



# COLLEGEbound

College *Is Possible* **TRiO**

February 2008

## Fall Re-cap and Spring Developments

by Gavin Brem

**So many things can happen in such a short amount of time.** Just a few months ago we were fortunate to be awarded two new grants that allowed us to begin to serve schools in the Tacoma School District. We also welcomed new staff members who began work in those schools. They, very quickly, began recruiting new students. Over the course of one



semester we grew from two classes to six, from 85 students to nearly 150, and tripled our teaching staff. This has truly been a season of growth.

We now look toward the spring anticipating more growth. We will be recruiting freshmen at all six of the high schools. Classes at the Tacoma schools began this month. Field trips are being planned, the summer program is coming together and everyone here at College Bound is very excited for what is to come.

## COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We are proud to announce that some of our seniors have already been accepted to colleges and universities!*

Amber Casem: Pacific Lutheran University

Dominique Green: Pacific Lutheran University, Whitworth University

Cassie Ramirez: Whitworth University

Brandon Giles: Western Washington University

Tim Rasmussen: Washington State University

Avery Stone: Washington State University, Eastern Washington University, Central Washington University

Jillian Rutz: Pierce College

Trista Hagen: Alaska Pacific University

Kristy Bell: Pacific Lutheran University



### Mark Your Calendars!

• **February 28-29:** Overnight trip to Seattle Pacific University. Juniors and Seniors only.

• **March 5:** TRiO leadership day with Olympia lawmakers. All classes welcome.

• We are accepting new student applications. Tell a friend!

### Senior Reminders!

• Fill out your FAFSA. Go to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) for more information.

• Complete at least **two** more scholarship applications.

• Retake the SAT (register by April 11) or ACT (register by March 7).

• Begin to narrow your college decision to two colleges.

• Visit a college you are interested in during mid-winter break.

• **FINISH** applications if you have not yet done so!

• Keep your grades up! Colleges will consider your senior year grades!

Be sure to visit our **new website** at [www.collegeboundtacoma.org](http://www.collegeboundtacoma.org) for information on college, scholarships, testing, and resources for parents!

# Cassie Ramirez: Act Six Scholar

**School:** Franklin Pierce

**Favorite Music:** R&B and Rap

**Favorite Movie Star:** Chad Michael Murray

**What college are you attending in the fall?**

“Whitworth University”

**You were awarded the Act Six scholarship. Tell us a little bit about the process of getting the scholarship.**

“I heard about it when I first entered College Bound and we went on campus visits. I was interested, but I was not really focusing on college then. When my senior year came, Mr. Speier approached me like a week before the Act Six scholarship was due and suggested that I apply. In my head I was like, ‘Are you crazy, this is such a short time for a huge application.’ It was stressful having to do three essays and get letters of recommendation as well as school reports, but it was all worth it because I was notified that I had been accepted to the next round. At this point, we went to Todd Beamer HS in Federal Way.

**For more information on how you can become an Act Six Scholar, visit [www.actsix.org](http://www.actsix.org)**

We did a lot of different activities to see which candidates stood out as leaders. They saw leadership skills in me. I was selected as a semi-finalist for Whitworth. During this part of the selection process, we drove out to the campus and participated in many activities. We stayed the night with a host. This was very fun. The next morning, we had an interview with the Whitworth faculty. I was so nervous, but I did well. Afterward, we were able to visit actual

classes with actual college students. I visited the class History of Christianity. The professor knew each of the students names. Our parents were flown out to visit and see where their kids might be attending college. After all that, we had

**“I am also glad that school will be completely paid for!”**



discussions on a poem and an article. I felt as though I did not do very well. However, I must have done okay because not too long after, I received a letter saying that I was selected for the scholarship. Afterward, there was a celebration with a dinner and a retreat with the PLU and Whitworth finalists in a huge house. It was a blast.”

**What has been your favorite part of being a member of the Act 6 scholarship so far?**

“My favorite part of being an Act Six scholar would have to be the fact that we have training every week to prepare us for college so we don’t go into it not knowing what to expect. Also, I am building friendships with the other scholars. I know I will not be alone. I am also so glad that school will be completely paid for!”

**What are you most looking forward to?**

“I am most looking forward to using this opportunity to the fullest and getting the best education I can. I also look forward to moving out on my own in a new atmosphere. I am so excited about it all!”

## The College Bound Summer Program!

by Gavin Brem

**College Bound Summer Programs** are the highlight of the year. Students experience new ways of learning, get to do things they have never done before, and get to see things they’ve never seen before. This summer will be no exception. We have an awesome six weeks planned that will offer challenges, establish life-long friendships, and create fond memories in our new students. We are pleased to share the summer program with you. Right away, we will pile into buses and travel to Oregon where we will see colleges, a Shakespeare play,

and have fun in the sun while staying in the great outdoors. We will learn how to resolve a toxic chemical spill in our Hydroville class. We will build up our knowledge of math and foreign languages as well as learning what it takes to eat right, manage our money, and solve global issues. We will tour nearly a dozen college campuses, see a Mariners game and finish it off with a trip to Wild Waves. Undoubtedly, this summer will rank among the best summers of your lives. We look forward to seeing you there!

**“I really love the field trips. I have been able to meet other students from other schools. It’s been cool.”**

**-Bethuel**

**“If I could, I’d be a freshman in high school again just to relive all of the trips we made!”**

**-Debra**



# COLLEGEbound

## Annual Report 2007 TRiO

Since 1996 College Bound, in partnership with Pacific Lutheran University and the Metropolitan Development Council has been serving local school districts. Our mission is to assist low income and first generation college bound students with college admission. Over the years,

we have seen over 95% of our seniors graduate high school and 78% have enrolled in college. We believe that being a consistent presence in the lives of the students is their greatest motivating factor. 2007 was a fantastic year. Included are our results for 2007.

## Goals and Accomplishments

### Objectives

**1. Select 72 participants: two thirds will be low income & first generation, one third low income or first generation. 20 will be high-risk: with a C or lower grade average and/or no plans for college.**

**Outcome:** Goal met. 83% were low income & first generation. 21 of 94 were high-risk students.

**2. 70% of participants will maintain a 2.5 GPA while enrolled in College Bound.**

**Outcome:** Goal met. 77% maintained a 2.5 GPA or above.

**3. 95% will receive at least 80 hours of academic advising, counseling, and post-secondary enrichment each year.**

**Outcome:** Goal met. We provided 350+ hours of academic assistance via College Bound courses to 100% of our.

**4. 60% will stay in the program through high school graduation as a result of the above.**

**Outcome:** Goal met. 83% of students remained in the program.

**5. 70% of graduating seniors will enroll in post-secondary education.**

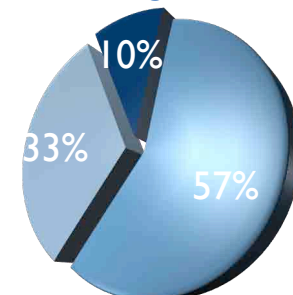
**Outcome:** Goal met. 75% of our seniors enrolled in post-secondary education.

**6. 60% of those entering post-secondary education will attain a bachelors degree within six years.**

**Outcome:** 42% of students have received a BA within six years thus far.

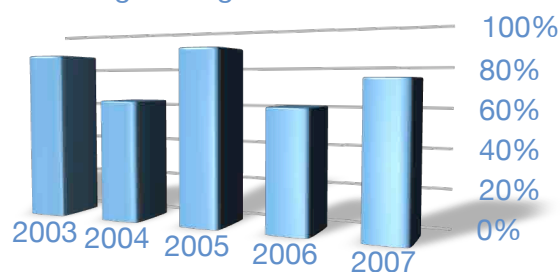
***"College Bound has helped me set strong goals for my future." -Shanika***

Types of Colleges 2006-2007



● 4 year  
● Community College  
● Professional School

College Going Rates\* 2003-2007



\*Compare with local average of 24% and Washington state average of 56%

### Highlights

- 96% of College Bound seniors graduated high school.
- 38 students completed 60 hours of community service during the summer.
- We visited over 20 colleges in 5 different states including Washington, Idaho, New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.
- Two new grants were awarded and our former grant was renewed establishing College Bound in four new schools in Tacoma.
- A dozen students visited with Olympia legislators as part of an education and government day.
- Four students went to Upward Bound Math/Science programs in Alaska and Idaho.
- 94 low-income and first generation students were served.

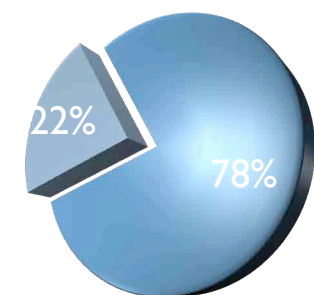
For more information, visit  
[www.collegebound.tacoma.org](http://www.collegebound.tacoma.org)

# Other College Bound Statistics

*"CB has really helped me as a person to open up and find my true personality. It has helped me form friendships that I never would have had."*

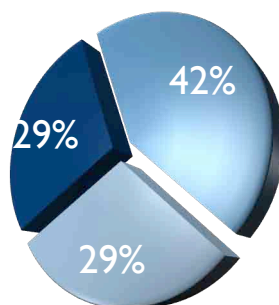
*-Bernadette*

College Enrollment 1996-2007



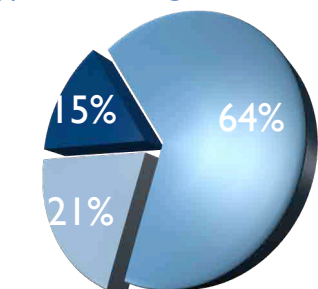
● Yes ● No

Degrees Earned 1996-2007



● Bachelor  
● Associate  
● Partial/None

Types of Colleges 1996-2007



● 4 year  
● Community College  
● Professional School

*"My favorite thing about College Bound is that we do so much that other classes don't get to do."*

*-Kirsti*

*Note: The US national average of first-generation students enrolling in college is 20%.*

## Student Profile

### Avery Stone



**Favorite movie?**

"Titanic"

**Favorite Song?**

"You're Beautiful"

**Why did you join CB?**

"At first, for all the benefits like field trips and money help for SAT/admissions."

**What have you learned from CB?**

"Almost everything I know about college."

**What would you say to a younger student thinking of applying to CB?**

"You'd better!"

**What are your plans after high school?**

"To attend a 4 year and get at least a BA in psychology."

## Contact:

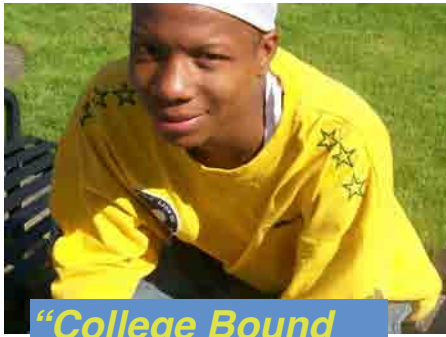
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# TRiO



# Jarontae Brown's Summer Experience



**“College Bound has given me a better attitude towards school.”**

**School:** Franklin Pierce  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Favorite Music:** R&B and Hip Hop  
**Favorite Movie:** Glory Road

**What was the best part about the summer program last year?**

“I got the chance to have on-campus experiences at a variety of colleges.”

**How did the summer program affect your view of your future?**

“The summer program gave me a positive view for my future. I now look forward to college and I am very prepared.”

**What colleges were especially exciting to you?**

“The most exciting college was WSU (Washington State University).”

**How has College Bound helped you this year?**

“College Bound has given me a better attitude towards school. I now have a better vocabulary and a more open mind towards things.”

## Scholarships

Don't let money keep you from pursuing your college dreams. Most people do not realize that there are millions of dollars in scholarships that go unclaimed every year.

The most important thing you can do is complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This will tell you how much money you will need to come up with out of pocket. The second most important thing to do is HUNT FOR SCHOLARSHIPS! Seniors, this must be your mission next to keeping your grades up. The money is out there. Juniors, it's never too early to start looking!

### **SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH TIPS!**

Look for scholarships at your parents workplace, local banks, school district, local foundations like the Greater Tacoma Community foundation and service organizations like the Rotary or Elks Club. Churches and non-profit organizations are also good sources for college money.

**[Here are some scholarships available at www.tacomafoundation.org:](http://www.tacomafoundation.org)**

- Franklin Pierce students: The Elva Austin Memorial Scholarship
- Spanaway Lake students: The Fuchs-Harden Educational fund No. 2
- Washington students: The Victor L. and Elise W. Lyon Scholarship
- Clover Park students: William W. Kilworth Scholarship
- Bethel SD students: There are eight scholarships available for you! Go to [www.tacomafoundation.org](http://www.tacomafoundation.org)
- African American students: [www.blackcollegedollars.org](http://www.blackcollegedollars.org)
- Future WSU students: Check out <http://futurestudents.wsu.edu/scholarships/scholarships.aspx>
- UW also has great scholarships available: <http://depts.washington.edu/specserv/scholarships/>
- CWU has a general scholarship: [www.cwu.edu/~scholar](http://www.cwu.edu/~scholar)
- Willie Stewart Community Service Scholarship: [www.uwpc.org](http://www.uwpc.org)

***NEWS FLASH: A new FULL-TUITION SCHOLARSHIP for 7th and 8th students is available for low-income college bound students who keep their GPA above a 2.0 and remain positive citizens during high school. Tell your friends and family to visit [www.hecb.wa.gov](http://www.hecb.wa.gov) for more information.***

# Community Service

Remember, community service throughout the year is a College Bound agreement! Here are some great options:

- United Way of Pierce County [www.uwpc.org](http://www.uwpc.org). Contact Bethany Singelton at 253.597.6685
- Emergency Food Network. Contact Joanna Rasmussen 253.584.1040
- Friends of Hylebos Wetlands Contact: Hillary Kleeb 253.929.1519



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## About Us:

College Bound is a TRiO Upward Bound program designed to motivate and prepare low-income and first-generation college-bound students for success in post-secondary education. TRiO is funded by a grant from the US Department of Education. We partner with local high schools and Pacific Lutheran University and we are managed by the Metropolitan Development Council. College Bound has been serving schools in Tacoma since 1996. We are currently serving Franklin Pierce, Washington, Clover Park, Bethel, Spanaway Lake, Foss, Lincoln, Mt. Tahoma, and Stadium high schools. This is the final year of services at Bethel, Spanaway Lake, and Clover Park. Please contact us at 253.536.5085 or visit our website at [www.collegeboundtacoma.org](http://www.collegeboundtacoma.org) for more information. You can also read more about the US Department of Education's TRiO branch at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/trioupbound/index.html>.



# TRiO



*The Metropolitan Development Council's College Bound program is 100% funded by a grant from the US Department of Education at \$339,000 for our renewed grant and \$250,000 for our new grants per year.*