

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
Office of Outreach and Grants Management
College Preparation Intervention Program (CPIP)
FY2015 Award Abstracts
Project Period: June 12, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Johns Hopkins University

Project Title: College Attainment Preparation in Middle School (CAlPiMS)
Baltimore City Schools

Project Director: Ileana Gonzalez, Ph,D

Award: \$108,023.28

Project Abstract: The CAlPiMS project proposes to increase Baltimore City's GEAR UP schools Commodore John Rodgers and Calverton students' and parents' knowledge about the college admission process, financial literacy, and career choices. This initiative, targeted for all 7th graders at both schools, seeks to provide interventions aimed at increasing students' (a) academic skills, (b) goal setting strategies, (c) knowledge about high school graduation requirements, (d) post-secondary educational readiness, and (e) knowledge and exposure to college and career experiences.

The following five components will be implemented at both schools:

- CAlPiMS Orientation Kick-Off
- 7th Grade College and Career Exploration Preparation,
- Parent Education Workshops,
- College Field Trips, and
- Embedded Professional Development Training for school personnel, Site Project Coordinator, as well as practicum and internship students.

As a result of the project, 1) students and parents will receive information on how participation in student and family college and career preparation services have positive impacts on academic performance, college/career knowledge, financial literacy, and student leadership and resiliency; 2) students' knowledge about high school graduation requirements, post-secondary educational readiness will be increased; 3) parents will learn advocacy skills and strategies to support their children and increase their knowledge about college attainment and financial aid literacy; 4) college field trips will be conducted to expose the students to college and career experiences; and 5) school counselors, interns, and faculty will increase their knowledge of career pathways in order to better serve the needs of their students.

Johns Hopkins University

Project Title: College Attainment Preparation in Middle School (CAlMS)
Prince Georges County Schools

Project Director: Anita Young, Ph.D.

Award: \$112,387.28

Project Abstract: The CAlMS project proposes to increase the Nicholas Orem Middle School students' and parents' knowledge about the college admission process, financial literacy, and career choices. This initiative, targeted for all 7th graders at the school, seeks to provide interventions aimed at increasing students' (a) academic skills, (b) goal setting strategies, (c) knowledge about high school graduation requirements, (d) post-secondary educational readiness, and (e) students' knowledge and exposure to college and career experiences.

The following five components will be implemented:

- CAlMS Orientation Kick-Off
- 7th Grade College and Career Exploration Preparation,
- Parent Education Workshops,
- College Field Trips, STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts & Math) Enrichment Tours, and
- Embedded Professional Development Training for school personnel, Site Project Coordinator, as well as practicum and internship students.

As a result of the project, 1) students and parents will receive information on how participation in student and family college and career preparation services have positive impacts on academic performance, college/career knowledge, financial literacy, and student leadership and resiliency; 2) students' knowledge about high school graduation requirements, post-secondary educational readiness will be increased; 3) parents will learn advocacy skills and strategies to support their children and increase their knowledge about college attainment and financial aid literacy; 4) college field trips will be conducted to expose the students to college and career experiences; and 5) school counselors, interns, and faculty will increase their knowledge of career pathways in order to better serve the needs of their students.

University of Maryland College Park

Project Title: College and Career Academy: a Partnership with Baltimore City

Project Director: Stephanie Timmons Brown, Ph.D.

Award: \$116,869.00

Project Abstract: The Maryland Institute for Minority Achievement and Urban Education (MIMAUE) in partnership with the College Bound Foundation will implement the College and Career Academy (CCA) program with Baltimore City's GEAR UP Schools Commodore John Rodgers and Calverton Middle Schools. CCA will provide services for approximately 200 students and their parents. The services are intended to teach students and parents strategies to successfully navigate the high school application process, learn high school graduation requirements, increase their knowledge of postsecondary education options and requirements, and make the connection between high school, college, and careers. Industry professionals will be invited to both schools to speak with students about their career interests and discuss career options to assist with academic planning.

Services (for both schools) will include two workshop series (high school preparation and college awareness). The in-school workshop series will run throughout the academic year and will be facilitated by a success coach who will work in each school once per week. The success coach will meet with students in groups of 25-30 through a rotation of class periods. Students will use Naviance (Baltimore City School's college access management software).

In addition to the workshops, the program will host four parent events and four college tours. Parents will receive resources throughout the school year, including insight into enrichment resources available to their students. Each college tour will include a visit to a minimum of two colleges in the state of Maryland. All students will complete a high school application and a college and career plan with a success coach. Upon meeting all of the program requirements, all participants will receive a certificate of completion. An awards ceremony will be held at each school to provide an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of the students (and parents).

University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Project Title: UMES College Access Program (UMES-CAP)

Project Directors: Michael Nugent, Ph.D. and R. J. Davis, Ph.D.

Award: \$113,195.00

Project Abstract: The University of Maryland College Access Program (UMES-CAP) supports the GEAR UP cohort in Dorchester County Public Schools (DCPS) and Wicomico County Public Schools (WCPS). The overarching goal of the project is to increase the number of disadvantaged students who intend to pursue post-secondary education. The ultimate destination for these students will be dual enrollment, post-secondary education upon graduation, knowledge of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion and college/career development.

UMES-CAP expects to achieve the following:

- a) Enhance academic achievement of students in Math and English/Language Arts to facilitate high school graduation and college matriculation;
- b) A greater awareness of college admission requirements and opportunities as measured through annual surveys and pre/post assessments; and
- c) An increase in their academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education through pre/post assessments.

To achieve the anticipated goals and objectives, the project will offer after school programs for students in WCPS and provide a week long on-campus summer enrichment Science Technology Engineering & Math (STEM) camps (three camps each for DCPS and WCPS) for students to increase their academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education. Students can choose between one of three camps, 1) Rockets and Aviation; 2) Science and the Mind; or 3) Environmental Studies and the Chesapeake. To help improve the teaching of mathematics and English Language arts in GEAR UP schools, Summer Professional Development workshops will be offered to Teachers, Administrators and School Counselors as they prepare students for college.

Washington College

Project Title: Helping Our Youth Achieve Success College Preparation Intervention Program (H.O.Y.A.S. CPIP)

Project Director: Amanda Sommerfeld, Ph.D.

Award: \$133,836.00

Project Abstract: The H.O.Y.A.S. CPIP is a ten-month, cohort-based intervention program designed to meet four objectives: (a) improve student preparation in math and English/Language Arts; (b) increase student college- and career-readiness regarding aspirations to attend college, understanding of college admissions, and knowledge of available financial aid; (c) build student leadership skills in support of fostering socio-emotional competencies necessary for post-secondary educational success; and (d) improve caregiver capacity to support student educational outcomes by increasing the educational expectations caregivers hold for their students, building understanding of college admissions, and improving knowledge about post-secondary financial aid.

To achieve the project's objectives, the H.O.Y.A.S. CPIP will serve sixty (60) middle school students from Kent Middle school in Kent County, Maryland (thirty rising sixth graders and thirty rising seventh graders). Students will participate in weekly academic tutoring from Washington College students as well as bi-monthly weekend programming from faculty and staff of Washington College, members of the local school district, and community members. Caregivers will additionally participate in six separate activities designed to improve their ability to support their children's education.

At the conclusion of the program, students will participate in a two-week summer camp designed to provide students with intensive exposure to academic preparation from certified teachers, experientially-based instruction about college and career readiness, and opportunities to continue learning and to practice leadership skills.

Wor-Wic Community College

Project Title: College and Career Awareness Project (CCAP)

Project Director: Stacy Wilson, Ph.D.

Award: \$16,445.44

Project Abstract: Wor-Wic Community College's CCAP will serve Wicomico County's GEAR UP cohort. The CCAP aims to introduce GEAR UP students and parents to a range of career options, to improve their understanding of the academic requirements/pathways associated with various careers, and to introduce students and parents to the college atmosphere, processes (i.e., financial aid, admissions) and support services.

The CCAP will enable GEAR UP students in Wicomico, Salisbury, and Bennett Middle Schools to interact with college faculty through Science Technology Engineering & Math (STEM) Saturday sessions in a variety of fields, including biology and computer programming. The project is designed to encourage early engagement and discovery in STEM through hands-on learning activities in a familiar atmosphere (i.e., Wicomico County middle schools), as well as to expose students to STEM laboratories, academic programs and careers on a community college campus.

Students will have the opportunity to visit Wor-Wic's campus to participate in career exploration activities in various departments, such as culinary arts, criminal justice, and science, and to learn about the role of mathematics and science in each field of study. While at Wor-Wic, they will tour the campus and learn about the college admissions and financial aid processes. Gifted and talented GEAR UP students will also be encouraged to enroll in the college's Summer Scholars enrichment program and financial assistance will be provided on a limited basis. Lastly, parents will be invited to participate in a workshop series covering college readiness, financial aid/scholarship availability, financial literacy, and other topics.

University of Maryland College Park

Project Title: Statewide High School Transition Conference

Project Director: Stephanie Timmons Brown, Ph.D.

Award: \$149,244.00

Project Abstract: The Maryland Institute for Minority Achievement and Urban Education (MIMAUE) will implement, in collaboration with Baltimore City, Prince George's, Wicomico, Dorchester, and Kent counties a statewide student conference for GEAR UP students and parents. The purpose of the Statewide GEAR UP Student Conference is to improve and better prepare students to transition from middle school to high school. The conference will focus on three specific areas: (1) Goal Planning, (2) Navigating High School Courses, and (3) Preparing for College.

The program consists of three one day summits in the spring of 2016 and will be designed to emulate that of a professional conference. Students will participate in a minimum of four workshops and will network with college students and college staff. Student workshops will include (but not be limited to) goal setting, course selection, time management and preparing for college.

In addition to attending workshops, students will tour the University of Maryland campus and engage with dynamic speakers and facilitators. The conference will be offered to 750 students (approximately 250 from Baltimore and Prince George's schools and approximately 500 from the Eastern Shore schools). As a follow-up to the conference, students will participate in a monthly blog and network with other GEAR UP students from across the state. The blog will also provide students with resources that they can use to prepare for high school. Through this collaborative effort, students will make academic, professional, and personal connections that will assist them as they transition to high school and beyond.