

Positive Attitude, Endless Possibilities

Director's Desktop



Geraldine E. Graham, Director

Whew! This academic year has been so busy that, until now, I didn't even have time to chronicle our accomplishments and activities for you. It started in August with the "newbies" taking the **Iowa Test** so we could develop their academic plans.

College Club began in mid September to make sure that all participants had the tutoring services they needed to stay ahead of the game. And, wow, did it pay off!!! A resounding **70% of active participants earned higher GPAs for fall 2009** than their September cumulative GPAs. Also in September, many of our seniors received early admission to Oakland University by participating in the annual OU-sponsored **McCree and PUB Scholars Dinner**.

October found us back in St. Charles, Illinois for the Annual MAEOPP (Regional) Student Leadership Conference. We hope you read our 2009 **IN FOCUS Student Leadership Edition** highlighting our **first and third place MAEOPP Oratorical Contest winners**, Cortney Hopkins-Dorris and DeAirra Cole respectively, and write-ups by all of PUB's delegates.

For Thanksgiving, the **PUB Parent Association** donated food, time, and labor to assist **Lighthouse of Oakland County** to assemble and

distribute food baskets to families in need. December's Holiday **Etiquette Luncheon** provided us a festive opportunity to dress up and celebrate.

Returning PUBers were table hosts, and seniors modeled appropriate etiquette as head table guests. But we didn't just think about ourselves. At this traditional time of giving, participants donated more than **75 hat/scarf/glove combinations for children and adults** to be shared between clients of Lighthouse and Lighthouse PATH.



Geri Graham delivering donations to Tricia Pulis, volunteer Coordinator, at Oakland County Lighthouse PATH

January was an intense time focusing on fall final exams and winter semester scheduling. For **parents**, it marked the kick-off of their **winter fund-raiser**. Accompanied by Project Advisor Angela Stalling, at the beginning of February six juniors made the trek over to Kalamazoo for the **MI-CAPP (statewide) Student Leadership Summit**. See the insert for their articles.

February 13 was really busy: Our **Annual College/Career Day** programming was facilitated during regular Saturday Academy hours. Afterward, for **PUB Make-A-Difference Day**, both participants and parents **made and delivered lap blankets to the residents of Oakland County's Garden Oaks nursing care facility**.



That same evening, we celebrated participants' academic achievement with our **Valentine Incentive Award** - dinner and the theatre.



PUB participant Joshua Guy singing to Oakland County Medical Care Facility residents on PUB Make-A-Difference Day.

March was just as busy. On March 6, seniors wrapped up any loose ends related to college admission and financial aid while all other participants took a **practice ACT**. March 13 was the **Parent Empowerment Conference**; and March 20 was the **Annual Graduation and Recognition Ceremony** where parents and school officials listened intently as the Class of 2010 recounted what PUB has meant to them and what their plans are for next fall. **So far, 6 are coming to OU!**

The next day, I, along with parents Renee Blunt and Jacqueline Page, boarded a plane for Washington, DC to participate in **COE's Annual Policy Seminar** (using non-federal funds of course!). I stayed for the **Annual Seminar with the U.S. Department of Education** as well.

Inside this edition, you'll find write-ups and photos about all of this and more; so, enjoy!

Geri Graham

Project Director

"A Federally Funded TRiO Program"

Information You'll Want To Know

MEET THE ACADEMIC COORDINATOR

Although she's been around PUB for a while volunteering, we are pleased to officially introduce Ms. Carolyn Delia as PUB's new Academic Coordinator. Although she is new to PUB, she is not new to all of PUB's participants. Ms. Delia brings to PUB the benefit of her long and productive career with our Pontiac Public Schools target district. In addition to teaching and leading the curriculum development effort, she was also English Department Head. Working at a target school made her transition to PUB a lot easier.



Ms. Carolyn Delia

Here at PUB, Ms. Delia's responsibilities include curriculum development and implementation along with academic assessment and placement. She trains and supervises PUB's teachers and tutors and also instructs teacher education in OU's School of Education and Human Services. Welcome to the PUB Team, Ms. Delia!

Important Dates

- May 14: Professional Development Day for Teachers
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- May 15: Mandatory ITED for 9th, 10th & 11th Grade
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., 3rd Floor SFH
Lunch Provided
- May 17: Senior Seminar Orientation
6:15 – 7:15 p.m. Lake Michigan Room,
Oakland Center (Light Refreshments)
- May 18: Summer Academy Residential Orientation
6:15 – 8:15 p.m., Gold Rooms
Oakland Center (Light Refreshments)
- May 22: New student/parent membership interviews
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Parents Support TRiO

Parents were determined to be successful, and their determination paid off. Their winter fund raiser generated \$1,200 to support the cost of sending two parent delegates to the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) 2010 Policy Seminar. PUB Parent Association President-Elect Renee Blunt was accompanied by Association Secretary Jackie Page. To win the second spot, awarded for the most sales, Ms. Page sold over \$1,200 worth of pizza & cookie dough products. PUB used non-federal funds to match parents' efforts to make sure all expenses were covered for both parents.



Renee Blunt,
PUB Parent Association
President-Elect



Jackie Page
PUB Parent Assoc. Secretary

The Policy Seminar is a day on which TRiO supporters from all over the nation go to Capitol Hill in Washington, DC to speak with their senators and representatives about TRiO issues. See their article about their experience in this issue.

TRiO
UPWARD BOUND

IN FOCUS is a publication of

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

THE SCOOP ON A FEW PUB ACHIEVERS

Way to go Darius Carter! Congratulations on being accepted into Pontiac High School's new Pontiac Prep Program (PPP). Darius began classes at Rochester College on Monday, January 11, 2010, enrolled in 2 credits where he attends three times a week at the end of the high school class day. As a Pontiac Prep Program student, Darius will graduate from high school having already earned an Associate's Degree.



Also enrolled in Pontiac Prep is D'Maea Allen-Seay. Students may begin PPP in their 10th-grade year. If you're interested in finding out how to qualify, contact Ms. Wright in the Counseling Department at Pontiac High School, 248-451-7300.



Jamari Chunn received a Leadership Award from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan. The award recognized his Service, Progress, Citizenship, Cooperation, Achievement, Participation & Sportsmanship. Jamari's award was presented at the Pontiac Boys & Girls Club's Annual Recognition Dinner on March 25, 2010.



Cameron Blunt is a winner twice over! He earned a \$2,500 scholarship by entering an essay contest sponsored by the Detroit Pistons organization. The essay topic was "sportsmanship" and the scholarship was awarded at a Piston's half-time in front of family and friends at the Palace of Auburn Hills on April 7th. The scholarship is good at any college or university that Cameron decides to attend.



Hmm! OU?,
MSU?, Florida A&M?,
Hampton?, Charleston?,
Alabama State?, Tuskegee?
My possibilities are unlimited!



The second honor is Cameron's selection to attend the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, DC. This activity is co-sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council and George Mason University. It comes with the opportunity to earn college credit for participation and includes experiencing a Model Congress simulation and a chance to meet a member of President Obama's administration. Cameron will have to do some fund-raising for this one, so be generous!

PUB's ANNUAL HOLIDAY ETIQUETTE LUNCHEON



JoVontae Butts, Martina Miller-Johnson, and Shaquala Phillips



Jaylynn Hunter and Torria Green



PUB participants helping themselves to hors d'oeuvres before the luncheon



Sequoia Terry, Roderick Mullen, and Shalea Amadore-Harper



PUB Participants enjoying hors d'oeuvres while practicing the art of mingling



Keith Herren



Ledreon Stephens, Jolinda Ingram, Tyler Eden, and Jasmin East



PUB participants enjoying the art of fine dining



Mrs. Jones, Ms. Graham, Ms. Delia and Ms. Stalling



Participants learning the do's and don'ts of fine dining through a presentation given by Ms. Graham



Sa'Vonne Keys, Jessica Ross, Arelis Bernard, and Raijon Fair



Ricky Cohen, Talisha Williamson, and Chantal Jarrett

VALENTINE ACADEMIC INCENTIVE

Congratulations to the participants who met the challenge. At the October 2009 Academic Year Orientation, participants were challenged to increase their grade point averages (GPA) during the 2009 fall term. We are pleased to announce that **70% of active participants made academic improvement ranging from .02 to 1.78**. Their reward was an evening of immersion into local cultural venues.

We began with an all-you-can-eat but cooked-to-order dinner at the **Harbor House of Clinton Township** (about 15 miles southwest of Oakland University). For one price, the entrees included options like frog legs, pork chops, steak, shrimp, fish, and chicken. Everyone drew on their etiquette training to consume all of the different types of foods.

After dinner and a short ride, we arrived at the majestic **Fisher Theatre in Detroit's New Center Area**. The opulent surroundings were very impressive as we were ushered to our seats then whisked off with Dorothy and Toto to the Land of Oz.

Although it was a long day, beginning at 8:30 a.m. with Saturday Academy, it was a rewarding day – a fitting celebration of the positive academic performance of participants.



PROJECT ADVISOR'S WORDS OF WISDOM

Spring is here! And with all the end of the year school activities, it can be easy to become unfocused, but **EVERY GRADE COUNTS TOWARDS YOUR TRANSCRIPT.** You may be asking “what’s a transcript?” A transcript documents your academic achievement in high school. It contains your course grades, semester grade point averages, and cumulative grade point average as well as credits, class rank, and standardized test scores. It’s important that you track your grades throughout high school because this is just one criterion colleges and universities will look at when determining admission. So be sure to regularly meet with your school counselor to discuss your transcript and audit credits to make sure you’re on track for graduation.



Ms. Angela Stalling

College/Career Day

During College/Career Day, participants completed the COPS (Career Occupational Performance System) to match careers with interests. COPS results form the basis for career and college research in Senior Seminar. Participants also met with advisors who made them aware of post secondary expectations, and had the opportunity to ask graduating seniors questions about what to expect during their senior year.

MI-CAPP Student Leadership Conference

Six participants were selected to represent PUB at the Michigan College Access Program Personnel (MI-CAPP) Student Leadership Summit in Kalamazoo, Michigan. This was their first experience at a leadership summit. Their selection was based on attendance, participation, citizenship, and academic standing.



MI-CAPP SLC—left to right: Timarshay Bracewell, Chantal Jarrett, Ms. Stalling, Victoria Nealy-Whitfield, Jasmine East, Rieanne Major and Torria Green.

MI-CAPP Student Leadership Delegates



Initially they believed the Summit would be boring; but, to their surprise, it wasn’t (**see their articles**). These ladies represented PUB well! They were well behaved, actively participated in workshops, and used their dining etiquette skills during meals. I was very impressed; they definitely stood out amongst the other delegates.

I hope that you all remember the goals established during your Participant Needs Assessment (PNA) and follow-up. These are vital to the success of your education. Continue to work towards your goals during the summer.

PUB Graduation

Congratulations to all the graduating seniors! It was a pleasure working with you during this past year of Senior Seminar. PUB wishes you much success in your future endeavors. Please make sure to stay connected to your PUB family. If you have a Facebook page, please request PUB be a friend and/or email us at PUB@oakland.edu each September to let us know what’s up with you. Until next time, be safe, act responsibly, and be successful in college. Much PUB LOVE!

Angela Stalling

2010 MI-CAPP STUDENT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT & TRIO DAY

FEBRUARY 19, 2010

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN



Torria Green

The MI-CAPP Student Leadership Summit in Kalamazoo, Michigan was a terrific experience, especially seeing Upward Bound students from all over Michigan. I learned a lot about different colleges and cultures. This particular leadership conference held lots of workshops. The one that stood out in my mind was, **"Do You Have Swag?"**

I know what you're thinking right about now: swag is the way you dress. Mr. Tandy made it very clear that it isn't. He began to talk about being a "knucklehead" in his teenage years. He said that swag is success, accomplishment, the way you walk into the room and attract attention; and achievement is swag. Mr. Tandy is a very well respected man. He never thought that he would make it this far in his life, being the Upward Bound Director at Wayne State University.

In summary, **swag is a goal of success and achievement**. To achieve, you must believe. Then take action on your beliefs so your future can begin!

The workshop that I attended was called **"Whose Identity is it?"** with Ms. Tiffany Jennings and Ms. Patrice Palmer. Ms. Tiffany is a caretaker, provider, mentor, and a heavy influence on many young girls' lives. All of the tragedies she faced were devastating and sad, but it made her the woman she is today. She graduated and had opportunities in life including being accepted into the F.B.I. for coding. That was a dream she didn't fulfill; but now she is a counselor at Marygrove College and wouldn't change her job if she could.

Ms. Patrice Palmer also had a tough upcoming but now is very successful. She is about to receive her bachelor's degree. With Ms. Tiffany's help and advice through her hardships, both women have found their identities. A quote they both follow is: **"All women need to find what's within themselves."** I, as a young lady, will probably follow that also.



Chantell Jarrett

One of the speakers at the MI-CAPP Leadership Summit was **Patrick McNeal** who grew up in Flint, Michigan. He is a very motivational speaker who brightened up the room with his intelligence and positivity. Throughout his speech, he used many quotes. The one that really stuck out to me was, "Share not only the good; share the bad." By sharing the bad, you will find someone who goes through what you're growing through who can help you better yourself. He outlined **four steps to achievement**: Plan Purposefully, Prepare Prayerfully, Proceed Positively, and Pursue Persistently.

At this student leadership conference, I learned a lot about myself that I never knew I had in me. "You can't change the future unless you know the past!"



Timarshay Bracewell

My experience at the leadership conference was great. I enjoyed the workshops, meeting new people, and just the overall experience. Though we had many different speakers who were great, there was one who motivated me the most. **Diane K. Anderson** talked about learning to **take risks and endure challenges**. She also talked about **setting goals and being around positive people who will help you meet your goals**. I can use this advice in everyday life to help me become more successful.

This leadership summit not only inspired me but gave me more courage to believe that I can do anything I put my mind to. 1, 2, 3 – P. U. B.!



Victoria Nealy-Whitfield

I thought attending the leadership conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan was going to be very boring and I would not like it. But, I actually had fun and enjoyed myself. We were assigned topics to cover and mine was **"Transition."**



Rieanne Major

I learned that making a transition from high school to college can be hard; but, **if you prepare, it can also be easy**. We learned the steps to a successful transition. Developing new **study skills** and keeping your **study schedule** is very important. Also important is creating a personal **budget** and sticking to it so you won't end up in needless debt while you're in school. Finally, dealing with college professors is different than talking to high school teachers; you have to maintain **professionalism**.

In my session, **"Personality Types: Goal Set Leadership,"** we learned about how personality types may affect the type of leader you become and how personality may influence the goals you set.

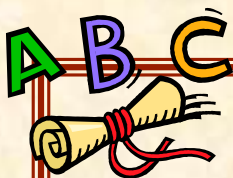
Based on our responses to a survey, we split up into three groups: the otters, the lions, and the golden retrievers. I was an otter – one who is talkative and goes with the flow of everyone else. While in our groups, we had to get to know our peers by name by playing a game. The people in our groups had to get into a circle, get a Beanie Baby, pass it around, and say your name when you received it. We did 3 or 4 rounds remembering and announcing the name of the person we passed it to with more Beanies being added each time.

This session helped me figure out who I get along with best. **I realized that I should try to be more social towards people of different personality types** because I may learn something that will allow me to behave appropriately in different settings.

I learned a lot from this session. **It helped me make more goals for myself** like finding out who I am, who I get along with, and accepting who I am. It gave me the urge to move above and beyond my current standpoint.



Jasmine East



Academic Coordinator's Corner



Ms. Carolyn Delia

College Club

April is a great month. There is Spring Break and no College Club AND – there is Spring Break and no College Club. However, May becomes a little more stressful with final exams just around the corner. Never fear, PUB is here! We know how capable our participants are, so **College Club will resume for the whole month of May** to help PUB members ride the spring breeze through those finals.

Portfolios

One of PUB's goals is to anticipate the needs of our participants and help them prepare for the future. Ultimately, we want to see all of our students attending the college of their choice. Being accepted by a college requires many steps. PUB portfolio work is one of our methods to help participants get ready for those steps. It is also a requirement for acceptance into our exciting Summer Academy.

PUB's target high schools require some version of a Senior Exit Packet. The portfolio contains many of the documents required by their potential colleges: autobiography, resume, college essay, and collection of honors and awards. PUB members start working on portfolios in the ninth grade so that they are perfected by the senior year for translation to e-Portfolio.

PUB has given every PUBer a "Mary Jane Doe Portfolio" packet containing a list of the supplies and documents needed and models and guidelines for completing portfolio requirements. We have had portfolio days at Saturday Academy and College Club. **In May, we expect all portfolios to be up to date.** We will work with the students during College Club to get those portfolios done!

ITED

The dreaded Iowa Test of Educational Development (ITED) is scheduled for **Saturday, May 15**. Why is the ITED so dreaded? It is an all-day test. It totally drains the students. So why do we give the ITED? The results of the test yield very important information. The ITED reveals the strength, and challenges in the education of a student to date. It reveals the level at which participants are functioning. "So what?" you ask. The answer: now we know how to fill in the gaps so that the bits and pieces of knowledge begin to fit together and make sense. It gives PUB a measuring point for helping participants continue to learn and achieve.

The ITED results are also **used as a placement tool** to determine which Saturday Academy and Summer Academy classes would be the best fit. So, students if you don't want to be bored – if you don't want to be doing the same stuff in class again, do your best on the ITED. A true ITED score will get you into a class where you can learn new concepts and grow intellectually. The ITED also **helps participants learn how to take standardized tests** to increase performance on the MME/ACT. And, finally, **don't forget that ITED improvement is a prerequisite for the summer trip!!!**

Practice ACT Results

PUB seniors told us that their ACT scores improved when they took it the second time around. So we thought it would benefit all participants to take a practice test - especially since 2009-2010 Academic Year Saturday Academies have focused on ACT preparation. **PUB's practice ACT was given on March 6** - just a few days before juniors took the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) which includes the ACT encompassing English, Reading, Mathematics and Science.

PUB participants had already completed a shortened version of the ACT in October 2009 as a pre-test for Saturday Academy courses. The March practice test doubled as their final exam and post-test.

The scores on the Practice ACT were very encouraging. Remember that 9th, 10th, and 11th graders took the practice test. We compared their scores to the official ACT scores earned by 11th graders in the target schools. So if a PUB freshman earned an "average" score for their school, that's really above average because they still have two years of course work and learning before they have to take an official ACT. We are very proud of PUB scholars' achievement on the practice ACT.

Comparing pre-test to post- test, **93% of participants showed improvement** on the ACT individual test scores.

On the practice ACT, **70% of participants** (including 9th & 10th graders) **scored at, or above, the average for their school.**

Four participants scored high enough to qualify for a scholarship at some colleges and universities.

Carolyn Delia

ITED

Sat. Acad.

College Club



CONGRATULATIONS! PROJECT UPWARD BOUND 2010 GRADUATING SENIORS

NAME

HIGH SCHOOL

FALL 2010 COLLEGE

Brown, Deshanai

Pontiac Academy for Excellence

Undecided

Cole, De' Airra

Oak Park High School

Grand Valley State University

Tyler, Eden

Pontiac High School

Oakland University

Fair, Ronney

Pontiac High School

Oakland Community College

Hamilton, Travis

Pontiac High School

Oakland University

Hopkins-Dorris, Cortney

Oak Park High School

Oakland University

Hunter, Dontae

Oak Park High School

Oakland Community College

Hunter, Jaylynn

Pontiac High School

Alabama A&M University

Ingram, Jolinda

Pontiac High School

Undecided

Lightner, Chyna

Pontiac High School

Atlanta Metropolitan College

Mullen, Roderick

Pontiac Academy for Excellence

Undecided

Rosado, Efren

Pontiac High School

Oakland Community College

Stephens, Ledreon

Pontiac High School

Wayne State University

Tate, Melody

Pontiac High School

Oakland Community College

Taylor, Ane'

Pontiac High School

Oakland University

Turner, Alexandria

Oak Park High School

Undecided

Vanderpuije, Michael

Pontiac High School

Oakland University

Watkins, Larry II

Pontiac High School

Oakland University

Wright, Jessica

Oak Park High School

University of Michigan—Flint



2010 Graduation & Recognition Luncheon



PUB's 2010 Graduates. Far back - left to right: Tyler Eden, Ledreon Stephens, Ronney Fair, Travis Hamilton, Roderick Mullen, Larry Watkins II. Middle row: hyna Lightner, Ane' Taylor, Alexandria Turner, Cortney Hopkins-Dorris, De' Airra Cole, Jessica Wright, Melody Tate. Front: Effen Rosado, Ms. Graham (OU PUB Director), and Jaylynn Hunter. (Graduates not shown are Deshanai Brown, Dontae Hunter and Jolinda Ingram.)



Parents and Grads





Pontiac High School's Principal Ms. Fair and PUB PHS Grads Efren Rosado, Ane' Taylor, Travis Hamilton, Chyna Lightner, Ronney Fair, Ledreon Stephens, Tyler Eden, Melody Tate, Larry Watkins, and Jaylynn Hunter



Mr. Vargas, PUB's Pontiac Academy for Excellence Contact Counselor, and Roderick Mullen, PUB Grad



Target Schools Officials and PUB Class of 2010



Mrs. Cunningham, PUB's Oak Park High School Contact Counselor, and PUB Grads Alexandria Turner, Cortney Hopkins-Dorris, De'Airra Cole, and Jessica Wright



The PUB Team & PUB Class of 2010



PUB CERTIFICATE & AWARD RECIPIENTS



PUB Academic Achievement: Participants who maintained a 3.0 GPA or above for the 2009-10 AY



Director's Mark of Excellence Award: De'Airra Cole and Ane' Taylor (Highest PUB Award!)



PUB 2009-10 Academic Progress: Efren Rosado, Jamari Chunn, SaVonne Keys, Rajon Fair, Martina Miller-Johnson, Christopher Dowell, and Jessica Ross



2009-10 College Club Perfect Attendance: Courtney Teasley, Chrishe'y Holbrook, Jasmine East, Ashley Carpenter and Erica Butts



2009-10 Saturday Academy Perfect Attendance: Christopher Morales, Timarshay Bracewell, Darius Carter, and Shalanda Taylor

PUB PARTICIPANTS & GUESTS ENJOYING THE GRAD & RECOGNITION LUNCHEON



Programming Changes

Once again, the PUB student body spoke and the PUB administration listened. So here are the improvements for this Summer:



Check-in day will include an Open House – we're hoping to give residents and family members a chance to see Fitzgerald House and the Vandenberg Dining Center.

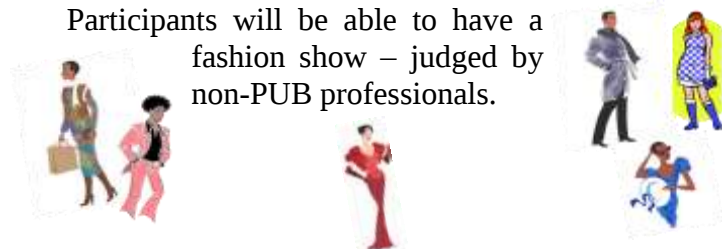


Residents will have two days to get to know one another before classes begin. These days will involve team and character building activities as well as personal development workshops.



Academic Games will reinforce classroom work – not add to it; and there will be weekly as well as tournament team rewards.

Participants will be able to have a fashion show – judged by non-PUB professionals.



Always remember that our primary goal is academic achievement. But we can have fun while learning!

Sensational Summer Academy

The sensational Summer Academy is shaping up spectacularly. The Summer Academy prepares participants for the courses they will be taking in the fall. This year, participants will also have the chance to share their summer experiences in a newsletter. A publications course is being added as an elective wherein students will not only perfect their writing skills, but also learn to use publishing software.

Although summer hiring is not totally complete, we are pleased that some of PUB's 2009 teachers and tutors are returning for summer 2010.



PUB Peer Mentor Receives Award

Congratulations to **2007 PUB Peer Mentor Norris Chase**. On April 7, 2010, he was recognized by the Oakland University Board of Trustees as the **2010 recipient of OU's Human Relations Award**, given to one graduating senior per year. The HR Award is second only to the Wilson Award and is conferred for promoting diversity and unity on campus. Norris follows in the footsteps of Ms. Graham who was the recipient in her graduating class.



NOW HIRING

**PROJECT UPWARD BOUND AT
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY IS SEEKING
PEER MENTORS
FOR THE
2010 SUMMER ACADEMY**

Email PUB@OAKLAND.EDU to
request a job posting.

Go To www.oakland.edu/upwardbound, then
click on "Jobs" for an Employment Application.

PUB's 10TH Annual Parent Empowerment Conference

It was a fabulous day! The **10th Annual PUB Parent Empowerment Conference** sizzled with activity all day. After the continental breakfast honoring facilitators and student ambassadors for their volunteerism, workshop sessions convened.



Facilitators

Ms. Tarissa O'Malley with MSU Credit Union; Ms. Theresa Rowe with OU; Mr. John Savio with MSU Credit Union; and Ms. Karen Vock with Henry Ford Health Systems.



Mr. Anthony Thornton, Manager, with Center for Working Families at Lighthouse PATH for Oakland County, and TRiO Alumnus, facilitated Life Insurance Workshop



The presenters were enthusiastic and so were the parents. Workshop topics were selected by parents at their January monthly meeting; so they were eager to hear what the facilitators had to say. Parents rotated among **five workshops**: “Credit Repair,” “Living with Diabetes,” “Advantages of Life Insurance,” “Home Mortgage Modification,” and, “Digital Ethics, Laws, and Dangers.”

Ambassadors

Mr. Jaylynn Hunter, Pontiac High School; Mr. Roderick Mullen, PAE; Ms. Shaquala Phillips, Pontiac High School; and Mr. Daryl Jackson, PAE.



Etiquette Luncheon

"I didn't know eating involved so much," a parent commented upon taking the etiquette pretest. But after the training, parents exclaimed, "I'm going home and teach this to my children." "I learned so much!"



Ms. Graham conducting presentation

Parent Conference Etiquette Luncheon



Back left to right: Eddie Williamson, Jackie Page, Larry Watkins, Ollie Williamson, Shana Caldwell Front: Tarissa O'Malley, and John Savio



Left (back): Marylou Dristy Right (back): Mrs. Jones
Front: Kim Lewis, Stacey Herren, and Miriam Torress-Collazo



Head Table: Renee Blunt, Reshaunnia Fair, Jackie Page and Larry Watkins



Eddie Williamson, Shana Caldwell, and Ollie Williamson.



Foreground Clockwise: Ileane Tankersley,
Arelis Beaner, Kathy Winton, and Darleen
Sims



Denise Cobb and Geraldine Tucker



The "PUB Spa"

After a full day of intellectual stimulation, it was time to relax mind and body at the "PUB Spa." The moms were absolutely giddy as they flitted among the technicians to get their manicures, eyebrow waxes, and mini massage. The dads who attended were really good sports and interjected a lot of humor when they received their facials!



Darleen Sims massaging Mary Lou Dristy



Quanitra Terry waxing Jackie Page's eyebrows



Renee Blunt and Larry Watkins cleaning up after their facials



Parents waiting on their turns for manicures



LaTonia Thomas gives a guest a manicure



Mary Kay Rep. Rolanda Matthews (right)



Theresa Floyd, manicures Danielle McDonald's nails



Ambassador Shaquala Phillips and Arelis Beaner using a facial mask



Shana Caldwell getting a manicure from LaTonia Thomas

2010 PUB Parent Empowerment Conference

Photo Gallery

Perfect Attendance PUB Parent Association—2009/2010



From left to right: Denise Cobb, Roseta Guy, Larry Watkins, Jackie Page, Darleen Sims, and Shana Caldwell



Parents and staff discussing the upcoming events of the day



Theresa Floyd, Jaylynn Hunter, Roderick Mullen, Shaquala Phillips, Daryl Jackson, and Brittany Hardy



Parents learning from 1 of the 5 available workshops



Renee Blunt



Geraldine Tucker



Roseta Guy



Danielle McDonald



Denise Cobb



Larry Watkins



Darleen Sims



Miriam Torres-Collazo



Reshaunna Fair



Ollie Williamson



Geri Graham and
Kecia Jones



Shana Caldwell



Jackie Page

It was a long day for everyone. But parents left renewed, rejuvenated, and refreshed. And the beaming faces of the parents as they departed was enough to let a worn-out conference committee know that their efforts had paid off.

Special Thanks to PUB Administrative Team members Jackie Sauseda and Kecia Jones who took care of all of the operational details that allowed for a flawless event.

29TH ANNUAL COE POLICY SEMINAR WASHINGTON, DC *"REPORTING FROM CAPITOL HILL: RENEE BLUNT & JACKIE PAGE"*

Important! Wonderful! Rewarding! Powerful! Exciting! The trip to Capitol Hill was all of these exclamations and more. Ms. Page AND Ms. Blunt, along with Ms. Graham, were in attendance at the 30th annual COE (Council for Opportunity in Education) Policy Seminar in Washington D.C. On Monday March 21, 2010, we were in meetings from 8:30 that morning until 6:00 that same evening. We were addressed by 5 U. S. Representatives and Senators from the United States Congress, Democrats and Republicans alike, who are all supporters of TRIO programs.



Renee Blunt, COE's Heather Valentine, and Jackie Page



The Congressmen were very helpful with many suggestions as to how we should approach our own Congressmen when discussing appropriating funds for TRiO programs. Every TRiO program was represented by every state in these United States including Puerto Rico, Guam, and Micronesia. The main purpose for the Seminar was to ask Congress to appropriate \$150,000,000 in funds to sustain the services that TRiO programs provide to underprivileged students and adults across the country. **It is imperative that we, as parents, know how necessary it is to keep TRiO programs like Project Upward Bound functioning.**

On Tuesday, March 22, all of the different regions visited their respective Congresspersons on Capitol Hill to talk to them about how important it is that TRiO receive the necessary funds to sustain the various programs. Ms. Page, Ms. Blunt, and Ms. Graham from Oakland University, along with four other ladies from Cranbrook and Eastern Michigan University made up Team Oakland County. We embarked on Capitol Hill to speak with our specific Congressmen, John Dingell, Sander Levin, and Gary Peters representing Districts 15, 12, and 9 respectively.



Jackie Page,
The Honorable
Donald Payne (D-NJ),
and Renee Blunt

We spent about thirty minutes talking with each Educational Aide. This allowed us enough time to explain how important it is that we receive the support from each one of them and that we need to continue with services to students and adults alike. As we were finishing our last meeting with Carly Hipola (Mr. Peter's Aide), Mr. Peters stepped right off the elevator and we were able to talk to him personally. At the end of the day when everyone had returned from a successful day on Capitol Hill, we all joined in a rally to announce how successful we were. We were also addressed by Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) from the U.S. Congress.

District 9 Visit



Jackie Page,
The Honorable
Gary Peters (D-
MI), and Renee
Blunt

Parents and students alike, we cannot emphasize enough how important it is that we contact our U.S. Representative and Senator to express the need for TRiO programs and our concerns about their survival. We are already looking forward to returning next year to Washington D.C. to fight for Project Upward Bound and the many other TRiO programs that depend on federal funding. Parents I (Renee Blunt) personally want to make a plea to all of you to stay involved in your children's lives. Continue to support them while they are still in High School and even more while they are trying to pursue a higher education.

Team Oakland County



Front: Jackie Page (OU), Renee Blunt (OU), Florence Andrews (EMU) & Geri Graham (OU) - Team Leader

Back: Betty Brown-Chappell (EMU), Leslie Love (Cranbrook), Mr. Peters & Sheila McEntee (Cranbrook)

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