.

The students wanted to acknowledge the issue of mental health, saying there are people who care and help is out there. While the "Depression" mural is dark in color, the students included colorful flowers, depicting light, which represents a way out of depression.

The "Happiness" mural's main purpose is to

spread happiness, realizing stress happens in different colors. They also wanted to send a message through the mural that there are a lot of reasons to be happy.

Kathy Pickering, the director of the Belen Public Library, said she couldn't be more impressed with the student's talents and dedication to community healing.

"They chose a very challenging topic, one that people are sometimes afraid to address," Pickering said. "It's a common issue in



Students with the Upward Bound program with two murals. The "Depression" mural is being exhibited at the Belen Public Library, while the "Happiness" mural is on display at the Southwest Family Guidance Center

New Mexico and our area, and I want to commend your leadership and courage in presenting these to us."

Viridiana Garcia, the director of the Upward Bound, a pre-college program at UNM-Valencia, said the participants in the program are first-generation college-bound students from Los Lunas, Valencia and Belen high schools who are focused on academics and social enhancement. The program offers tutoring, workshops and a six-week summer session.

TRIO New Mexico 2018 Scholarships

by Avelina Martinez - TRIO NM Scholarship Committee Co-Chair

Each year the TRIO NM Association provides scholarship opportunities for New Mexico participants in TRIO programs for Pre Collegiate (EOC, TS, UB, VUB) and Collegiate (SSS, McNair). The Pre Collegiate Scholarship Competition opens in late Spring and the Collegiate Scholarship Competition opens in early Fall. Visit the TRIO NM website for more information, <https://www.trionewmexico.com/Scholarships/>

Please help us congratulate the 2018 Scholarship Awardees!

2018 Collegiate Scholarship Awardees

- Amy Pecis, UNM-Taos SSS
- Sophia Sambrano, UNM McNair
- Toteona Gray, NMSU SSS-STEM H
- Jinelle Scully, SFCC SSS
- Jennifer Sawyer, UNM-Taos SSS
- Ilona Alisudjana, UNM SSS
- Jasmine Lopez, UNM-Taos SSS
- Mercedes Walt, NMSU SSS
- Marla Martinez, NMSU SSS

2018 Pre Collegiate Scholarship Awardees

- Berenise Rivera, NMT UBMS
- David Armendariz, UNM UB
- Eric Olaguir, UNM UB
- Haley Whitaker, UNM EOC
- DeAngelo Montoya, UNM EOC
- Anthony Perez, UNM EOC

Staff Highlight: Katherine Montoya and Tamara Martinez

by University of New Mexico - Student Support Services

Student Support Services-TRIO, University of New Mexico - main campus, introduces two new dynamic Sr. Student Program Advisors to our team. We are pleased to share both were prior SSS participants and bring well-qualified experience to the program.



Katherine Montoya

Katherine Montoya graduated from Rio

Rancho High School, Rio Rancho, New Mexico. She would later graduate with her bachelor's degree in Sociology and Human Services from Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado. Her previous experience with SSS as well as working as a Resident Advisor for her university awarded her adequate skills to fulfill her current position as an SSS advisor at

the University of New Mexico. Katherine can be considered somewhat of a creative in her passions for singing and hula-hoop flow art.

Tamara Martinez graduated from Pojoaque Valley High School, Pojoaque, New Mexico. She continued her education at the University of New Mexico (UNM), main campus and attained her bachelor's degree majoring in both Spanish and



Tamara Martinez

English. Tamara served as an SSS TRIO Peer Coach and a Ronald E. McNair scholar before continuing on and gaining experience with the U.S. military. More recently, Tamara has earned her master's degree in 18th and 19th century British and Irish literature, UNM. Tamara has always enjoyed more athletic activities such as skiing and rock climbing.

College Tours at the University of New Mexico

by LULAC National Educational Service Centers - Upward Bound

In January the LULAC National Educational Service Center was proud to host the LNESc College Tours at the University of New Mexico. Over 200 juniors and seniors from 5 different high schools gathered at Hokona Hall to learn about the different opportunities the university offers to students from around the city. Albuquerque High School, Valley High School, Atrisco Heritage Academy, Mark Armijo Charter School, and Highland High School were the five schools that participated in this two-day event.

The students were able to experience presentations, interactive activities and a tour of the campus which included visiting the Student Union Building and the iconic Duck Pond. They also had the opportunity to listen to several presenters from the university, such as El Centro de la Raza, UNM Admissions, ARMY, and ARMY ROTC. They were able to ask many questions and take home souvenirs from a wide variety of organizations.

Magaly Thompkins who is the attendance counselor at Highland High School said: "this is a great event because it exposes our students to resources that they don't know are available at our University."

The focus of the college tour is to make sure that our students take advantage of the opportunities that are available locally. Jesus Villarreal stated, "sometimes we assume that because students attend APS schools they know everything there is to know about the University of New Mexico when the reality is that a lot of those students have never had the opportunity to visit campus and speak to school representatives." College tours were successful and the students gained valuable information about The University of New Mexico.



LULAC Upward Bound students at the UNM Student Union Building.

UNM Upward Bound Summer School

by Teresa Gomez, University of New Mexico - Upward Bound

This past summer I had the fortunate opportunity to teach Geometry at the UNM Upward Bound Summer School Program. Summer School at UNM Upward Bound is unique in that it is the only Upward Bound program that allows students to receive a credit on their transcript so that they

can either advance or recover their high school credits. I was presented with the task of teaching an entire year of Geometry in 6 weeks and was determined to make my class as hands-on and interactive as possible. The last thing I wanted was for my students to blindly memorize formulas

and shapes. I wanted them to understand where those formulas came from, and I wanted them to derive them using interactive activities.

The approach of blind memorization is all too common. When I asked my tutors what Pi was? They proudly responded with “3.14159”. Okay, yes, that is the numerical value of Pi, but what is Pi actually? Pi is this beautiful number that is derived when one divides the circumference of any circle in the universe by its diameter. It doesn't matter if one is dividing the circumference of the moon by its diameter, or the circumference of an engagement ring by its diameter. Every circle in the universe abides by the same rules. That is the beautiful thing about geometry. Geometry is the foundation of Physics, it is the understanding of shapes, and almost every formula can be derived using simple explorations.



Cheetos were used in my class to explore the relationship between Surface Area and Volume.

Carlos Neri, one of my students wanted to share his experience in my class “Hello, my name is Carlos Neri and I attended the summer school Geometry course taught by Theresa Gomez. I really enjoyed the course and believe it was extremely informative and helped me to learn Geometry in a fun way. I loved the fact that we had such a small class which gave us more of a chance to interact with our teacher and get a better understanding of how to solve mistakes that we made. Additionally, I really enjoyed the fact that we had unique projects in which we got to work with Cheetos and cut out shapes. I feel like it wasn't just workbook work and each new topic was introduced in a new way where we got to collaborate to solve problems. I am very happy that I got the opportunity to take this amazing class, meet many new people, and learn great new things in fun ways”.

CNM TRIO Student Support Services Celebrates 50th Anniversary

by Central New Mexico Community College - Student Support Services

CNM celebrated National TRIO Student Support Services 50th anniversary at with a summer picnic. We are so fortunate. CNM vision is to change lives and build community and because of TRIO funding we are able to do just this... one student and one family at a time, providing hope and opportunities. Thanks for being a part of this movement. We look forward to the years ahead.



Student Success Profile

by University of New Mexico - Educational Opportunity Center

The University of New Mexico's Educational Opportunity Center fulfilled its expectations for the 2017-2018 grant year. By the end of the grant year, EOC provided educational services to 1,140 participants throughout its serving counties: Bernalillo, Socorro, Torrance, and Valencia.

Seventy-four percent of the total served during the year were low-income and college first-generation participants. Out of EOC's total college-ready population, 70 percent submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and 57 percent applied to college.

Moreover, EOC continued assisting high school students with the college enrollment process and applying for financial aid by providing services on-site at the various high school partnerships throughout the serving counties. Out of total the high school seniors assisted, 88 percent graduated, and 73 percent enrolled in college.

For the current grant year (2018-2019), UNM EOC continues with its educational outreach efforts, working side-by-side with its various and diverse community partners and high school counselors and teachers, providing on-site educational services to anyone interested in pursuing postsecondary education.

For instance, four years ago, EOC director, Marcial Martínez, assisted Itzel Guillen, a then-high school senior, submit the FAFSA and apply to UNM Main Campus at an EOC Saturday FAFSA workshop. This coming May 2019, Itzel will be graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Human Medicine and Human Value.

“EOC provides resources for many first-generation students, as me,” Itzel said. “Being the first-generation college student has been a tough learning experience, but EOC has provided me with the guidance and support.”

She never expected to complete her undergraduate education in four years. However,

her commitment and determinism, as well as the academic support she received from EOC-TRIO and other UNM student support programs, have contributed to her success.

“UNM EOC has helped me throughout my college education for several years now,” she added. “The program has helped me with scholarship opportunities and applications, applying for financial aid, resume writing, and many other great services students may encounter throughout our educational career.”

Upon her graduation, Itzel plans to pursue a postgraduate degree in medicine. Throughout her undergraduate education, she interned at various medical facilities to gain experience to build a strong curriculum; and thus, become more competitive in the job market and graduate school.

“I have overcome many obstacles, and, of course, many susceptible doubts about my financial responsibility and other academic and life experiences,” Itzel stated. “EOC has helped my family, and I always feel welcomed and assisted with great services, helping me adjust to college and further my career path.”

Now, Itzel is getting ready for her graduation and looking forward to initiating her graduate studies next year.

Building Community within TRIO Programs

by University of New Mexico - Student Support Services

Building community within the New Mexico TRIO programs is encouraged as we have common goals and are a collective of collegial experiences. On November 17, 2018, an interactive dialogue took place between Upward Bound and Student Support Services students. TRIO Student Support Services (SSS), the University of New Mexico Main Campus was invited to work with LNESC Albuquerque’s Upward Bound students and participate in their special event for approximately 116 high school students. LNESC Albuquerque operates three Upward Bound programs and targets students at Highland High School, Atrisco Heritage Academy, and Valley High School.

Often times students have a connection with each other and relate really well with other students. With this in mind, the SSS team designed the setting to be interactive, fun and educational.

The day's program held innovative group sessions for the students which provided a collaborative environment for high school students to interact with college students while developing skills to achieve their educational goals. The SSS students openly shared some of their college experiences to inspire, to voice their you-can-do-it mindset, and to share the multiple resources they've accessed to stay in school.



LULAC Upward Bound students at UNM.

An important aspect of the event was to allow the students to become engaged in a learning environment where meaningful discussions took place. Kimberly Rogge-Obando, SSS Peer Coach led an activity with one of the groups and discussed how college can be “fun, awkward, a community, and can be social.” She shared that as students they will be meeting new people in college and “knowing how to introduce yourself is important.” In another group, SSS Peer Coach, Jazmine Garcia, shared her favorite part of the event was “seeing the students participate and enjoy the games that taught them how to work together.” Jazmine’s discussion also touched on her personal

journey about being an out-of-state college student from California and the challenges she has faced. Kimberly and Jazmine both highlighted a key point which is the college environment can feel daunting but it's tremendously important to self-advocate and to find their pathways towards resources like TRIO.

When asked about the impact he had with the Upward Bound students Ryan Nunez, a Peer Coach explained, “(we dispelled the notion that college was exceptionally challenging) for students and got to tell them we know how intimidating college is, we’re all first-generation college students and even though the odds are against us, we can do it.” He further shared the various steps he took to those overcome barriers. Overall the event was a success. The SSS Peer Coaches were able to give back to the TRIO New Mexico community and reaffirm their own collegiate endeavors.

TRIO Students Testimonials

Jenny Lee



University of New Mexico
Student Support Services

Student Support Services-TRIO at The University of New Mexico aided me in the transition from Manzano High School to my new college environment. They really helped me to adapt to the new UNM community by providing me a Peer Coach and an SSS Advisor. The TRIO staff opened my perspective of the abundant resources available to me on campus. In terms of academic habits, SSS helped me to understand the course listings, cre-

ate a college course schedule and to be thoughtful of balancing my schedule. They also provided me the academic skills resources through time management and degree planning workshops. Further, SSS encouraged me to set a personal goal to open up and build rapport with my professors. The SSS Advisors, Tamara and Katherine have really put me at ease in my new academic setting as well showing their genuine concern for my well-being as a new student on campus. Being at the SSS office has been a good space for me and I feel more comfortable than my first day on campus. SSS continues to give me the reassurance of belonging on campus and the motivation to do well academically.

Major: Pre-business, concentration in accounting, Anderson Schools of Management, UNM
Fun Fact: I had an allergic reaction to pho.

Savanna Large



**LULAC National Educational
Service Center**
Upward Bound

How Upward Bound has helped me is that they have given me information on college and the resources needed to get into college. They let me know what I need to be prepared for college and make sure that I have everything, in order, so I can go to college. Upward Bound has also helped me by making sure that I have good grades and that I stay on task. Whenever I need help on homework the tutors are always happy to help me. I have become more open-minded because of Upward Bound and they encourage me to always strive for success. They have provided me with knowledge, helpfulness and friendliness. Upward bound over all is a good program to be in.

Nazanin Gharibi



**Central New Mexico
Community College**
Student Support Services

As a high school graduate and an English learner, I felt nervous about entering the college environment. However, I was very lucky and was introduced to the TRIO program during the first semester of college and I stayed active in the program until I graduated from the Central New Mexico Community College. The TRIO family provided tremendous support and guidance throughout my time in the program. They assisted me with great academic, financial, and personal advice whenever I needed it. Because of that, I had a great experience for my first two years of college, and I was able to successfully graduate and transfer to a 4-year university.

Adrian Armendariz



University of New Mexico
Upward Bound

Upward Bound is a major reason why I am going to school as far away from home as I am. Not only did they help get me ready for college/life, they remained closely by my side until I felt comfortable enough to continue without them. Upward Bound has helped with things such as letters of recommendation, scholarship/college applications, life-preparing workshops, and countless other things that even include life-changing summer trips. In addition to all of this, Upward Bound follows you wherever you go and they truly are always there for you if you need something. For all of this, I am eternally grateful."

Samantha Wolf



**Central New Mexico
Community College**
Student Support Services

Joining TRIO was one of the best decisions I made as a CNM student. TRIO provided me with excellent academic support, guidance, and encouragement by helping me work through hard math problems, talking with me about tough situations I was going through and always answering my questions or helping me find a source for the answer to my questions. TRIO provided me a lifelong advisor and friend that I still communicate with after graduating CNM. The resources that were available to me through TRIO really improved my studying skills, stress management and application writing which I will use the rest of my life. I want to be confident and successful in my academic career and joining TRIO was the best first step towards that goal I could've made.

Jose Moreno



LULAC National Educational Service Center
Upward Bound

I am a junior at Atrisco Heritage Academy High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. I joined Upward Bound spring semester of sophomore year. Upward bound helped prepare me for my junior year with the Summer Institute that they offer. I also got the opportunity to travel and visit Grand Canyon University & Arizona State University in Phoenix this past summer. We learned about those colleges and got a tour. Since joining Upward Bound I have gained knowledge about the college process, and many new things that I otherwise wouldn't know today if it weren't for the program. I have met so many new people during our combined Saturday Academies with Highland and Valley High School. I have also received lots of help with my school work during the after school tutoring. I've recently been given the opportunity to join new programs like LULAC and the STEM class that Upward Bound is offering this year. In the STEM class I'm learning how computers work and how to code. I am also now the newly elected president of the LULAC Youth Council. Thanks to Upward Bound I have gained knowledge about college, obtained help with my homework, met new people, and attained access to new opportunities that will be beneficial to my future.

Lety Cano



University of New Mexico Taos
Veterans Upward Bound

Without the support from the VUB program for Veterans, I would not be able to complete my degree in Psychology and improve my marketing potential. I am so grateful for VUB.

THANK YOU!

John Hoang



LULAC National Educational Service Center
Upward Bound

I recommend ALL students to join Upward Bound wholeheartedly. There is a definite note of pride in that statement. Upward Bound has devotedly and diligently gave me all the assistance, encouragement, and a leg up in my greater educational achievements. It's really relieving to know if you fall, you can trust them to have your back. It's also nice of the tutors to come and be interactive with the students. From what I can see, these tutors see a younger version of themselves. They only want to show what's the best path individually for each student to take through the lens of a college undergraduate. But unfortunately most students don't meet them halfway like that. These are the resources I can say swear on my life that helps differentiates students on paper and college applications. There is a mix of college boot camp, learning self promotion skills, and being an expertise in 21st century skills. Upward Bound caters to students going to UNM, NMSU, or any other 4-year institution in the land of enchantment. But I didn't want to settle for an easy acceptance. I told Karla, Irineo, and my personal tutor Crystal that I want to hunt down my future with a spear in my hand. I want to pursue a path plentiful of opportunities that I KNOW I deserved and earned. An accomplishment that I'm proud of my own name on. I don't want anything given to me. When things are given to you, you accept the way things are like a caged bird not questioning how to get free. I want to be free because I know the sky's the limit for me.

Find us



TRIO New Mexico

<https://www.trionewmexico.com/>

TRIO New Mexico Directory

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