



# 60 by 25 Conference

Reenvisioning Higher Education Funding to Advance Racial Equity



# Why are we here today?



Build Community



Learn about the importance of equitable and adequate higher education funding



Take action to advance equity in higher education

# Why Higher Education Matters

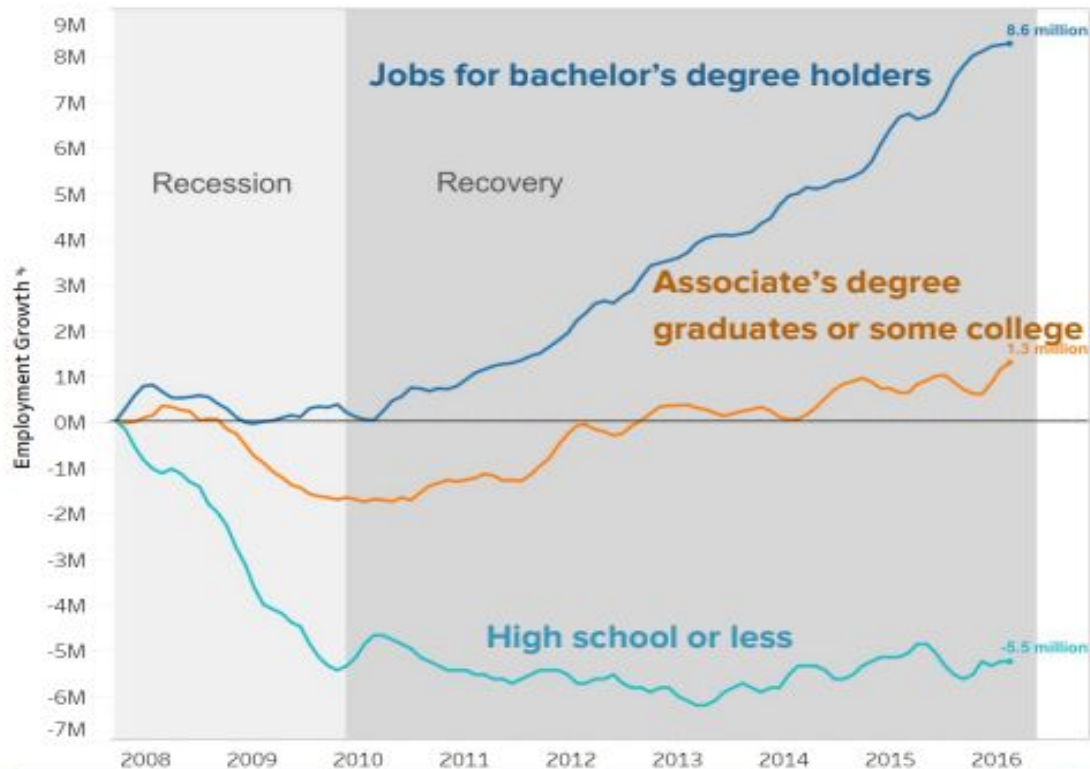
# A college degree remains the clearest path toward equity for the state and its residents

Of the jobs added since the last recession,

**95%**

have required college credentials

Source: [Georgetown CEW](#)

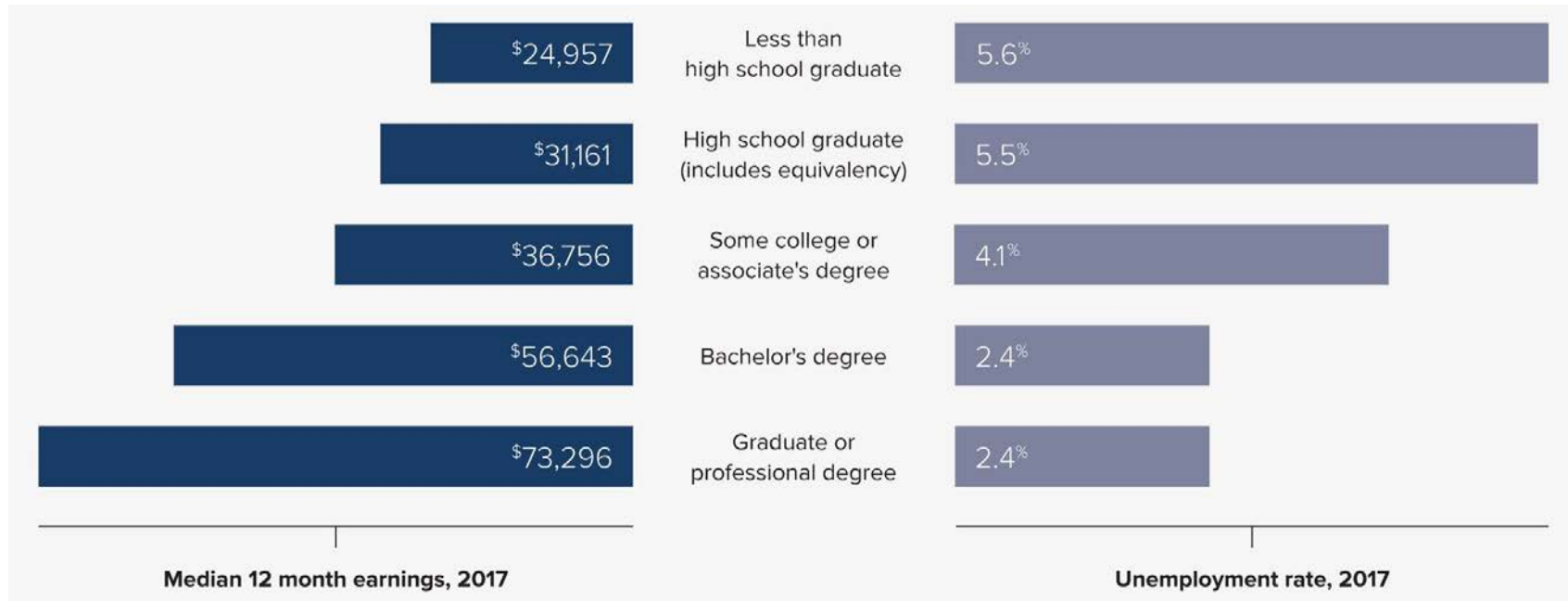


# A college degree remains the clearest path toward equity for the state and its residents

A college degree is even more valuable for students of color, increasing lifetime earnings by **67%** for Black college graduates and **78%** for Latinx college graduates

Source: [Georgetown CEW](#)

# Wages rise and unemployment rates drop as education level increases



# Higher Education in Illinois

# Overview of System

## AGENCIES:

- IBHE (Illinois Board of Higher Education)
- ICCB (Illinois Community College Board)
- ISAC (Illinois Student Assistance Commission)

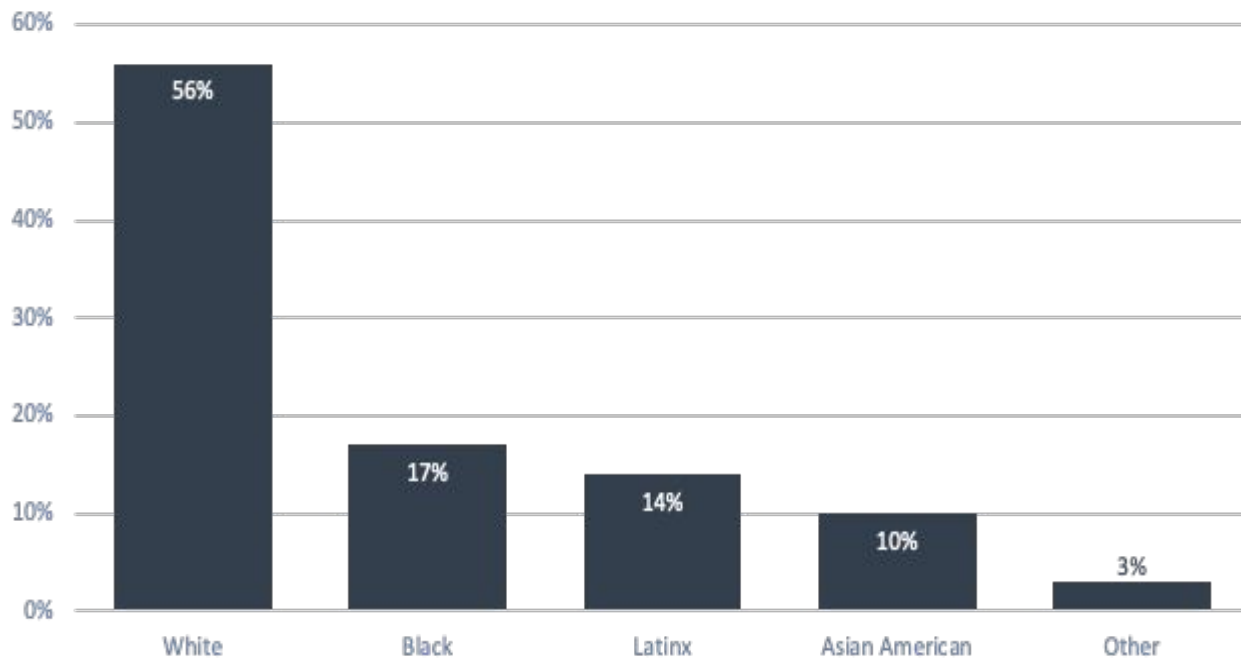
## **INSTITUTIONS: 12 public universities**

COMMUNITY COLLEGES: 39 community college districts (geographic, similar to school districts), with 48 community colleges

OTHER: 83 independent NFP 4-year institutions (private); 96 private for-profit institutions



# Illinois Public University Enrollment by Race



# How are Illinois' public universities funded?

## STATE FUNDING

- Institutional funding
- Student grant aid

## FEDERAL FUNDING

- Student grants
- Student loans
- Research funding

## STUDENT/ CONSUMER SOURCES

- Tuition & fees
- Event/sports revenue, hospitals, alumni donations

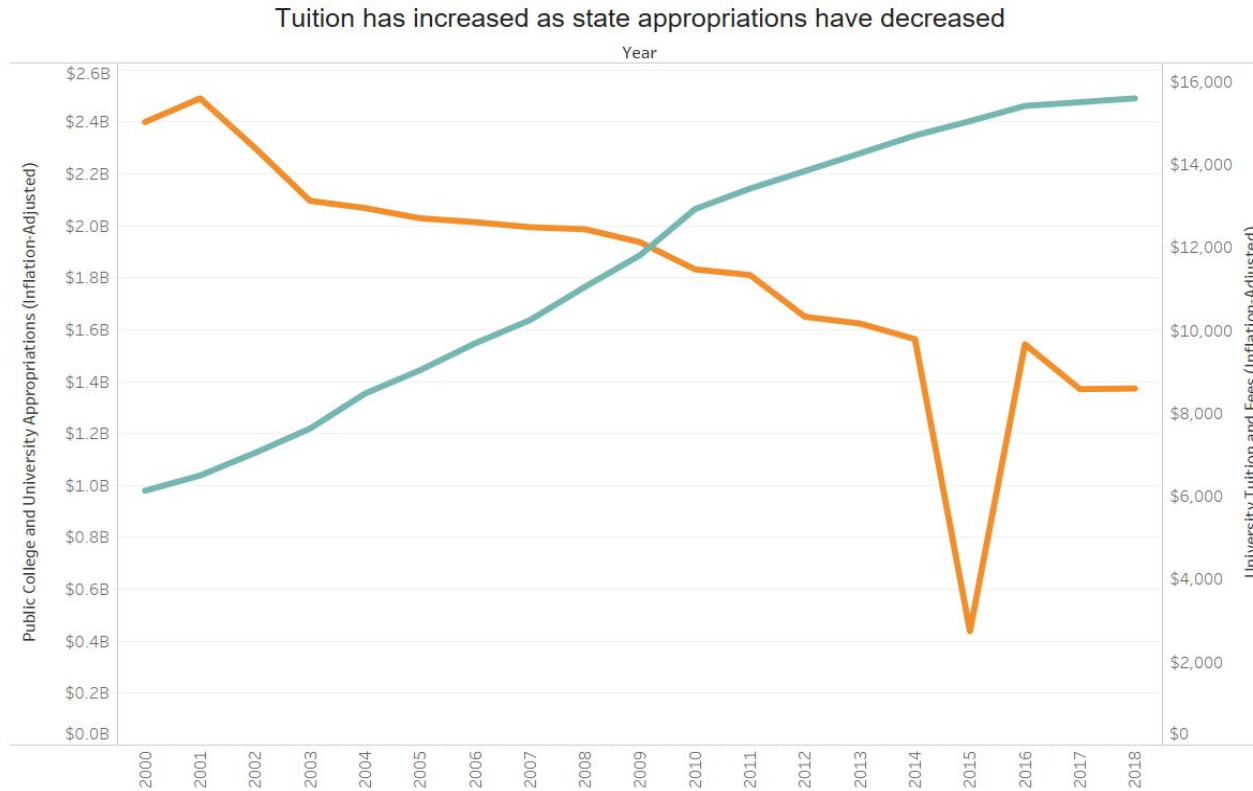
# The Problem

# What's the problem?

Over the last 10 years, Illinois has seen:

- **Disinvestment** in higher education
- **Increasing tuition and fees**, impacting affordability
- **Inequitable distribution** of funding
- **Enrollment and completion gaps**, specifically for Black and Latinx students, and students from low-income families

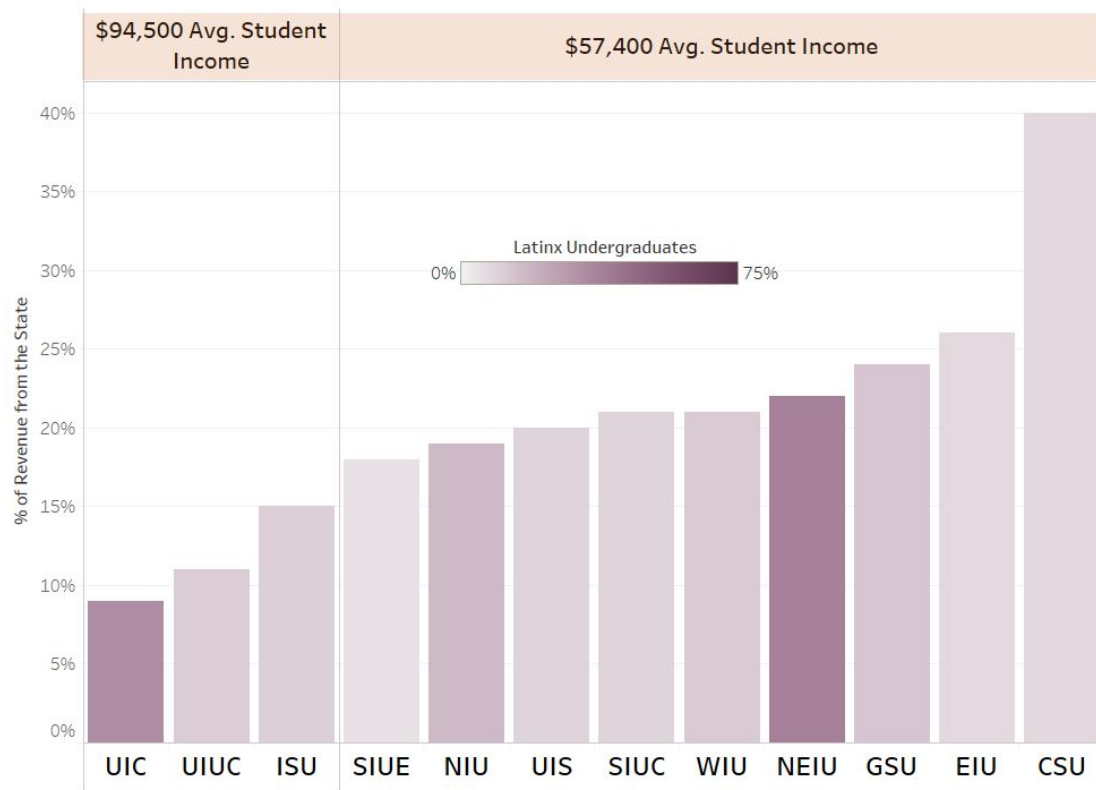
# State appropriations cuts lead to tuition increases



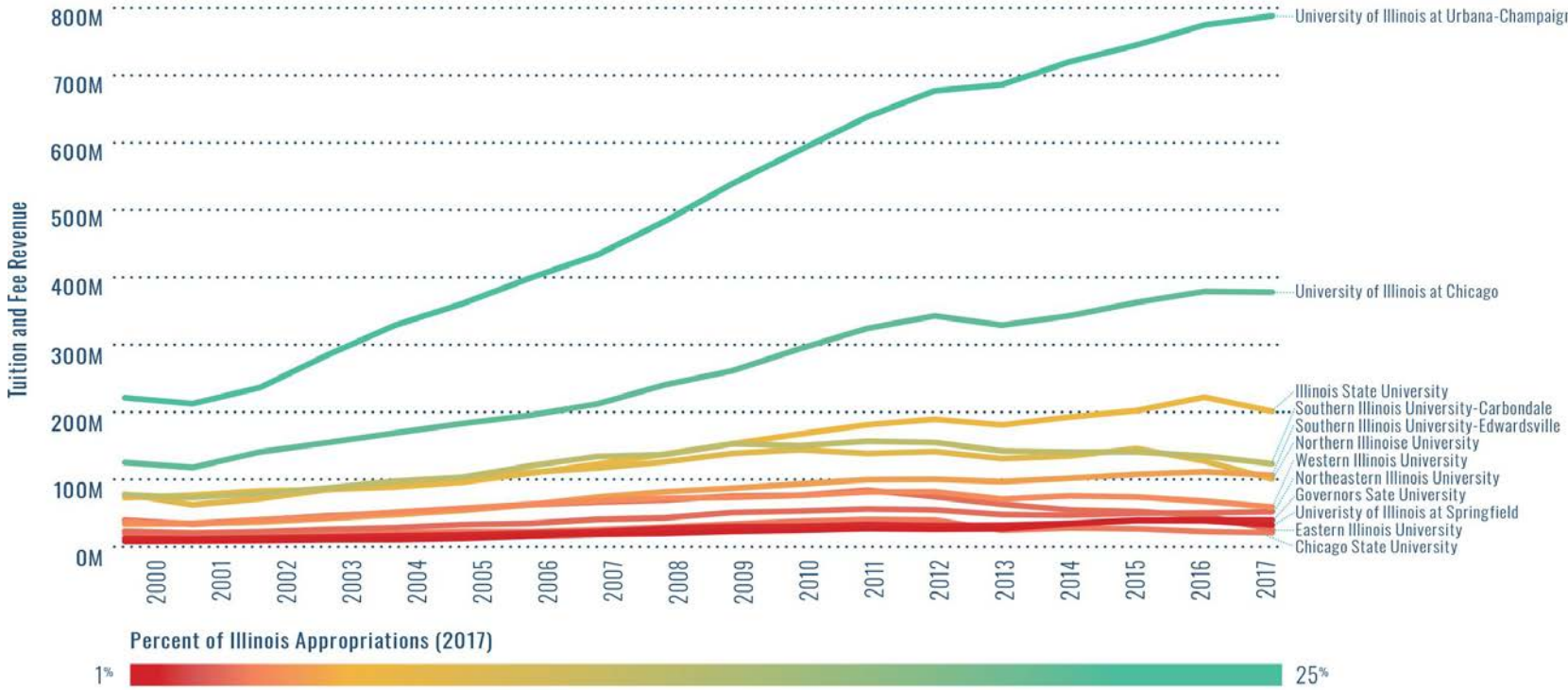
# The impact has been disproportionate.

Some universities get more than 40% of their funding from the state, while better-resourced universities get less than 10%.

Universities that are more reliant on state funding have greater percentages of low-income students and students of color

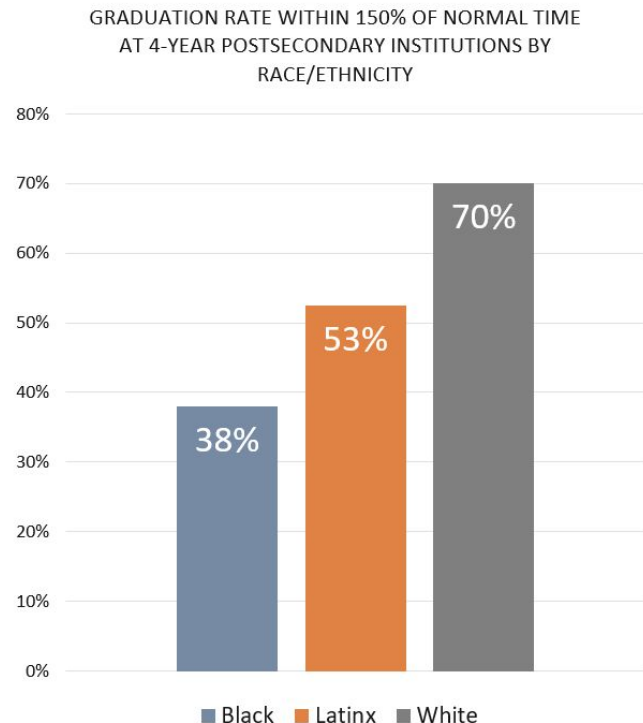


# Some universities have offset cuts with tuition increases



# Educational attainment in Illinois is marked by vast inequities by race

- From 2008-18, Illinois public higher education institutions have enrolled ~25K fewer Black students
- Public 2-year and 4-year retention and completion of students of color is lower than that of White students
- Black enrollment at selective universities (6% in 2008 and 8% in 2018) remains very unrepresentative of our state's diversity





# The Solution

# What do we believe is the solution ?

1. To allocate more funding into the system to ***adequately support*** students.
2. To distribute that funding in a way that is ***equitable and stable***.

# Commission on Equitable Public University Funding

SB 815 created the Commission on Equitable Public University Funding, which will evaluate existing funding methods and recommend specific data-driven approaches to **equitably**, **stably**, and **adequately** fund Illinois' public universities.

33-person commission made up of:

- Elected officials
- Representatives from the 12 four-year institutions
- State agencies
- Non-profit organizations (PCC, WE, AI, Alternative Schools Network & CTBA)
- Faculty unions (IEA, IFT)

***The Commission will publish its findings and recommendations by July 2023.***

# Re-Evaluating Institutional Funding Creates New Possibilities in Higher Education

# Who We Are



# Our Theory of Action

If we advance a public university funding model that prioritizes racial and socioeconomic equity, then we will see statewide increases in higher education equity, through better-resourced institutions serving more representative student populations, more resources directed to colleges serving Black, Latinx, low-income, rural and first generation college students, and increased investment in higher education.

# What does this mean for the coalition?

What we hope to be true...

- **Building power** with strong allies, like YOU.
  - Your influence, work and experiences matter
- Opportunity to **create a network of advocates.**
  - That raise awareness
  - Elevate their voices and others
  - To create equity
- **Advocate for equity**
  - Throughout the commission's work
  - Influence development of recommendations
  - Advancing an equitable institutional funding formula

# Panel Discussion



## Moderator



**Dr. Kim Everett**  
Managing Director  
Partnership for College  
Completion



**Dr. April Bernard**  
Chair & Associate Professor  
in Criminal Justice  
Chicago State University



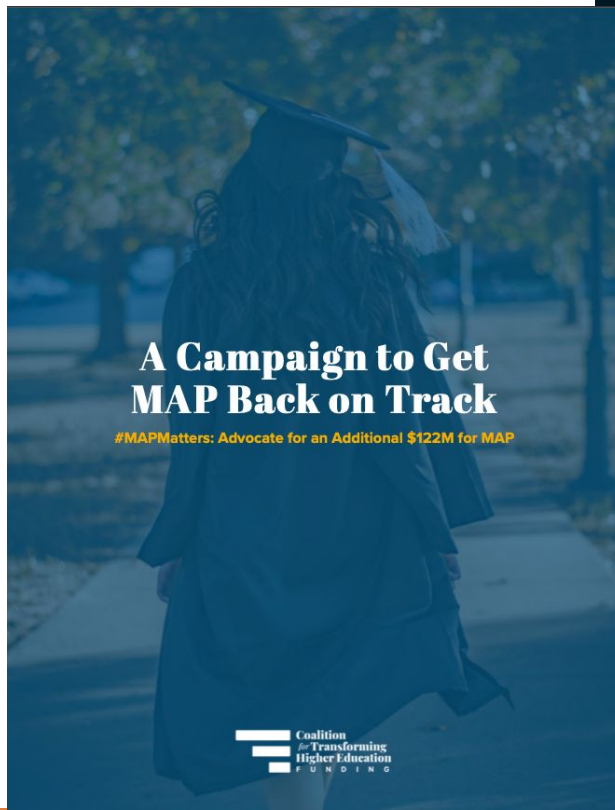
**Dr. Jennifer Garrison**  
Superintendent  
Vandalia CUSD #203



**Ale Natera**  
UIC '21, SAC Member  
Political Science & Latin  
American Latino Studies

# Ways You Can Engage

1. Become a member of our coalition
  - a. Join as NECS, through your organizations, schools, etc., or both!
2. [Advocacy Day](#) - March 9
3. [Advocate for MAP](#)
4. Share your stories about why higher education funding equity matters to you



## TRANSFORMING ILLINOIS HIGHER EDUCATION VIRTUAL ADVOCACY DAY

*Join Us!*

For a day to convene with other higher education advocates to elevate our voices and urge our state elected officials to support equity-centered higher education policies and investments.

Participants will also have the opportunity to engage in advocacy events in different capacities, which include social media posts and engagement, emails to elected officials, and virtual meetings.

**Wednesday, March 9, 2022**

**10 AM - 11 AM**

**Register Here** for the rally

**Register Here** to attend a 30-minute meeting with a state elected official

### THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

For more information please contact Sonianne Lozada: [slozada@partnershipfcc.org](mailto:slozada@partnershipfcc.org)

**Thank you!**

Email Sonianne Lozada at [slozada@partnershipfcc.org](mailto:slozada@partnershipfcc.org) to join the coalition or learn more

PARTNERSHIP FOR  
COLLEGE COMPLETION



Advance  
ILLINOIS