



“Put Me in Coach, I’m Ready To Play!”

- *Parents and Caregivers Are Not Spectators in their Child’s Future*

Presented by



Outcomes

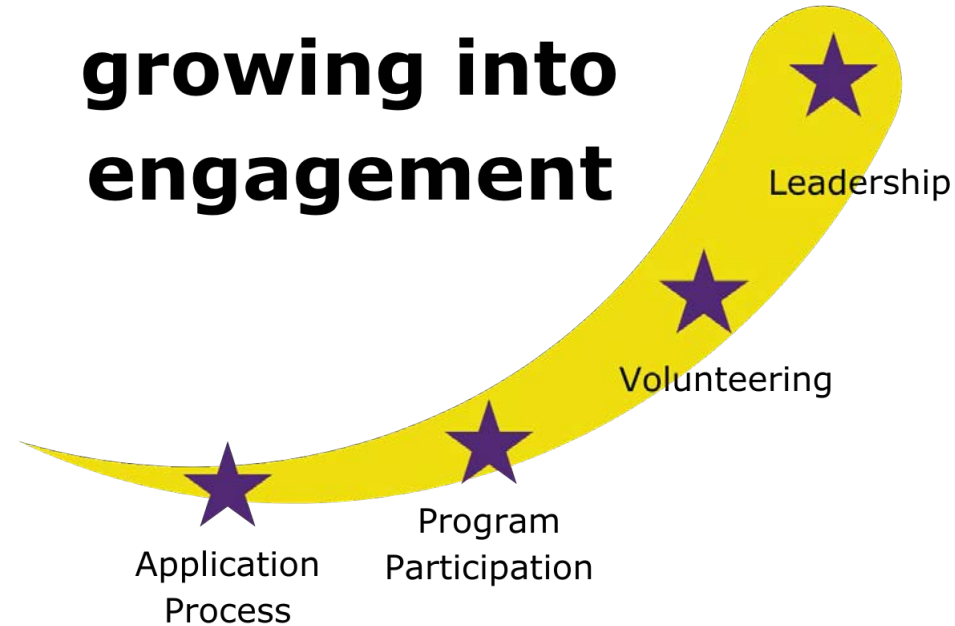
- You will learn about our family-centered strengths-based approach for involving parents and caregivers
- You will learn how Waukegan to College involves parents in consistent, two-way, and meaningful communication that results in higher engagement and capacity to support their student's academic journey
- You will participate in an activity to help you understand how we involve and engage parents and caregivers from the beginning

Involvement & Engagement - Families not just students

Waukegan to College



Involvement growing into engagement



***...from the very beginning
the parent's voice is essential***

Involvement at the Very Beginning...

Application

Interview

Welcome

What are your expectations for your student, yourself, and the program?

PARENT INTERVIEW GUIDE

INTERVIEWERS NAME: _____

STUDENT NAME: _____

PARENT(S) NAME: _____

Questions (Please do a brief introduction on Waukegan to College before asking questions)

1. How many children do you have? Are there any in grades 5th through 10th that haven't applied to Waukegan to College? Would you like them to apply?
2. Will this student be the first of your children to go to college?
3. How do you encourage learning outside of school (library time, summer programs, etc.)?
4. What is your vision for your child's future?



...Leads to Engagement

Family Education

Volunteering

Leading



At Waukegan to College

WHY

First-Generation Students

Parents don't have the knowledge or skills to help

Don't understand the US public school system

Under Resourced School District

Cultural Sensitivity



HOW

Cohort Advising (college readiness sessions)

1:1 Advising

Work Together as a Team (annual family forums)

Encourage Leadership

Give Parents a Voice (surveys)

Incentives



WHAT

Learning with their children

- College visits and college fairs
- Summer camps and career fairs
- Student success plans

Leadership & helping other parents

- Parent mentor committee
- Serve on WTC Board
- Encouragement (Let go...)
- Provide transportation or interpretation

Volunteering - open house, interviews, outreach events, chaperone

Parents are not Spectators

They

- Serve on boards and committees
- Mentor other parents
- Encourage participation
- Are active at their child's school
- Tell other families about our program
- Help their children find resources



ENGAGED

WWW.WAUKEGANTOCOLLEGE.ORG



Parent/Caregiver Education Program

Cohort Advising - Student AND Parents/Caregivers

Meet our Family Educators

- Scarlet Mencia - Waukegan to College Alumna
- Martha Padilla - Waukegan to College Parent

They are helping parents and caregivers learn how they are players in helping set educational goals for their child.



What we hear from families...

- We are creating a family environment of trust and belonging
- We are helping to build confidence in their child's
 - learning
 - future
 - success
- Parent and caregivers have agency in their child's educational goals
- Parents and caregivers want to learn more



Our Impact

Brian and his mom - Zoraida Botero

Meet Brian Botero

- Joined WTC in 6th grade
- Now a freshman at the University of Richmond

How Brian's mom engages in our program

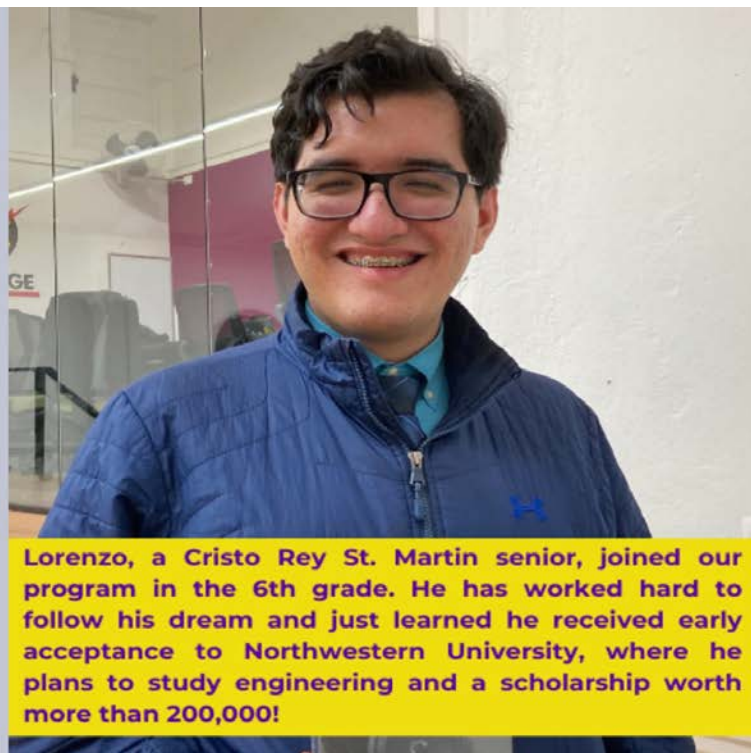
- Interpreter
- Bus driver on field trips
- Outreach
- Attends advising, workshops, special events



Lorenzo Herrera - Northwestern University

We can
do **hard**
things.

GLENNON DOYLE



Lorenzo, a Cristo Rey St. Martin senior, joined our program in the 6th grade. He has worked hard to follow his dream and just learned he received early acceptance to Northwestern University, where he plans to study engineering and a scholarship worth more than 200,000!



ILLINOIS EDUCATION AND CAREER
SUCCESS NETWORK

Activity - The Interview



Can you help us?

Did you know?

Parent engagement drops by 75% when students enter middle school.

At Waukegan to College we're proud that...

71% of parents are engaged in programming

We want to engage more of our high school parents...

We welcome your advice!

Reflections

What is one new idea that you learned today?

What is one learning you will put into practice or try when you go back?

To learn more contact
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