



COLLEGE AWARENESS PROGRAM

15th Anniversary Edition



MY FAVORITE MEMORY...

"Junior Boot Camp- it helped with SAT and interview skills."

"My favorite memory with Stepping UP was the CAP meeting about mental health because at the time I was struggling and it was helpful to know that there were people I could talk to and provides us with resources."

"My favorite field trip was CAP's Northern California College Tour. Aside from visiting many college campuses, I got to do many fun activities I'd thought I would never do. Going to watch Hamilton, exploring Alcatraz, walking through San Francisco, visiting the Golden Gate Bridge and visiting the State Capital were all very fun and exciting times. I often wish I could go back on that trip with the same people because it was so much fun."

"The zoom calls as a group I made some new friends as well and got closer to some!"

"Junior boot camp, I got to experience real life careers and meet new people. I was able to step out of my comfort zone."

"My favorite memory with stepping up would be in the summer in STEM and the leadership program. That is when I meet some of the greatest people and friends that I have now and I was able to learn so much while also going on a field trip at the end."

"Junior Boot Camp bonfire- we all really bonded and just got super close and made fun memories."

"The Northern Trip is one of my favorite memories because I got a chance to visit schools I would have never had the chance to."

"The whole Northern Trip because I got spend away from home with my friends & visit all the universities which gave me more motivation."

"My favorite memory of SteppingUP is the summer sessions we had two years ago, they were so fun, interactive, and informational/beneficial as well. I loved that we got to be with peers throughout all sessions and that we were gaining knowledge that will better us for future work, job, or college requirements."

"When we all showed up on the weekends to ocean view HS to prepare for the SAT, I enjoyed spending time with everyone and met new people."

"My favorite memory on SteppingUP is everything because I like being with all the advisors."

COLLEGE AWARENESS PROGRAM

Impact 2021

Quick Stats

- **Grades:** 6-12
- **Students Served:** 465+
- **Student:Advisor Ratio:** 5:1
- **Qualify for free or reduced lunch:** 95%
- **First Generation:** 92%
- **# of events provided:** 30+
- **CAP Graduates:** 387 Alumni



Class of 2021 Stats

- **Graduation Rate:** 100%
- **UC/CSU eligibility:** 85%
- **FAFSA Completed:** 100%
- **Accepted to a CSU:** 100%
- **Graduates attending 4 year college:** 74%
- **Graduates attending a 2 year college:** 26%
- **Grants & Scholarships:** \$495,839

BRIDGET STEPS UP TO UC IRVINE



Bridget joined SteppingUP as a first generation student. She shares that SteppingUP helped her to learn about what was needed to apply to universities and learn about financial aid, while also providing the tools to cope with stress through the pandemic as her father was tested positive for COVID-19 on Christmas Day. When asked about her favorite workshop, Bridget shares that it was the mental health workshops SteppingUP provided, noting that the inability to be physically present on her school campus during her senior year was really hard and adapting to classes from home with many distractions was a struggle where she felt overall stressed with online school and thanks her advisor, Mayra, for helping her through the year. This fall, Bridget stepped up to UC Irvine with a major in Biological Science and a dream to one day become a pediatrician.

Congratulations Bridget!



Alexis

Orange Coast College, Business

Alexis joined SteppingUP after learning about it in the 5th grade and is the first in his family to attend college sharing that the program helped him how to learn the steps to apply to college.



Amayrani

UCLA, Pre-Education & Social Transformation

Amayrani enjoys running and is the oldest in her family of a single parent household. Amayrani applied to several scholarships and received \$12,000 in scholarship funds. She shares that Stepping UP taught her that anything is possible and hard work pays off which will help her to reach her goal of becoming an Elementary School Principal.



Ariadna

CSU Fullerton, Sociology

Ariadna was an MVP softball player in high school. She enjoyed SteppingUP's Junior Summer Series most where she was able to meet new people and would like to become a Social Worker.



Brenda

CSU Dominguez Hills, Business

Brenda joined SteppingUP as a 5th grader. She was on the high school basketball team and shares that SteppingUP helped her through her academics and taught her to never be scared to ask for help.



Cristian

Santa Ana College, Computer Science

Cristian joined SteppingUP after watching his sisters graduate from the program. He plans to transfer to CSU San Bernardino and would like to become a video game developer.



Daniel C.

CSU Dominguez Hills, Pre-Business & Finance

Daniel enjoys baseball and surfing and plans to learn how to become a real estate investor in college. He credits SteppingUP for teaching him about finances and how to spend his money wisely.



Daniel M.

UC Irvine, Computer Science

Daniel's dream job is to become a software engineer. He graduated high school with honors and shares that the program helped him to keep his grades up, learn about college, the UC system & FAFSA.

MEET DAVID

CSU Long Beach, Pre-Criminology & Criminal Justice



David enjoys playing soccer and shares that he struggled academically through the COVID-19 pandemic and missed not having a normal senior year, but SteppingUP was there to help. The program ensured that David continued on a path to college with one-on-one

academic advising, educating on college requirements, FAFSA, scholarship opportunities and when needed connecting him to testing and vaccinations sites available. David's favorite memory was SteppingUP's Northern California College Tour where he had the opportunity to tour Alcatraz. Today, Davis is majoring in Pre-Criminology and Criminal Justice at CSULB.

MEET EMELY

UC Merced, Undeclared

Emely is a first generation student stepping up to college this fall at UC Merced where she first toured the campus with CAP. She shares that her favorite part of CAP this year were the virtual workshops focused on mental health. Living through the pandemic became extremely difficult as their family was hit with the COVID virus and she became responsible for helping her younger brother through school. With little space to study quietly, she would wait until everyone was asleep so she could concentrate on her own work. Emely never lost motivation and graduated on the Honor Roll and was also awarded a Scholar Athlete Award. Although she is not sure of her major at this time, she would like to be working with children in the future and knows her future is bright!



Fernanda

**UC Santa Cruz,
Environmental Studies**

Fernanda was part of her high school soccer, waterpolo and volleyball teams, was a Golden Hawk nominee and is interested in being an Oceanographer, Sustainability Specialist or Ocean Explorer.

Itzel

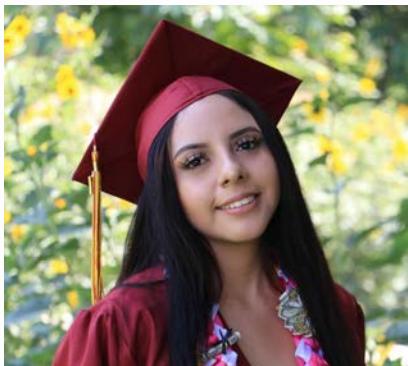
**Orange Coast College,
Psychology**

Itzel was awarded Best Offense on her high school basketball team and feels time with her family in the pandemic led to a greater appreciation for her family. In 10 years she sees herself teaching English in South Korea.

Ivan

**Orange Coast College,
Child Development**

Ivan joined SteppingUP's 5th Grade Mentor Program prior to joining CAP. In high school he was a member of the Key Club, ASB, Track & Field and Football team and is exploring the idea of becoming a Physician's Assistant or Lawyer.



Katia

Golden West College, Psychology

Katia joined SteppingUP's 5th Grade Mentoring Program prior to CAP. She plans to transfer to CSU, Long Beach in 2 years and become a Social Worker in Foster Care.



Kea Lani

UC Merced, Biological Science

CAP's College Tour to UC Merced introduced Kea Lani to her future where she now attends and has interest in becoming a nurse, midwife or vet tech working in an animal hospital.



Kenya

CSU Fullerton, Undeclared

Kenya enjoys painting and journaling, and played softball during her high school years receiving the MVP award. Kenya is currently considering a major in education teaching children or nursing.



Lizbeth

Orange Coast College, Fashion Merchandising

After a battle with COVID during her senior year of high school, Lizbeth is looking forward to a fresh start. Lizbeth is the second in her family to join SteppingUP after her brother graduated and dreams of a career in Interior and Fashion Merchandising.



Lizeth

Golden West College, Undeclared

Lizeth shares that she didn't have plans for college prior to moving to OCCHC and joining CAP. Today she envisions herself working towards her dream of becoming a doctor.



Manuel

CSU Fullerton, Business Administration

Manuel joined CAP his senior year of high school where he received guidance in how to apply to college, research on majors of interest, guidance on college expenses, FAFSA, scholarships and financial planning. Today, he is at CSUF majoring in Business Administration.

MEET KAHEL

UC Berkeley, Business Administration



"My name is Kahel, I just graduated from Santiago High School and I've been in SteppingUP since my 10th grade year. SteppingUP has helped tremendously in the way that it has provided resources, opportunities, and connections for me that only benefitted me and my journey to college. I have gotten help with homework, college work, studying, test preparation, etc. SteppingUP will continue to provide and advocate for their students until they succeed and that is what I love most about the program. During distance learning, we all had to adapt to a whole new environment and having a SteppingUP advisor here for me to continue offering what they can help so much with my school and college prep work and also with my mental health and I appreciate that SteppingUP overcomes barriers to help provide their students with the best help possible."



Julisa **CSU Fullerton,** **Psychology**

Julisa graduated high school with honors where she was a member of the Key Club, MECHA and more. She enjoys playing basketball and stepped up to CSUF this fall with a goal to become a Forensic Psychologist.



Julian **San Francisco State** **University, Marine** **Biology**

Julian shared that the mock interviews with CAP helped to improve his public speaking. He first toured SFSU on the Northern California College Tour where he now attends and aspires to become a Marine Zoologist.



Karla **Orange Coast College,** **Psychology**

Karla played basketball in high school, joined the Key Club and Christian Club and received the the Sportsmanship Award. She plans to transfer to Oregon State in 2 years with hopes to become a Psychologist.



Maria

UCLA, Nursing

Maria was involved in her high school's Theatre, Academic Decathlon and became a local election volunteer, but it was with her CAP advisors that she felt the most support and shares that it was more than just a program. Maria is now a freshman at UCLA where she hopes to one day become an ER/ICU nurse.



Melvin

CSU Long Beach, Pre-Construction Management

Melvin was involved in cross country, track and soccer in high school where he graduated with honors and a seal of bi-literacy. He is looking forward meeting new people in college at CSULB.



Marlys

CSU Fullerton, Civil Engineering

Marlys worked with her academic advisor to understand the pros and cons in choosing the right college. Today she is at CSUF and would like to be a Structural Engineer.



Melanie

CSU San Bernardino, Liberal Arts

Melanie shared that the pandemic made getting help with school difficult during her senior year, but feels SteppingUP's CAP Program helped her to prepare for her first year of college where she dreams of becoming an Elementary School Teacher.



Miriam

CSU Dominguez Hills, Liberal Studies

Miriam learned about SteppingUP from her older brothers who also graduated from CAP. She enjoys singing and music and feels that her academic advisor helped her through tough times during the pandemic. Today she aspires to be a Special Education Teacher to help others in need.



Monique

CSU Dominguez Hills, Sociology

Although Monique is shy, she is looking forward to meeting new friends at CSU Dominguez Hills where she will study to become a social worker and hopes to continue on to get a Master Degree.

MEET RAFAEL



Rafael Interns with "B" BOLD

UC Berkeley, Business Administration

During the summer of 2020, SteppingUP 2020 Graduate, Rafael was selected as a "B" Bold Intern with Clearinghouse CDFI where he enjoyed taking part in marketing research with CCDFI and received a scholarship to kick off his first year at UC Berkeley. Named after OCCHC's Founding Executive Director, Allen Baldwin, the Allen Peters Baldwin "B" Bold Internship Award Program is an initiative created by Clearinghouse CDFI and inspired by the values of the B Corp community to build bridges that empower and develop the next generation. Rafael shares the impact that SteppingUP's Northern California College Tour made noting that *"visiting the campus and seeing firsthand the student life heavily influenced my decision to attend UC Berkeley. Without SteppingUP, I wouldn't be in the position I'm in today."*

Clearinghouse CDFI's 'B' BOLD Program was named after OCCHC's Founding Executive Director, Allen Baldwin, that is an initiative created by Clearinghouse CDFI and inspired by the values of the B Corp community to build bridges that empower and develop the next generation.



THE PHAN FAMILY

"I never went to college and can't help my sons much but I am so thankful for all of the help Mayra and the SteppingUP team provided. Mayra worked with my sons over the weekends, throughout the nights and during holidays to make sure that all deadlines were met. My only regret is not finding about SteppingUP sooner."

- Mrs. Phan

Dustin is now majoring in Computer Science at CSULB where he joined his brother, Justin, this fall, who is majoring in Environmental Science & Public Policy.



Omar

CSU Long Beach, Aerospace Engineering

Omar's family struggled to pay rent during the pandemic causing increased stress for the entire family. He remained committed to his advising sessions with Mayra who paved the way for him to stay on track with his classes and better understand how to apply to colleges, requirement needed, financial aid and so much more.



Sergio R.

CSU Dominguez Hills, Business Administration

Sergio is the youngest of 3 siblings who have all graduated from CAP. He has been involved in the Oak View Youth Soccer League and water polo. He shares he has enjoyed meeting new friends in the program that have a common goal.



Sergio U.

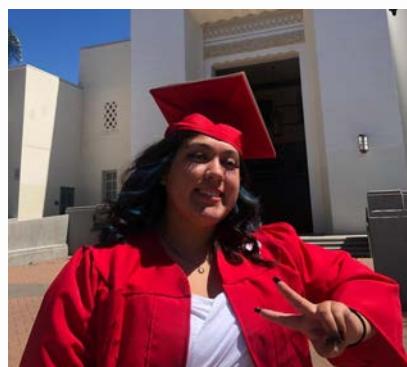
CSU Dominguez Hills, Business Administration

Sergio was awarded MVP for Football, Most Valuable Wrestler and shares that CAP helped teach him how to research for scholarships and create a plan for his college courses.

Ruby

CSU Long Beach, Pre-Social Work

Ruby spent her high school years involved with CAP while also joining the Oak View Youth Action Council. She ran on the cross country team and track and field. Ruby sees herself as becoming a Therapist and would like to continue her education with a Masters at CSULB.



Victoria

Santa Ana College, Undeclared

Victoria is a first generation student stepping up to college. She played on the softball team in high school and also joined ASB. She shares that CAP helped her to be more communicative and is interested in pursuing real estate or Children's Therapist.



Yovanny

Golden West College, Child Development

Yovanny was involved in cheer and ASB in high school, but hardships through the pandemic left her falling behind and in danger of not graduating high school. With the help of her advisor she not only graduated on time, but became the first in her family to attend college.

CAP COLLEGE GRADUATES

CAL POLY POMONA

Andres, Chemistry '18
Ruth V., Business Administration '18
Karla G., Sociology '19
Miguel, Mechanical Engineering '19
Jocelyn V., Industrial Engineering '21

CSU DOMINGUEZ HILLS

Marissa H., Human Services '16
Natalie R., Child Development '17
Adelina A., Public Administration '18
Karlany M., Psychology '18
Berenice R., English Literature '19

CSU EAST BAY

Jose R., Health Science '19

CSU FULLERTON

Marco G., Health Science '14
Lisbeth M., Communications '15
Yvonne C., Human Services '15
Dolores R., Psychology '16
Jennifer D., Psychology '16
Antonio P., Cinema & Television Arts '17
Mayra R., Health Science '17
Cinthia R., Human Services '18
Michelle S., Criminal Justice '18
Miguel Z., Ethnic/Chicano Studies '18
Sarai A., Health Science '18
Sheila S., Health Science '18
Victor L., History '18
Crescencio G., Business Admin '19
Elizabeth J., Sociology '19
Erick R., American Studies '19
Mustafa Z., Business Administration '19
Erik P., Business Administration '20
Karel M., English '20
Carolina M., Child & Adolescent Dev. '21
Kimberly P., Nursing '21
Luz A., Mathematics '21
Omar R., Computer Science '21

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIV.

Diane N., Business Admin & Marketing '17

CSU LONG BEACH

Eva M., Sociology '14
Ingrid E., Political Science '16
Ismael G., Health Care Admin '16
Oscar R., Health Care Admin '16
Pauline N., Marketing '16
Rowenda F., Psychology '16
Alejandra J., Recreational Therapy '17
Daniela G., Sociology '17
Itzel R., Communications '17
Mayra R., Social Work '17
Monica C., Communication Studies '17
Arlette P., Human Development '18
Daisy R., Child Development '18
Josue L., Sociology '18
Liliana M., Recreational Therapy '18
Yesenia T., Sociology '18
Allan-Paul, Mechanical Engineering '19
Isidro G., Sociology '19
Jazmine A., English Literature '19
Mayra V., Recreation '19
Julie V., Recreational Therapy '20
Monica, Human Development '20
Dianne E., Community Health Edu '21
Jonathan M., Sociology '21
Kevin C., Management '21

CSU STANISLAUS

Cynthia A., Sociology '19
Kelly C., Kinesiology '21

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIV.

Louis R., Journalism '15

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIV.

Brenda R., Psychology '17

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIV.

Jesse R., Mathematics '18
Leonel M., Latina/Latino Studies '19

SAN JOSE STATE UNIV.

Alba R., Communications '17
Margarita M., Environmental Studies '18

UC BERKELEY

Maryam Z., Interdisciplinary Studies '16
UC IRVINE Jessica C., Urban Studies '16
Alexis M., International Studies, '17
Erica S., Public Health Policy '17
Jessica L., Social Policy & Public Serv '17

UC LOS ANGELES

Lucia C., Linguistics & French '16
Fabiola O., Psychology '18

UC MERCED

Lizeth O., Mechanical Engineering '21

UC RIVERSIDE

Gaviota H., Psychology '17

UC SAN DIEGO

Edwin R., Cognitive Science '13
Ana M., Biochemistry '17

UC SANTA BARBARA

Eduardo M., Global Studies '16
Jennifer A., Psychology & Spanish '16
Isai C., Communications '17
Stephania L., Sociology '17
Aileen A., Political Science '20
Celine R., Sociology '20

UC SANTA CRUZ

Lucero A., Sociology '16
Karissa O., Sociology '17
Priscilla R., Psychology '20

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

Eduardo C., Sociology '17

CERTIFICATES & LICENSES

CARRINGTON COLLEGE

Katherine C., Veterinary Tech '17

CONCORDE CAREER COLLEGE

Rosibel G., Medical Assistant '15
Angela A., Dental Assistant '19

FULLERTON COLLEGE

Yulma G., Cosmetology '16

GOLDENWEST COLLEGE

Robert M., Criminal Justice Law '18
Stacey L., Cosmetology '19

SANTIAGO CANYON COLLEGE

Jason C., Fire Tech '17

UEI COLLEGE

Ayne O., Business Office Admin '20

GRADUATE SCHOOL

ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY

Eduardo M., Education '18

CSU DOMINGUEZ HILLS

Marissa H., Social Work '19

CSU EAST BAY

Jesse R., Education Technology '21

CSU FULLERTON

Miguel Z., Single Subject Credential '20

CSU LONG BEACH

Mayra R., Social Work '19
Monica C., Business Administration '20

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT

Eva M., Special Education '20

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIV.

Elizabeth J., Education '21

USC

Jennifer D., Social Work '20



Thank you for investing in our future

