

## “Putting in the Work to Capture My Dreams”

### Director's Desktop



Geraldine E. Graham, Director

Wow! Fall semester seems to have just whizzed by and already it is final exam time in the target schools. Since September we've been busily working our Academic Year Plan of Operation and trying to generate creative ways of achieving Project objectives to enhance the PUB experience for Scholars.

Fall **Saturday Academies** concentrated on Math and English ACT prep while winter Saturday Academies will focus on Reading and Science ACT Prep. A new structure for after-school **College Club** is working well with increased accountability for both tutors and PUB Scholars.

The **PUB Parent Association** has been meeting monthly. They've been involved with PUB's Community Service activities, fund-raising, and financial literacy.

Fall was also a time for **professional development**. In October, PUB sent 8 delegates to the MAEOPP (Regional) Student Leadership Conference in St. Charles, IL (see articles inside). And we are pleased to have walked away with **2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 2012 TRiO Idol Talent Contest**. In November, Ms. Delia and Mrs. Clements attended TRiO training that enlightened them greatly regarding the legislative, regulatory, and managerial aspects of running an Upward Bound Program.

PUB's **2012 postsecondary enrollment goal** was far exceeded. In June 2012, 26 active PUB seniors graduated from high school. Each had completed the FAFSA and been accepted to at least 1 college or university by April 2012. We are pleased to report that **of PUB's 26 active June graduates, 22 (84.6%) enrolled in postsecondary education in the fall of 2012**. In addition, of the other 16 inactive prior year participants (students who were in PUB but did not stick with PUB) who graduated in 2012, 11 (68%) enrolled in postsecondary education last fall. This significantly lower college enrollment rate for non-completers is proof that it pays to stay in PUB! **Overall, then, PUB's Class of 2012 postsecondary enrollment rate is 78.6%, exceeding our 68% objective.**

PUB Scholars and Parents were heavily involved in **community service** this fall.

- ♦ At the end of October, the PUB Administrative Team volunteered to assist with **College Application Week** at Pontiac High School.
- ♦ On November 17, PUB was represented at the **Alpha Kappa Alpha 2012 Teen Workshop** in Novi, Michigan by seniors Renee Thornton, Talisha Williamson, and Cristopher Morales escorted by PUB alumnus Larry Watkins II.
- ♦ Also in November, PUB **donated 273 food items** for the Lighthouse Thanksgiving Project as well as 86 volunteer hours to pack and deliver food baskets.
- ♦ In December, PUB **donated 121 hats, scarves, and gloves** to the Baldwin Center Clothes Closet.

Moving forward, we are anticipating attending the first U.S. Dept. of Education Higher Education Programs **national meeting for TRiO Project Directors** in March. PUB is also launching a **new electronic communication just for seniors** that will remind and update them on steps to take to assure college entry and financial aid availability for their college freshman year next fall.

*Geri Graham*  
Project Director

# Did You Know . . . ?

⇒ PUB had 4 Scholars on the fall 2012 Championship Oakland County Robotics Team: Nadia Adams, Sabrina Eaton, Shane Pfeiffer, and Becky Yang.



Nadia Adams



Sabrina Eaton



Shane Pfeiffer



Becky Yang

⇒ Shane Pfeiffer has been accepted to Cranbrook-Kingswood High School beginning next fall.

⇒ Talisha Williamson is an AKA Debutante.



Talisha Williamson

⇒ Jordan Cowser, whose goal is to be a physician, has an agreement with a local hospital that allows him to observe surgeries.



Jordan Cowser



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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S  
PROJECT UPWARD BOUND  
COLLEGE PREP ACADEMY**

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**Please enjoy the full color version  
of IN FOCUS at PUB's website:**

**[www.oakland.edu/upwardbound](http://www.oakland.edu/upwardbound)**

**Our Facebook Page:  
Upward Bound OaklandUniversity**

## NEW CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

### 14TH U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT



SOURCE:  
[www.michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov)

DAVID PIERCE, MOSES HARRIS  
/DETROIT FREE PRESS

The number of representatives a state has in Washington, DC is determined by the state's population. So, as a result of the 2010 U. S. Census in which Michigan's population went down, the State Legislature re-drew the lines that define the state's U. S. Congressional Districts. In other words, the Michigan legislature identified different townships, villages, and cities that would be grouped together to form a district to be represented by a Congressperson in the U. S. House of Representatives. The new districts became effective in 2012.

Oakland University and our target schools and areas were all in U. S. Congressional District 9 prior to 2012. Now, the University is in District 8 while the target schools and areas are all in District 14 (pictured above). Representative Gary Peters was the District 9 Representative. He ran for election in District 14 and won; so he will continue to be our representative in this 113<sup>th</sup> U. S. Congress. In addition, Michigan still has two U. S. Senators. Both Debbie Stabenow and Carl Levin won re-election.

# Parent News

## Helping Your Child Meet HS Graduation Requirements

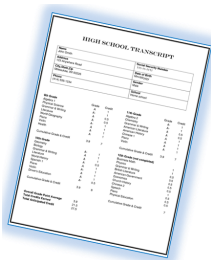
**18 Academic Credits:** Parents, here is a simple 1-2-3-4 way for you to be involved in your child's education. Here is a list of the number of credits that the Michigan Department of Education requires a child to earn in each subject to graduate from high school:



- 1 credit each: Physical Education/Health and Visual/Performing/Applied Arts
- 2 credits: Foreign Language
- 3 credits each: Science and Social Studies
- 4 credits each: English/Language Arts and Mathematics

### What parents can do:

**Get** a copy of your child's **transcript** from the school. It shows the number of credits earned in each class. In general, one-half credit (.5) is earned for each class in each semester.



**Add** up the number of **credits** your child has in each required subject.

**Check** your child's **class schedule** at the start of each fall (September) and winter (end of January) semester. If necessary, intervene with the school counselor to make sure your child is enrolled in required classes.



**Adjust** your earned **credit count** each time you receive semester (not marking period) grades.

Each high school also requires **40 hours of Community Service**. Students will need your support for transportation and you may have to sign a release for volunteer work. Here are some ideas:

Hospitals & Nursing Facilities or Boys & Girls Clubs

Salvation Army, Lighthouse of Oakland County, or Habitat for Humanity

"Soup kitchens" and/or clothing facilities like Baldwin Center or Capuchin Kitchen



Disabled or elderly citizens in the community

If the organization or individual doesn't provide community service certificates, create one on your computer and just have the volunteer entity sign to verify the date and amount of time that was donated. All signed certificates should go in the PUB portfolio. By volunteering just 5 hours each semester during high school, this requirement can be easily met.

The final requirement is **an Online Learning Experience**. Check with your child's school to determine if this is being provided through a class. PUB is also in the process of incorporating online learning into College Club and Summer Academies so that we can document that the requirement is met.



Of course, **a passing grade** is always a requirement. This will make your child more competitive for college admission and, ultimately, career opportunities.



## Financial Literacy Workshops for Parents

On Saturday, January 12, 2013, the PUB Parent Association experienced a workshop that provided an introduction to Financial Literacy. It included such topics as Planning for College, Budgeting and Money Management, Saving and Building Wealth, Building and Protecting Credit, FAFSA and College Loans, and Protecting Against Identity Theft. Beginning next fall, PUB will present a series of Financial Literacy workshops for parents that more fully explores each of these topics on separate Saturdays.

Also, when a PUB Scholar becomes a high school senior, both parent and Scholar attend a 2-part workshop together to learn about and complete the FAFSA. For this year, Part 2 of that workshop also took place on January 12 so that PUB's graduating seniors could be among the "FAFSA Early Birds."

Our thanks to Tarissa O'Malley from MSU Federal Credit Union and Carrie Gilchrist from Oakland University's Financial Aid Office for facilitating these two workshops.



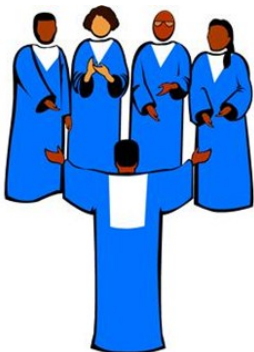
Tarissa O'Malley



Carrie Gilchrist

## Gospelfest Planning

Planning is beginning for the 2013 Annual Gospelfest scholarship program. We would like to start by inviting youth choirs, mimes, and drama groups from the churches where PUB families attend. If you would like for one or more groups from your church to be invited to participate, please bring the contact information to



the PUB Parent Association Meeting on Saturday, February 16 at 9:30 a.m. in room 365 South Foundation Hall. All proceeds from the Gospelfest go directly to scholarships for PUB alumni who enroll at Oakland University.

## Fall Fundraiser

Every year the PUB Parent Association's fall fundraiser is dedicated to supporting a trip for a parent and/or PUB Scholar to the Council for Opportunity in Education's (COE) Annual Policy Seminar. This is when TRiO supporters from all over the nation gather in Washington, DC to talk with Congresspersons about the value of TRiO programs in their districts and in reaching the U.S.' higher education goals. No testimony has more impact than that of a student who has been served by a TRiO program.



To go to the COE Policy Seminar costs about \$1,800; so that was our fund-raising goal. By using the Little Caesar's Pizza and Cookie Dough fundraiser and through parent donations, the Association raised about \$800 (44% of the goal). Although the goal was not met this year, the funds will be held and added to next year's total. So the trip will be scheduled in the year when enough money is raised to fund it.

Little Caesar's reduced our cost by \$50 because we sold more than 100 units. As an incentive, that \$50 was promised to the parent who sold the most products. **Congratulations to Ms. Darline Dowell who sold 45 units!** Hopefully everyone can match or surpass that next year!!! We appreciate the efforts of those who participated this year.



## FROM THE ACADEMIC COORDINATOR



**Carolyn Delia**  
Academic Coordinator

### **PUB Staff Light the Way**



It is not difficult for people to talk the talk, but walking the walk is another matter. Like youth everywhere, our PUB scholars do a much better job of imitating behavior than taking advice. So PUB is particularly proud to spotlight the achievements of our tutors and academic staff members who are role models for the PUB participants.

Those reaching academic goals include the following:

- Ms. Ashley Bothuel, a recent addition to our Saturday Academy teaching staff, is completing her student teacher's internship in April and will receive her teaching certificate. She has her bachelor's degree and master's degree with majors in English and English-as-a-Second Language.



- Ms. Sarah Maas is also completing her student teaching internship in April and will receive her bachelor's degree and teaching certificate.

- Ms. Rebecca Tomczak, College Seminar Facilitator, has returned to Oakland University for her teaching certificate. She earned her bachelor's degree before joining PUB.



- Catherine Pannell, a PUB alumni and tutor, is interning in social work and preparing for graduate work.
- Tutor, Cassandra Barnes, will receive her bachelor's degree (psychology and pre-medicine) in April.
- Former office assistant and Peer Mentor and WSU-UB alumnus Theresa Floyd, is completing her physical therapy internship and will receive her bachelor's degree later this year.

Several former PUB tutors have completed their studies and moved on to their new careers. These include Surabi Sahu, Vismay Luhana, and Amruta Sonararia. They contributed greatly to the math and science knowledge of our scholars and have recently accepted positions as physical therapists.

PUB tries to enrich the lives of our scholars on four levels – academic, social, cultural, and career. Our staff not only achieves in academics, but also models the ideal of a balanced life. We do know how to have fun.

- Natalee Baetens, a tutor, is a member of Enchanted Productions. This theatrical company presents the Enchanted Princess Balls in which the audience interacts with the performers. The productions retell classical children's stories and the children in the audience, dressed in their "royal attire," join in the dancing.



- Cortney Hopkins-Dorris, a PUB alumni and tutor, is the president of the Fashion House of OU. This student organization has presented several fashion shows – TrafficStoppers (in November 2012) and Mandarendare, one of the calendar events for Oakland University's African American Celebration.



Congratulations to the Academic and Instructional Teams on their many and varied achievements. We sincerely hope our PUB scholars follow their lead.

### **REMAINING SATURDAY ACADEMIES**

<b>February 2:</b>	<b>College/Career Day</b>
<b>February 16:</b>	<b>PUB Make-A-Difference Day</b>
<b>March 2:</b>	<b>ACT Prep, College &amp; Senior Seminars</b>
<b>March 16:</b>	<b>Graduation Banquet (after class)</b>
<b>May 18:</b>	<b>Iowa Test</b>

**College Clubs will be in session through the end of March.**

*Ms. Delia*

## OAKLAND UNIVERSITY – PROJECT UPWARD BOUND COLLEGE PREP ACADEMY 2012 MAEOPP STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ARTICLES

October 26-28, 2012, I had the pleasure of attending MAEOPP's Regional Student Leadership Conference at the Pheasant Run Resort in Illinois. Seven other UB students and I went to workshops and met with students in other TRiO Programs from all over the Midwest.



Talisha Williamson

We each went to 3 workshops. My favorite was, "Preparing for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workplace" about future jobs. The facilitator, Mr. Harding, started with an interactive math game, then showed us jobs that will be available in the future as well as jobs that would no longer be available. He encouraged us to keep up with new technology and with the news.

Another thing I enjoyed at the conference was using social media to express our appreciation for the TRiO Program in which we are involved. We got to tweet and post statuses on our personal Facebooks to tell why we love our TRiO Programs. We used hashtags like #TRiOworks, #iLoveTRiOBecause, and #WhyTRiOworksForMe, while tweeting people like President Barack Obama and other celebrities. I felt like this was a creative and effective way to show that we don't want funding cuts on programs like PUB.

The Regional SLC was a great experience. It's always nice to be around people in the PUB Family.



Sa'Vonne Keys

My MAEOPP Student Leadership Conference experience was outstanding. At first I didn't think it would be this amazing and fun; but they proved me wrong. I met plenty of diverse people and I enjoyed each and every moment throughout the weekend.

My first workshop was "The College Greek Life from Alpha to Omega" where I learned about different kinds of fraternities. What really hit me was that you can't be a part of every other organization; that was something I didn't know. Fraternities are built through brotherhood and not just competition.

My second workshop was "Study Skills" which taught about how so many teens procrastinate on studying and how studying is very important.

The talent show, TRiO Idol, was great. People really loved my poem. They treated me like I was a king – and, growing up, I never got that feeling before. I'm glad my poem was able to touch hearts and people.

I really love being in the TRiO Program. I am going to miss everyone I met in Illinois and I appreciate everything they have done for me. This trip was fun, outspoken, and fantastic! #TRiOworksBecause if it wasn't for TRiO, I wouldn't be the man I am today!"

My outing with Project Upward Bound to the Student Leadership Conference was an excellent experience for me because I learned a lot. The first night, we attended the student volunteers meeting and then signed up for the workshops we planned to attend. This was quite fun because we got to meet some new people from different states.



Tiara Thomas

The second day we actually went to the workshops that we signed up for; my first one was "Financial Literacy." Facilitator Richard Taylor talked about the importance of saving money. He told us about the different types of banking, the difference between checking and savings accounts, and that we should create a budget. Mr. Taylor also told us about credit scores and that it is important to keep a high score. He introduced us to the FAFSA and explained what it does.

My second workshop was “Movin’ Up” (making a transition from high school) and we got to ask questions about the transition from high school to college. The college students said, “Most people don’t make a good transition; you just have to do the best you can.”

Our third workshop was “Advocacy.” Basically it was about social networking to get the word out about TRiO. My final workshop was “College Jeopardy.” It was a jeopardy game based on what we knew about college. We had an awesome time at the talent show and dance.

Overall, this outing was outstanding! I really enjoyed myself. I learned new things, met new people, got information on things that I didn’t know and got into more depth about the things I did know. This is an experience that most students should have.



Vanessa Perkins

My outing with Project Upward Bound to the Student Leadership Conference in St. Charles, Illinois was such a great experience for me. The whole trip was incredible.

The motto for this conference was “Advocacy in Action.”

This was my first time going to a student leadership conference. It gave me a fascinating experience. It gave me time to network and meet new people. It also helped me to learn new things by going to the different workshops.

“My Sister’s Keeper” was about how sisterhood was made up of a friendship bond, and trust. Then the speaker started talking about all of the different sororities and all of the positive reasons why people join sororities: friendship, academics, leadership, social activities, community service, and networking. One quote the speaker gave us was, *“For there is no friend like a sister, in calm or stormy weather, to cheer one on the tedious way. To fetch one if one goes astray, to lift one if one totters down, to strengthen whilst one stands.”*

In “Movin’ On Up,” three college students talked about how college was so much different from high school and all the changes they went through. They advised us about what we should do to prepare for college.

Overall, this whole Student Leadership Conference was great; and I will encourage people to go if they get a chance because it gives you a great experience and it is motivational. I would love to go to another one.

I had a wonderful experience at the MAEOPP Student Leadership Conference. I met new people of different races and nationalities. My most rewarding experience was getting to know people from around the country. I don’t socialize much with strangers; but when I did, I found out that there are people who like me for who I am. There were others who didn’t; but they also had bad manners. So, I didn’t stress about it that much.



Cristopher Morales

Overall, the majority of people were nice, and they shared cool stories about their lives that motivated me to do more in my life than just being regular. They motivated me to do more extracurricular activities and strive to never give up.

There was nothing I have to say bad about this conference. I do have to say that more people need to attend such a spectacular event. Also, get the government to fund TRiO with more money because I want to make sure that the students after me get the same experience as I did. I want my children to have the opportunities that I have gained from TRiO.

A great leader is the one who is not afraid to follow such as Martin Luther King. He was not afraid to follow after Rosa Parks’ cause. If it weren’t for the “followers,” none of this would have happened. So, if I could, I would like to thank all the leaders of TRiO for making this possible.





Giselle Rivera Torres

The exact definition of criticism is “the art of judging the merits” of anything. Most people criticize everything and everyone. Not only can criticism be harsh, but there is a better way to say it.

The three A’s are: Anticipate, Ask questions, and Analyze. To anticipate is to expect and prepare for or to look forward to. “Ask questions” is self-explanatory. To analyze is to have a result. The 3 A’s are mainly used for resolving a problem at work, school, home or other places.

I also learned acronyms like EPM which means Emphasize, Point the problem, and Move forward. This is mainly used for problem solving too. Emphasize by saying “I” not “You.” Point the problem by stating what the problem is; and moving forward is giving a solution to move forward.

My experience on the Student Leadership Conference trip was great. At first, I thought that the trip would be a waste of time, and I showed no interest at all. However, the trip turned out to be a wonderful experience. I was granted the opportunity to communicate and socialize with other TRiO and Upward Bound programs from throughout the United States. I also got the chance to attend meetings and workshops with other TRiO Programs.



Jamari Chunn

My first workshop was called “Man Up.” During this workshop, I learned some tips on how to get the girl of your dreams. Moreover, I was taught how to treat women/girls. We also went over the attributes we want or look for in a girl. All in all, I enjoyed this workshop.

My second workshop was “Study Skills.” In this workshop, I learned a lot of things that will actually help me in the future. I learned that you should start college off great and get that GPA up as high as you can so you won’t have to work as hard in the end.

All in all, I enjoyed this experience. I am glad that I became a member of the TRiO Program for the simple fact that it has helped to better my future. And I highly encourage everyone and anyone to join a program like the TRiO Program.

A leadership meeting is meant for leaders, to prepare them to lead on even further. In this conference, I feel that I became more of an individual that follows few and leads many. The few that I follow are my chaperones. They are TRiO alumni and professionals, and they lead by example – an example that I undoubtedly follow.



JoVontae Butts

I had an amazing experience. I made new friends, networked via social media, and had many of my questions answered! There were two workshops that I found extremely interesting: “College Greek Life” and “Indonesia, My Experience.” I’ve been thinking about joining a fraternity and this workshop made my decision. Also, I’ve always wanted to travel somewhere in the east to study abroad; and the Indonesia Project presented by a 17-year-old African-American female gave me a good feel for the topic.

Overall, this was the best Upward Bound trip that I’ve been on since I joined. Not only was the conference itself educational and fun-packed, but the people I took the trip with made it well worth it. I appreciate being invited, and I am glad that I came.



# 2012 MAEOPP Student Leadership Conference



St. Charles,  
Illinois



# PROJECT ADVISOR'S CORNER



Nicole J. Clements  
Project Advisor

Can you believe the school year is almost over!!! What have you been doing with your time? Well I have been doing a lot! I have been helping students set goals through their Student Success Plan Meetings (SSP). If you have not yet seen me, you need to reach me (smile). The students and I have also been exploring different topics during our PUB

Club meetings that are held at each school each month. These topics have included presidential debates, elections and also conflict resolution. It has been a wonderful experience getting to know our PUB Scholars.



## Leadership Development

A group of us took a trip to Illinois for the Regional Student Leadership Conference. I know you have heard from the delegates, but from my perspective, it was wonderful. I really enjoyed seeing our scholars presenting themselves and representing PUB so well and being leaders among leaders at the conference. They helped facilitate workshops, were continually complimented on their demeanor and professional manner, and one delegate even won the talent competition! It was outstanding!



Left to right: Larry Watkins II, Mrs. Clements, Talisha Williamson, Tiara Thomas, Vanessa Perkins, Sa'Vonne Keys (back row) Jo'Vontae Butts, Cristopher Morales (back row), and Jamari Chunn

## Senior Seminar

I have the enjoyable task of working with PUB Scholars during Senior Seminar. More than half of our seniors have applied to several colleges and/or universities. Many of them take our time seriously and have been putting in the

work to accomplish their goals! I would like to take this opportunity to give a "SHOUT OUT" to the following seniors:

### For follow-through on completing college applications:

JoVontae, Jamari, James, JaShawn, Jody, Cierra, Sa'Vonne, Cris, Kiersten, Giselle, Shaquita, Renee', and Talisha

### For finishing their Free application for Student Financial Aid (FAFSA): Jamari, SaVonne, Giselle and Talisha

Last, but certainly the most important, a "Shout Out" for **COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE!**

### JAMARI

Saginaw Valley State University  
University of Detroit Mercy  
Syracuse University

### JAMES

Michigan State University  
Oakland University  
Central Michigan University (scholarship)  
Ball State University (scholarship)

### JO'VONTAE

Michigan State University

### TALISHA

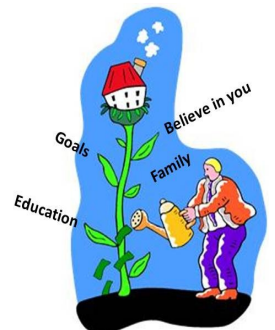
Oakland University  
Eastern Michigan University  
Saginaw Valley State University  
Ferris State University  
Grand Valley State University

Right now, **86% of current seniors are on track to graduate in June.** The other 14% are encouraged to take advantage of College Club to help with Credit Recovery classes so you won't get left behind in June. I will continue to push our seniors towards success and work with them to get the results they want for themselves.

Seniors, be sure to check out "P.A. Pointers" at OU.PUB.Seniors on our Facebook page (Upward Bound OaklandUniversity).

### Inspirational Thoughts:

If you plant a small seed in the ground and water it, that seed will produce a plant that can feed a family for generations. Young people, now is your time to plant yourself in a strong foundation of learning and continue to water yourself with positivity and goals. Then one day, just like that plant, you will be able to feed your family and leave a legacy of greatness for others to follow.



Mrs. C.

## A REMINDER FOR JUNIORS



Once you take the MME/ACT, your whole time on Saturdays, 9:00—11:45 a.m. will be spent in College Seminar. Breakfast will still be at 8:30 a.m.

Those dates are:    March 16, 23  
                              April 6, 13, 20, 27  
                              May 4

Although Saturday Academies end for everyone else on March 16, College Seminar is the equivalent of Summer Academy for juniors. By attending back-to-back College Seminars on Saturdays through May 4, 2013, juniors are free to use their summer for early college, volunteer opportunities, or working to save up for senior expenses.

The PUB Administrative Team thanks all of the following people for volunteering on the PUB 2012 Admission Interview Committee. Contact Mrs. Clements if you want to serve ([clements@oakland.edu](mailto:clements@oakland.edu)).

### 2012 PUB SCHOLARS

Black, Caleb  
3 Hours

Davis, Christopher  
7 Hours

Graham, Desmond  
6 Hours

Johnson, Dawaun  
12 Hours

Kent, Stephenson  
6 Hours

### PUB PARENTS

Carson, Eileen  
15 Hours

Carson, James  
3 Hours

Dempsey, Marjorie  
7 Hours

Perkins, Patricia  
3 Hours

Torres Collazo, Miriam  
3 Hours

### PUB ALUMNI

Dawson, Kyasa  
7 Hours

Motley, Stacy  
2 Hours

Taylor, Ane'  
2 Hours

Watkins II, Larry  
2 Hours

### 2012 PUB Community Service



The van was jam-packed with food items donated to the Oakland County Lighthouse Thanksgiving Project.



More than 120 new hats, gloves and scarves were donated to Pontiac's Baldwin Center Clothes Closet.





**Project Upward Bound  
College Prep Academy**

261 South Foundation Hall  
Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401

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## SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI

*Brandie Trotter*



**High School Attended:** Pontiac Central High School

**College Attended:** Oakland University

**Expected Date of Graduation:** Fall of 2013

**Career Goals:** To obtain my Master's in Social Work as well as my Juris Doctorate.

**How PUB Influenced My Life:** PUB gave me the tools necessary to become a productive member of society, and not just a member. My horizons were broadened, and I was introduced to so many wonderful men and women who impacted my life. I was made aware of all of the opportunities and possibilities that college has to offer. As a young adult, I did not initially take advantage of all PUB had to offer; but as an adult, I have and always will reference the successful impact it has had on my life, then, now and for my future.

**Advice for Current Scholars:** I encourage the current scholars to take advantage of everything. I suggest using the program to your advantage. There is not one skill you will learn in PUB that you will not use in life. PUB is a program that has been customized for the advancement of our future generations.