PATHWAY TO COLLEGE
ANNUAL REPORT

Changing Lives One Day at a Time

40 Middle School
100 High School
20 GED
80 Undergraduate
10 Professional
250 Students served

95% seniors admitted to 4 year universities
75% projected transfer rate on JC’s
75% of GED students attend college

EAST OAKLAND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

2010 ISSUE
On April 27th, 2010 eight Youth Leaders from EOYDC set off to New York City for the Southwes...
Not only did our kids take a Southwest Airlines College Tour in New York, but on October 26, 2010, nine youth leaders took a 5 day college tour to Washington D.C. “From day one the trip was nothing less than outstanding and I have had an experience that has impacted my life forever”, say Ashaki Scott. One aspect of this college tour was to allow youth to experience great institutions of higher education that they would not have even considered researching. Visiting college campuses such as George Washington and Howard opened their eyes to another level of prestigious learning. “I started to consider myself a colonel. Not only does George Washington have my major, but they have fun classes to minor in. The location of GW is perfect,” says Jaielyn Anderson after visiting the campus. During the trip the students took a tour of the White House and also met with Congressional Page and EOYDC Youth Leader, Domine who gave them a tour of the nation’s capital. Students also had the opportunity to visit several historical monuments such as the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials, as well as the Holocaust Museum. Having briefings and tours of government buildings at the World Bank and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing were also highlights of the trip. “No dream is too small,” says Rosie Rios – U.S. Treasurer with whom they met during their tour.

This trip was not only informative, but it pushed the youth to excel at all they endeavor. “I love playing sports, but this trip let me know that I’m not just an athlete, but more importantly, a student athlete. This trip encouraged me to study harder and move my GPA up to a 4.0”- Bryce Bell

E.O.Y.D.C. at the White House

EOYDC strives to keep close contact with its alumni students in order to continue the mentor-mentee relationship. Both Dalvin and Felicity were able to give the youth leaders campus tours of their historical universities, as well as good advice for college and life. Felicity discussed her appreciation for Howard because they celebrated people of color. Dalvin on the other hand had trouble adjusting to the lack of diversity at Georgetown, in the beginning. Soon he realized that being a young man of color can put him in a position to be a catalyst for change. The alumni were able to not only communicate from a mentor stand point, but they could converse on a friend level, simply because they all walked in the same foundation, EOYDC!

Dalvin Butler, EOYDC alumni is a sophomore at Georgetown University, majoring in Government. In 2009 he was elected to the College Academic Council and serves as the only African American representative.

EOYDC participants: Jailyn Anderson, Sinead Anderson, Bryce Bell, Estephany Maldonado, Andrew Morris, Ashaki Scott, Jessica Torres, Christopher Webb and Ashlee Wood

Bureau of Engraving & Printing

“We were privileged to go on the production floor, which is where they make the money...they don’t even allow other people who do not work there or are in high positions to even be on the production floor. YES WE ARE ALL OF THAT!” Ashaki Scott

Rosie Rios’ signature

Group photo with Rosie Rios (U.S. Treasurer)

Felicity Lucas graduated from Howard University in 2003 with a degree in Biology. “Drive, focus, and balance are needed to succeed in college,” says Ms. Lucas. She now works at the National Institute of Public Health.
On March 26, 2010, four young men (Jamal Rasheed, DeJuan Brooks, Devin Cunningham and Rodney Horne) from EOYDC set off for the Push Excel College Tour. This tour takes college-bound high school students to visit historically black colleges and universities to inform and expose students to institutions of higher education. The tour started in Chicago where they visited President Obama’s neighborhood and heard inspirational words from Reverend Jesse Jackson and Judge Mathis. They heard a powerful sermon in Tennessee, visited Florida, and trucked through the wide network of Atlanta black colleges. While in Atlanta, they met with two Morehouse students and EOYDC Alumni: Langston Hill and Marcus Spencer. Throughout the tour, they visited universities such as Florida A&M, Clark Atlanta, Morehouse, Spelman, Tuskegee, Talladega, Tennessee State and Fisk. They also visited historical venues such as The King Center and the National Civil Rights Museum. “The unique thing about black colleges that I have learned is the support systems, and the fact that they take the time to learn about the students” says Jamal Rasheed.

**“IN ORDER TO SEEK A SOLUTION, WE MUST FIRST UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEM”**

*Anonymous*

According to Gloria Ladson-Billings, author of *The Dream Keepers: Successful Teachers of African American Children*, African American students are:

- Three times as likely to drop out of school as white children
- Twice as likely to be suspended from school
- Make up only 17% of the public school population but 41% of the special-education population.

EOYDC youth had the opportunity to participate in a doctoral dissertation by UC Berkeley PHD candidate LeConte Dill. She is conducting her dissertation on the *Successful Approaches to Engaging AFRICAN AMERICAN and LATINO’s in community-based youth research.*

**“Exposure is the key to making informed, intelligent and meaningful decisions”**

-Dr. Bonita Carr, Executive Director of PUSH

The PUSH Excel partnership began in 2005 when Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. established the Bay Area scholarship reception to benefit bay area students in their pursuit to attend college. Since 2005 the partnership has expanded to include access to the PUSH Excel HBCU Tour. Every year since EOYDC PTC students have received scholarship assistance and have attended the historically relevant PUSH Excel tours. Over $35,000 has been given to EOYDC students in the form of scholarships. Approximately 16 students have had the opportunity to attend college tours. In 2010, Executive Director Regina Jackson served as a motivational speaker to middle school, high and college students during the 39th Annual PUSH Conference held in Chicago IL. *The Brotherhood Across America* concept has been supported and expanded due to tremendous partnerships such as this.
EXPLORE... DREAM... DISCOVER

Lanikque Howard
UC Berkeley class of 2011–American Studies
Ms. Howard was part of the Domestic Student Exchange Program where she spent a semester at New York University. “One of my fondest memories in NYU was when Ms. Regina brought about ten Youth Leaders down for a college tour...Being at NYU and doing the domestic exchange allowed me to see that you may not be able to do everything when you want to, but if you continue to dream big and take the necessary steps to achieve your dreams anything is possible.”

The next lesson I learned was responsibility, and the person who taught me was EOYDC Alumni, Lanikque Howard. She didn’t actually talk to me about it, she showed me how to be responsible. At New York University, the buildings are scattered throughout the city, so to succeed at NYU you must be responsible to wake yourself up and push yourself to make it to class on time. Also living in Manhattan is tough. There are a lot of distractions, and a part of being responsible is making sure you are always on track to hit your goals. Because in a big city like New York it is easy to get caught up and make bad choices, to be a true leader you must be able to lead yourself. You must be able push yourself to your limits and beyond.”

-Joshua Chaney

GOOD NEWS!!!

DOMINE EZECHUKWU
School of Performing Arts–OUSD Junior
Miss Ezechukwu is currently a United States Congressional Page. As a page she was selected and hired to serve as a helper for the U.S. House of Representatives in which she represents Congress-Woman Barbara Lee’s district.

“This was not only big for me but for my family, my community, and anyone who has had an affect on my life. Never would I have thought I, Domine Ezechukwu, a little black girl from Oakland, would have made it here in such a prestigious place at the nation’s capital.”

LANGSTON HILL
Morehouse College – Junior in Business Administration
Mr. Hill took a trip to China by way of the International Scholar Laureate Program.

“This trip gives you a tremendous respect for the differences we humans have across the world, yet it simultaneously allows you to see how similar we all are despite those differences. A trip like this, motivates you to become more worldly, and inspires you to want to maximize your talents and gifts, so that they may stretch and impact people as far away as China.”

TRINITY WILSON
St. Mary’s High School – Junior
Miss Wilson, a member of the EOYDC track team competed at the first Youth Olympic Games (YOG) held in Singapore. She won the preliminary heat and placed sixth in the finals with a time of 13.71 seconds.

“It was so nice to see young people like me competing in so many different sports. It made me feel like I wasn’t the only one making sacrifices for a sport I love. I hope to see many of the friends I made at the Olympics in the future.”
Second Chances

EOYDC ALUMNI-Davone Bess, Wide Receiver for Miami Dolphins

Mr. Bess talked to the youth about his mistakes and how he capitalized on them. After having his Oregon scholarship revoked and college plans derailed following a poor choice (he allowed a friend to put stolen items into his car), that landed him in a juvenile facility.

Davone’s hard work on a seven man flag football team during his 6 month stay at Byron Ranch attracted a University of Hawaii recruiter. He received a four year scholarship. Upon successful college graduation and with many athletic distinctions including ALL WAC First Team 2005, 2006, 2007 among others, he earned a spot on the Miami Dolphins in 2008.

“I grew up blocks away from EOYDC and I was always in the gym. Now I can give back in a way that might benefit others and have my lesson teach the youth how to stay out of juvenile facilities.”

If anybody knows about second chances it is Garrett Cole. After the divorce of his parents he became desperate for friends and started hanging out with the wrong crowd. Garrett took a downward spiral after making a number of egregious mistakes. At the age of 17, Garrett was sent to juvenile prison for being an accessory in a robbery and battery/assault. Unable to finish high school as a result, Garrett decided to get his GED in EOYDC’s GED Program. After successfully graduating with his GED he decided to take some classes at Laney Community College. Then Garrett Cole, high school drop out and juvenile statistic did a complete 180. On November 17, 2010 Garrett was accepted to San Francisco State University for Fall 2011 to pursue a degree in Urban Development.

Garrett says:

“Your choices will always have positive or negative consequences. It is up to you to decide which outcome to have. I have learned that REAL friends are there to help you achieve your goals. It is always best to have POSITIVE influences in your life!”

2010 GED Graduates

“If there is no struggle, there is no progress”
- Frederick Douglass

“If all you think of is material wealth, that shows poverty of ambition”
- President Barack Obama

If all you think of is material wealth, that shows poverty of ambition
- President Barack Obama

2010 GED Graduates

“They helped me receive my GED and also helped me find a job… I don’t think I would have finished school without EOYDC” - Trevon Galloway

“Difficult isn't impossible!”

“One day I decided to turn my life around and go back to school… EOYDC opened their doors for me and helped me succeed” - Stella Hoang
**2010 Pathway-to-College Scholarship Recipients**

- Ivie Arasonwan-Loyola Marymount University
- Alma Ace- California State University, East Bay
- Alma Barocio- Chabot College
- Guadalupe Barocio- California State University, East Bay & Chabot
- Andrienne Batista- University of San Francisco
- Dejuan Brooks- Wilberforce University
- Richard Carter- California State University, Northridge
- Morgan Chandler- Loyola Marymount University
- Jamal Cole-California State University, East Bay
- Jaliza Collins- San Francisco State University
- Michael Garrick- Virginia Tech University
- Chris Head-Hampton University
- Landon Hill- San Francisco State (Past Grad)
- Rodney Horne-Morehouse College
- Nivana Horsley- California State University, East Bay
- Coretta Howard-Merritt & Laney College
- Lanikque Howard-University of California, Berkeley
- Joel Hutchinson- University of California, Davis
- Charlotte Jones- Clark Atlanta University
- Rosa Magana- University of California, Los Angeles
- Lionel Gowans- San Francisco State University
- Adarious Payton-De Paul University
- Alejandra Paredes- Holy Names University
- Mykea Pratt- San Francisco State University
- Genesis Preciado- California State University, East Bay
- Ashton Purvis- University of Miami
- Julian Purvis- University of Michigan
- Aja Seldon- Clark Atlanta University
- Amber Simmons- University of California, Davis
- Jasmine Thompson- St. Mary College (Post Grad)
- Ramiro Torres-College of Alameda
- Darneisha Tutwiler- California State University, East Bay
- Brittany Williams- San Jose State University
- Renee Williams- New York University (Post Grad)
- Narea Wilson- Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising

**Black Expo Scholarship**

Charlotte Jones, Rodney Horne, Adarious Payton, and Richard Carter were selected to receive the $2,500 Black Expo Scholarship Award.

**Sinkler Miller Scholarship**

Aja Seldon, Taylor Brandon, Shanelle Middleton, and Ashaki Scott each received $1000.

**Univision Scholarship**

Alejandra Paredes was selected to receive $1000 for the Hispanic Academic Excellence Award.

**California Legislative Black Caucus Leadership Scholarship**

Charlotte Jones, Richard Carter, Rodney Horne, & Morgan Chandler were each selected to receive a $2,000 scholarship. The CLBC’s primary goal is to increase the pool of young community leaders by assisting them financially and helping them pursue their educational & personal leadership goals.

**Ashton Purvis**

Ms. Purvis has received a full scholarship to attend the University of Miami.

Purvis was named the National Gatorade ESPN Track & Field Athlete of the Year

Special thanks to the College Access Foundation for their extraordinary scholarship assistance & resources!
“EDUCATION is the passport to the future for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today”

-Malcolm X

1st Year College Impressions. . .

DeJuan Brooks is a freshman at Wilberforce University, the first private Historically Black College University. Mr. Brooks is enjoying his first year of college. Some challenges that he faces is the distance from home and the cold weather. However, he loves the suburban atmosphere and slower paced life style that allows for his personal reflection time. “I was privileged to get the opportunity to participate on the college tour, which was great exposure. EOYDC brought about a great networking of brotherhood and I now have a close bond to the friends I’ve met.”

Adarious Payton is a freshman at DePaul University. Like many college freshmen, Mr. Payton struggles with money management and is learning the most meaningful way to allocate his funds. One of his biggest adjustments is going from the only child to having a roommate who is exactly opposite of him. Nonetheless, he loves being far away from home. “I get to be me”, says Adarious. Though Bishop O’ Dowd was great preparation, the idea of no more busy work is exciting. Says Mr. Payton, “The work in college stimulates your mind”. Through EOYDC’s PTC program, he has acquired many networking opportunities and was provided much needed financial assistance. Adarious has his own Radio Show called “Radio DePaul” VOTED #1 College Radio Station in AMERICA

College graduates speak out

Dominique Drakeford
University of California Riverside: BA Business Administration- Environmental Management
Ms. Drakeford had an exhilarating experience at UCR from the time she set foot into the dorms until the time she walked the stage. One of her biggest struggles was trying to figure out exactly what she wanted to do with her future. It wasn’t until her junior year that she realized “My future career choice could not be found in a yellow book listing.” She had to retrace her footsteps to the foundation where her passion for inspiring change first began: the E.O.Y.D.C. “EOYDC has continued to connect me with opportunities that allow me to dive into new frontiers.” EOYDC introduced an opportunity for a “Market Week” internship with Donna Karan and while working in New York she stayed with an unfamiliar EOYDC alumni for a month. She was also able to meet NYU’s director of enrollment as well as meet professors. NYU instantly became her first choice for graduate school, and on December 8, 2010 she was admitted to NYU’s Gallatin Master Program.

“Pathway To College has provided me with financial resources and guidance to ensure I not only got into school, but was able to complete it as well.”

Landon Hill
Michigan State University: BS in Communication Arts– Retailing

Mr. Hill was faced with many challenges at MSU, such as learning how to break out of his shell to meet new people and get involved on campus. Forced with having to change his major caused his grades to slip and stress to peak. He was able to push through the adversities with the help of his AASMP mentor, his cousin, and his parents. By his last semester he received the big accomplishment of making the dean’s list for the first time. “School is important! You have responsibilities on your own and you are forced to figure things out. Over time you mature and grow”, says Landon. College has changed his whole outlook on life. For the next generation I would say don’t be afraid to step outside of your comfort zone...open your eyes to something new and different; the bulk of my appreciation stems from that”, emphasized Landon.

“College tips

- Establish a study schedule
- Experiment with a variety of classes
- Learn major requirements
- Find out when to declare major
- Know graduation requirements
- Meet advisors
- Meet instructors
- Take time to socialize
- Know your campus & utilize resources
- Explore beyond campus
- Get a checking account
- Set up a monthly budget
- Explore internship opportunities
- Balance work & play

Welcoming Kareem Nitoto to my campus as a transfer student and EOYDC alumni, was another golden opportunity. Continuing the strong stream of constant networking through EOYDC is important. To this day Kareem and I are close friends and I get special invites to his basketball games when he’s in town.
“CHARACTER is the **foundation** and DISCIPLINE is the **backbone** for our work”

**6 Pillars of Character**

“RESPECT is when you don’t do mean things to other people. I respect my parents by telling them the truth and listening.”
- Aaliyah Lankford—7

“RESPECT means to give someone your honor and to not roll your eyes and ignore them when they are talking. To get respect you must give respect.”
- Jamarria Williams—12

“I HAVE LEARNED TO GIVE BACK TO MY NEIGHBORHOOD”
-Christopher Head, Hampton University Sophomore in Business Administration

“When you can accept your own defeat, and do it all over again, it shows PASSION & DRIVE”
-Aja Seldon, Clark Atlanta University Freshman –Business Management and Fashion Design

“I am now more outspoken & confident than ever before.”
Narea Wilson, Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising (FIDM) freshman, in Visual Communications

“EOYDC instilled a work ethic in me at the age of 14 that could not be harvested without my experience at the center.”
-Ivie Arasomwan, Loyola Marymount University Senior in Communication Studies

Our background and circumstances may influence who we are, but we are **RESPONSIBLE** for who we become. *Anonymous*

Special thanks to the S. D. Bechtel Jr. Foundation
There are always seen and unforeseen obstacles that may occur during a student’s academic journey. In this issue we address the necessary stepping stones for success and identify the potential pitfalls of dependency. Here are a few examples:

“I didn’t apply for the scholarship because I missed the deadline”

Whether it is due to procrastination or poor planning it is both irresponsible and unfortunate to miss any academic or professional deadline. When deadlines are missed the opportunities associated with them are missed as well!! This is the pillar of FAIRNESS...It is not fair to you or the organization that you associate with to miss opportunities.

“I don’t know what my GPA is; my parents have my report card”

Academic and professional success dictates ownership and accountability for YOUR work whether positive or negative. Know your scores, be proud of them or work to improve them. One of the six pillars of character is RESPONSIBILITY...This is YOUR life and YOUR education, so OWN IT!!

“I don’t have my resume or business card on me at the moment”

You should always have a resume and business card handy. There is nothing worse than making a great contact( which can happen anywhere), and then searching for a piece of paper to write your name and number on. Resumes and business cards project an image of professionalism and can leave a lasting impression, not to mention your contact information.

“My email is blackthang02@yahoo.com”

First impressions are LASTING impressions. When you create emails or voicemails be mindful that as a student, you will have to give this information out to colleges and future employers. You should ALWAYS have a professional email and voice mail because you never know WHO will access this information! This applies to social networking sites as well (Facebook, Myspace, Twitter, etc). This is the pillar of CITIZENSHIP... You should ALWAYS present yourself as a respectful and responsible citizen.

Etiquette when replying to emails

It is always important to reply to all emails! Even if you are not interested in attending an event, it’s polite to simply put “no thank you” and if you are interested you should let the sender know that you will be in attendance. Also when replying to emails, you should try to convey a professional image by using standard English as your email language.

Celebrating our GRADUATES

On July, 22, 2010 EOYDC celebrated its annual Pathway To College Graduation. The graduates ranged in age from kindergarten to post secondary school. They spoke about their great accomplishments. One of the memorable speakers was seven-year-old Yaphire “YaYa” Holmes who said that he was proud of himself. Following the ceremony the graduates received ‘graduation bears’ as a small token of our appreciation.

Victor Sandifer PTCer and UC Berkeley student gave a keynote address.

Lionel Wilson Prep
St. Marys College High School
Clark Atlanta University & Hayward High

A Visit from the Mitchell Kapor Foundation

The Mitchell Kapor Foundation works to ensure fairness and equity, particularly for low-income communities of color. Upon visiting the EOYDC, representatives from the Kapor Foundation gave a briefing on the current status of African American males. This informal discussion sparked the idea to hold our very first “Brotherhood Across America” workshop and wisdom circle.

Joshua Chaney:
United States Air Force

Josh leaves on March 15th, 2011 for basic training camp and plans to graduate from his training on May 6th. Josh has always dreamed of joining the air force, ever since he was little and takes a special interest in being an aviation electrician. He will be stationed in either San Antonio, Dallas, Alaska or Hawaii. “Don’t believe the rumors that people say. You should never make a decision without research .... If you have to second guess yourself, don’t do it. Always go with your gut feeling.”
UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIPS & INTERNSHIPS

January Deadlines:
1/10/2011 Gates Millennium Scholars Program:
1/21/2011 Meritus College Fund
1/28/2011 Ronald McDonald House Charity:
1/31/2011 The Princeton Prize Race Relations

February Deadlines
2/1/2011 USDA National Scholars Program
2/1/2011 American Nuclear Society Scholarship
2/1/2011 Jesuit Community Scholarship
2/2/2011 LAGRANT Foundation Scholarship
2/15/2011 Mahatma Rice:
2/28/2011 HFS/ Atrisco Heritage Foundation Scholarship

March Deadlines
3/2011 PFLAG National Scholarship Program
3/2011 SBC Memorial Foundation
3/22/2011 Bestbuy Scholarship

April Deadlines:
4/5/2011 American Fire Sprinkler Scholarship
4/10/2011 Burger King Scholarship
4/15/2011 Holocaust Remembrance Project Scholarship
4/30/2011 EOYDC Scholarship

May Deadlines:
5/15/2011 United Negro College Fund Scholarship

June Deadlines
6/18/2011 Abbott and Fenner Scholarship Program

July Deadlines
7/9/2011 100 Black Men Scholarship

September Deadlines
9/15/2011 100 Black Woman Scholarship

KGO Newstalk Internship
-Juniors & Seniors that are able to receive college credit equivalent to one class
-Spring & Summer 2011 (15-20 hrs/week)
-Email cover letter & resume to: Ruben.Pimentel@citcomm.com
or fax to (415) 391-2795

Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence Initiative
(www.bankofamerica.com/neistudentleaders)
-Open to high school juniors & seniors
-An 8 week paid summer internship at a local nonprofit
-A student Leadership Summit in Washington D.C.
Deadline: January 12, 2011

“There Ought to be a Law” Legislative Contest
Are you a student with a legislative idea to improve California? Have you ever wanted to affect positive change in your community?
NOW IS YOUR CHANCE!
• If you are a student that lives in the 16th Assembly District & would like to participate in the contest, submit and entry at http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a16/pdf/There-Ought-to-be-a-Law-Entry-Form.pdf
• Submissions will be accepted by e-mail, mail, walk-in, or fax
• For more information, please contact the District Office at: (510) 286-1670
Deadline: January 14, 2011

2011 Stanford Summer Residential Program
(http://smysp.stanford.edu/education/summerprogram/)
-Currently a sophomore or junior in high school who lives & attends school in northern or central California
-Are from a low-income family and/or a family with little or no history of attending college
-Have demonstrated interest in science classes & have received a B-average in some of them
-Demonstrated an interest in medicine & health related careers
Deadline: February 15, 2011

CONTACT PTC COORDINATOR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ptc@eoydc.org or (510) 569-8088
What we BELIEVE…
We feel that everyone, regardless of age, sex, race, income or background should have access to higher education. Our goal is to provide each and every student with the information, resources, and support to reach their full academic potential and surpass their own goals.

What we EXPECT…
The Pathway To College Program holds all of its participants to high standards. Members must exhibit persistence, dedication, commitment, responsibility, respect towards self and others, good character, and kindness. These standards are reflective of any person receiving services from the East Oakland Youth Development Center.

What we do…
- Academic Support
- Admissions & Enrollment
- Financial Aid Assistance
- College Tours
- Mentoring

EDUCATION FULL THROTTLE
Lincoln University, Master of Education—Class of 2012

“...The Pathway To College program has been a catalyst for me along my educational journey. Growing up in Oakland and the surrounding cities we are not exposed to all things needed to become a successful person and student. The program gives the participants a solid foundation with the promotion of time management, study habits and zero procrastination. They instill in the participants the work habits and qualities needed to survive in college. I went away to school not knowing the lasting effect my experience with the EOYDC and PTC would have on me. Goal setting was always a focus in the workshops so that stuck with me. My goal was to earn a Bachelors degree and I tackled that challenge head on with the “never give up attitude” that the PTC staff taught me. I’ve learned that doing more than what is expected of you is what leaves a lasting impression on those around you. With the drive for more, I decided to return to Graduate school and earn my Masters in Education. This came with tremendous sacrifice and dedication. It’s not easy to be away from home and keep your eyes on the prize. Giving up seems so easy and convenient. PTC teaches us as young people to start what we finish so I knew I wasn’t stopping where I was and selling myself short. The pathway to college program and EOYDC teaches us to think big and go at our education full throttle. The EOYDC and it’s Pathway to College program helped mold me into the student and person I am today. I am a work in progress but with the support and guidance through a great program I’m confident there’s a shining light at the end of the tunnel. I will continue this journey and continue learning every step of the way.”

MATTHEW BOGARD

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Pathway to College