On March 24-27, 2019, I attended the Council for Opportunity in Education’s 39th Annual Policy Seminar. The seminar was appropriately entitled “The Urgency for Now.” The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) is a nonprofit organization, established in 1981, dedicated to furthering the expansion of college opportunities for low-income students, first-generation students, and students with disabilities in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., the Pacific Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Its membership includes more than 1,000 colleges and agencies. Through its numerous membership services, the Council works in conjunction with colleges, universities, and agencies to help low-income students enter college and graduate.

COE’s Annual Policy Seminars affords the TRIO and GEAR UP communities the opportunity to educate Members of Congress and their congressional staffs about the history and success of the TRIO Programs and GEAR UP. More importantly, the seminar gives all participants a chance to represent the interest of low-income students, first-generation students, and veterans. I was favorably impressed by the commitment and zeal demonstrated by my colleagues during the seminar. Over one thousand TRIO leaders visited their congressional leader on the Hill, and hopefully our efforts will yield additional support for TRIO.

TRIO continues to emphasize the importance of leadership development in the age of learning. One of the most important qualities a leader must have is commitment. The power of commitment continues to be one of our most important allies in achieving our professional and personal goals. As TRIO leaders, we must remain committed to have a purposeful life. The annual theme for 2019-2020 is: “The quality of my life will be determined by the depth of my commitments!”

Our commitment to challenging Congress to increase TRIO funding in 2018 produced positive results. Last month, Congress provided TRIO with a $50 million funding increase for Fiscal Year 2019, which funds the 2019-2020 program year. This 4.5 percent increase — when applied to all TRIO programs — would consume about $44 million to $45 million in spending. Since its inception, TRIO has helped more than 5 million Americans earn college degrees. The reason why members of Congress advocate for increased awareness and investments in the TRIO program is clear: TRIO Works.

From the desk of HUB Director
Dr. Darryl Taylor, HUB/CK ’70
Welcome to Her Garden - Meet Shakthishree Velmurugan!
By Dr. Darryl Taylor

Not many freshmen enter high school and know exactly how they want to impact their school. Shakthishree (Shakthi) Velmurugan was introduced to the Horizons-Upward Bound Garden as a sixth grader at the Girls Middle School. Shakthi remembers the experience warmly: “we have a garden at home and I have always enjoyed working in the garden.” Since joining the HUB Garden Club last fall, her enthusiasm has been amazing. Shakthi is always the first one to arrive and the last to leave. Based on her performance, dedication and enthusiasm, she was appointed HUB Garden Club President. She started the school year recruiting everyone who has an interest in gardening. Shakthi believes working in the HUB garden is a great way to end a stressful day at school.

HUB and Cranbrook Upper Schools’ Bridging the Divide program created the HUB-Bridge Garden in the spring of 2011. HUB agreed to clear the land, prepare the beds for planting, maintain the garden during the growing season, harvest the summer produce and distribute it to a local church’s food bank. The Bridging the Divide group was responsible for harvesting the fall produce and preparing the beds for winter. The HUB/CK Garden Club was established in the fall of 2013 to give Cranbrook-Kingswood students an opportunity to become more knowledgeable about growing and harvesting fruits and vegetables, the healthy benefits of fresh produce and most important giving to communities that may not have access to it. The garden is now known as the Cranbrook Schools Horizons-Upward Bound Community Garden to reflect the entire community’s involvement. Produce from the HUB Community Garden located on Faculty Way is donated to local food banks.

Shakthi has big plans for the HUB garden. She believes that the HUB Community garden can have a bigger impact on Cranbrook-Kingswood students and ultimately the Cranbrook Education Community.

Cranbrook-Kingswood Horizons-Upward Bound Tutors
By Megan Dixon

The Horizons-Upward Bound (HUB) program was created to give students opportunities that they may otherwise not get at their home schools. Every Saturday, HUB students come to campus and spend the day with Cranbrook tutors and faculty, along with teachers from other schools. They spend their days going over standardized testing material, doing homework assigned by their respective schools, and meeting with mentors in different fields, such as the Oakland University/Beaumont Med Students. Each fall, the HUB Tutor Club co-presidents promote the program at Cranbrook’s Club Fair, often bringing in many new tutors. When recruiting members, we always strive to get students who will be committed and passionate about the program. This year, we had over one hundred students sign up and brought in many new tutors to the program! To kick-off HUB, we take all tutors through a mini seminar and brief them on how to tutor. For many it is their first time tutoring, but we find that they are able to get the hang of it quickly. Additionally, they must get a form signed by all teachers in subjects they would like to be able to tutor. Students will often times get this signed by all teachers, so they have the ability to tutor students in all topics. They are able to teach students of the same age or younger and help in a multitude of ways. The HUB Tutoring Club connects students from a variety of communities and helps everyone learn from each other and better understand each other.
Reflections on the HUB Reading Program

“Reading is the Key” is a favorite phrase that Brenda Gatlin, our Dean of Students, will often say when discussing our scholars and their educational goals. At Cranbrook Horizons-Upward Bound, we believe that working together is critical to increasing the reading success of our students. Therefore, the program integrates reading-education in multiple ways. The reading program offers students exposure to Lexia - an online reading software program, small-group, and 1-on-1 assistance to give the students a more focused approach to improve literacy challenges. The academic year also includes a SAT prep course that offers students tools and practices for how to do well on the exam. Books are given annually as gifts and discussed in teacher led Advisory sessions. Furthermore, there is the Mister Sister reading initiative that requires students to read articles on a variety of subjects and discuss them with entrepreneurs who volunteer their time to interface with our students about the assigned readings, aspects of their careers, and the importance of reading.

When Dr. Taylor, HUB Director, first implemented the reading initiative, the theme was simple: “If you can read, you can succeed.” Five years later, this message has remained true and we have begun to see cycles of improvement from our students who began as freshman, and are soon to attend college! I have always had issues reading, especially reading aloud, because of my stuttering. I never wanted to go beyond the horizon to read in front of people because I got nervous. When I got nervous, I tended to read fast which caused me to stutter or stumble over my words. I knew I had to improve my reading once I started attending Cass Technical High School. My problem was solved once I signed up to go to Horizons-Upward Bound. This program was going to make me become a great reader.

Cranbrook Horizons-Upward Bound is an amazing program that gave me a chance. HUB gave me an opportunity to improve my reading. Two wonderful women, Ms. King and Mrs. Seaton believed I could do it and I did! I learned to understand the concept of what I was reading through comprehension and vocabulary study. I increased my proficiency by becoming a better reader. Also, I enhanced my grammar, sentence phrasing, and style of writing with the help of the program, Lexia PowerUp. Early on, fluency was my reading struggle. It hindered me from reaching my goal. I always read too fast, so I wanted to change that by reading a chapter of a book aloud everyday. Last summer, Mrs. Seaton and I did one-on-one reading from my home school summer reading book, “Hotel Rwanda.” Mrs. Seaton and I would read aloud each day. Then, she would ask me questions to make sure I understood the chapter I read, and the events that were happening in Rwanda.

I appreciate everything HUB has to offer when it comes to reading. It helped me build self-esteem. The more I read, the more knowledgeable I became. I started to gain courage that I was improving, which lead to my confidence. I felt well prepared when I took the reading and writing section of the SAT.

By Markeita Jackson (Pictured)

The power of reading is beneficial and builds your skills and knowledge. Upon my acceptance in Cranbrook Horizons-Upward Bound, one of the things I struggled with was reading comprehension. But with the help of this program, I got the chance to improve my reading skills and background knowledge. This program helped me build on my reading skills with the help of MISTER/SISTER, Lexia PowerUp, Reader’s Digest and the summer reading/language arts classes. Those things really were fundamental because I was able to enhance my skills while understanding the context of what I was reading.

The challenge of becoming a better reader was intimidating, but it encouraged me to realize the problems I had in reading. I was reading too fast and not pausing at punctuation, which caused me not to understand what I was reading. This affected me in school. If I was assigned to read a text and had a test on it the next day, I would not be able to remember what I read due to reading too fast, unless I slowed down and took pauses to retain the information. As a result of that, I started to annotate and take notes as I read, so that I could ask questions to get a better insight. This definitely helped me become more successful in school and improve my understanding of the books I read.

Overall, my reading journey has been a successful one because of the resources Horizons-Upward Bound has given me and the help of my Reading and English teachers. One of the resources I recommend someone use if they need improvement in their reading skills is Lexia PowerUp. I say that because it is really beneficial to learn more grammar, word study and comprehension. My reading skills have gotten so much better, which will be a good thing that helps me in the long run.
2019 MI-CAPP Leadership Conference
by DuRon Grant

This year’s MI-CAPP Leadership Conference took place on February 15th in Ann Arbor, at the Kensington Hotel. Hundreds of students from all over Michigan convened to share their TRIO experiences, to learn from one another, and to attend mini-workshops. Besides Cranbrook’s Horizons-Upward Bound Program, there was participation by others, such as the Central Michigan University Upward Bound, the Michigan State University Upward Bound, Wayne State University Upward Bound, and a science and math Upward Bound at Northern Michigan University in the Upper Peninsula.

The purpose of the conference was to inspire us to carry the torch forward: by making use of the many resources that TRIO offers on both the high school and college levels, to network, to mentor, and to lead. One speaker was most impressive. He told us, “There’s nothing wrong with being different, because that’s what leaders do. They bite the bullet for everyone else.” In addition, we were able to attend several individual workshops on money management, college preparation, time management, and goal setting. I enjoyed the goal setting session most of all. Often we think of the big picture without ever focusing on taking the “baby steps” necessary to achieve a goal.

The facilitator for this session stated, “The hardest part of completing a task is not doing it, but actually getting started.” Baby steps are more important because they allow us to accomplish a project in small chunks and keep the process going until we make it to the finish line. This way we are not overwhelmed.

We also had some time to socialize by watching movies, playing games, and attending a dance on Saturday evening. On our last morning, students were awarded scholarships for different activities. Before leaving, Dr. Taylor and Ms. Gatlin took group pictures with our HUB attendees: chaperones Mr. Anthony Harbin and Mrs. Taylor; 11th graders Rupnahr Ali, Heidi Arellano-Cruz, Shayla Brown, Zander Byrd, Kyle Griggs, Sydney Gulley, Nyleigh Hawthorne, Chakayla Jackson, Malisha Jackson, Markeita Jackson, Kyle Perry, Torri Perry, and Jessica Ramirez; 12th graders Shanyia Clark, Jamaya Ewing, DuRon Grant, Terence Ireland, Torence Ireland, Leila Noman, Erik Reyna, and Taylor Seaton.

I had a great time at the conference and encourage others to take advantage of this opportunity to attend next year in order to broaden their horizons. It is definitely worth it! Remember – HUB gives you nothing but a chance.
The 2018/2019 Recruitment Process  
By Brenda Gatlin

On Wednesday, October 24, 2018, the 2018/2019 recruiting process for the Cranbrook Horizons-Upward Bound program commenced with visits and presentations to middle schools located in the Detroit Public Schools Community District. The recruiting process was organized into two phases. The first phase consisted of middle schools located on the East side of Detroit, and the second phase included middle schools located on the West side of Detroit. Because of the target schools selected in the five-year Government grant – East English Village Preparatory Academy, Martin Luther King Jr. Senior High School and Western International High School – the team was able to recruit from a wide variety of middle schools.

The 2018/2019 Recruiting Team consisted of Ms. Brenda Gatlin, Academic Dean of Students in charge of the Recruitment Process, and Mr. Anthony Harbin, Admissions Counselor. Mrs. Toni Chan, Program Manager, and Ms. Annie Duerr, College Counselor, assisted at two of the schools.

The HUB Recruitment team visited more than twenty-five Detroit Public Schools Community District middle schools, presenting valuable information about the Horizons-Upward Bound program to 8th grade students. Students who were interested in applying - immediately became ambassadors of the program by taking the information home to and discussing with parents/guardians. Subsequent to the presentation to parents/guardians, students returned to school and requested an application from their counselor. Over 90 applications were received.

The next step for those who completed an application was to attend the “New Applicant Day” at Cranbrook on Saturday, April 13, 2019. The “New Applicant Day,” an extension of the application process, and is an event when students who have submitted applications, accompanied by parents/guardians, come to the Cranbrook Campus and vie for a position in the program via a battery of tests, interviews, and other activities. Fifty-eight of the ninety-three applicants reported to Cranbrook. Forty-six students will be selected for the program. Students and their parents will be notified during the month of May as to whether they were admitted into the program or placed on the waiting list.

For over 54 years, the recruiting process for the Cranbrook Horizons-Upward Bound program has been responsible for identifying and accepting myriad students into the program.

On Monday, May 20, 2019, we will celebrate the hard work of Counselors and Principals of the middle schools visited by bringing them to Cranbrook for a Celebratory Breakfast. Principals are to be commended for allowing our team to present at their schools. Counselors are to be commended as they worked assiduously to ensure that applications were completed and ready to be submitted.

The Recruiting Team looks forward to beginning the process again during the 2019/2020 school year.

2019 HUB College Tour  
By Annie Duerr

This year, we had our largest college tour so far with 34 sophomores and 4 juniors in attendance. We visited the following schools: Central State University, Denison University, Central Michigan University, Alma College, Jackson College, Western Michigan University and Grand Valley State University.

The college tour is an invaluable experience because it allows students to see themselves on campus and connect with HUB alumni who currently attend that school. Students found schools they loved, and some they would not like to attend but they more importantly came up with a list of characteristics they’d like from a college or university. These characteristics will guide their college search over the next few years. The college fair happening at HUB this summer is a great opportunity for students to ask more questions and meet representatives from other colleges and universities.

Reflecting on the college tour, Tayiona White shared the following information that is useful to pass along to every HUB student. She said, “There were a lot of opportunities that arose that I didn’t even know existed. College is going to be hard, but I thought it was going to be impossibly hard. It’s doable. There are so many ways that I can go to college and I didn’t know that they existed.”
Congratulations to our

Jaliyah Alston
Jackson College

Meliyah Alston
Jackson College

Claudia Alvarez-Gutierrez
Michigan State University

Alexus Bantom
University of Detroit Mercy

Alicia Bantom
Oakland Community College

Marcus Barham
Morehouse College

Sadia Begum
Michigan Technological University

Ariah Bradford
Michigan State University

Shanyia Clark
United States Marines

Daimon Coleman
United States Military

Mycab Cooper
Michigan State University

Kelsey Dinwiddie
Michigan State University

Jamaya Ewing
Jackson Community College

Dominic Finley
Michigan State University

Paries Glover
Xavier University of Louisiana

DuRon Grant
Michigan State University

Dallas Griffin
Michigan State University

Hope Hatcher
Jackson College

Ranajea Henry
Michigan State University

Cydni-Terre’ Hollingshed
Jackson College
2019 HUB Graduates!

Terence Ireland
Michigan State University

Torence Ireland
Michigan State University

Kevin Jimenez
Oakland University

Donell Johnson
Bluffton University

Sawda Khanam
University of Michigan - Dearborn

Marcella McCullom
Wayne State University

Destini Mills
Macomb Community College

Diamond Mills
Grand Valley State University

Leila Noman
Michigan State University

Tiaira Oliver
Henry Ford College

Nia Pasha
Central Michigan University

Bianca Perry-Robinson
Lansing Community College

Hamzah Rahman
University of Michigan - Dearborn

Erik Reyna
University of Michigan

Taylor Seaton
Michigan State University

Sarah Staten
Michigan State University

Da’Yanna Wheeler
College For Creative Studies

Not Pictured:
Angel Anderson – Undecided
Kristeana Banks – Undecided
Plez Faraad – Undecided
Stephanie Hernandez – Undecided
Ameenah Kuerbitz – Undecided
Hiram McGee – United States Marine Corps
Tania Redmond – Undecided
Ni’Jee Wafer – Undecided
Andre Washington – Undecided
Brevin Washington – Undecided
Jhazzmyn Washington-Hawkins – Undecided
A Chance in the World with Steve Pemberton  
*By Anthony Harbin*

On Thursday, September 28, 2018, our Cranbrook Horizons-Upward Bound students had a chance to meet and hear a motivating and uplifting presentation by Mr. Steve Pemberton. Born and raised as an orphan in New Bedford, Massachusetts, Mr. Pemberton shared his life story, minor setbacks, and journey from meager beginnings to becoming Divisional Vice-President and Chief Diversity Officer for Walgreens, and now, author of an award-winning book and film, “A Chance in the World.”

This event was magical for our students because Mr. Pemberton is a fellow TRiO/Upward Bound Alum. He stressed the importance of reading, speaking up when called on, striving through adversity and giving your all while being a Horizons-Upward Bound Student. He also stated a major part of his success can be attributed to the relationships he formed with adults especially his UB Director and reading! The speech ended with laughs, questions, photos, gifts and autographed books by Mr. Pemberton.

MISTER/SISTER  
*By Sommer Brock*

Saturday, October 20, 2018 kicked off another successful MISTER (Male Issues Seen through Exciting Reading)/SISTER (Strongly Impacting Sisters through Exciting Reading) program. This program pairs community volunteers with Horizons-Upward Bound (HUB) students for reading activities and an opportunity to learn about different careers. Thirty-eight volunteers participated during four sessions, contributing a total of 144 volunteer hours!

Prior to each session, HUB students received copies of Reader’s Digest which served as reading material during the program. The program concluded on February 16th with a special Leadership MISTER/SISTER session that featured activities such as Leaders You Admire where groups of 3 or 4 student discussed leaders they know or have heard of and why they admire them; and Lost at Sea where students had to work together to determine what items they would bring along if they were shipwrecked.

HUB supporters have a very special opportunity to impact students during the MISTER/SISTER program. We are so very grateful for their partnership.
Cranbrook Horizons-Upward Bound Advisory Program

By Kevin Byrd

Advisory is a strategy used by many schools to ensure that at least one adult in the school (or program) is getting to know the student well and is available to support and advise the student on academic, social and future planning issues. Our advisory program can be described as semi-formal. The administrative staff provides suggested activities, topics, and strategies; however, the staff has great flexibility in topic selection and presentation methods.

At Cranbrook Horizons-Upward Bound, we are consistently looking for ways to improve our efforts to provide students with academic support. We take the time to examine standardized test results from exams administered by each school and school district. Additionally, we measure each student's reading and mathematics levels using the SAT and Lexia. These assessment scores are analyzed and compared to the student's report card grades to develop and plan programs to address their individual and group needs. As we continue to search for better ways to assist our students, we decided to implement the advisory strategy to support students beyond the academic classroom.

This academic school year, each class was divided into groups of ten or less students and each group was assigned to a staff member. The advisory sessions met on the first Saturday of each month during the lunch-time. The staff received weekly support and guidance which included suggested topics and the opportunity to share their group successes and challenges. In the advisory sessions, each teacher is encouraged to use their skills and expertise as a trained educator/counselor/adult to let students know that they are there for them. Students are prompted to examine their feeling, relationships, goals, study habits, expectations, and any other areas that may affect their academic performance. The students have the opportunity to see the challenges of their peers and see how they are not alone as they make their journey to adulthood. Some students share personal feeling and issues, while others seem to absorb more than they share.

Currently we have not tabulated any hard empirical data on the impact Advisory has had on student academic performance; however, we believe that the implementation of this strategy will be beneficial to our program and offer our students another rung of support on the ladders to success.
Beaumont Medical Scholars

By: Jessica Ramirez, Maranda Rowland, and Zachary Hemple

The Beaumont Medical Scholars Program is an opportunity you should not fail to take advantage of if you have interest in pursuing a career in the medical field. The program allows you to gaze into your future and discover a variety of medical careers through the eyes of young medical students and a practicing Medical Specialist. The experiences are not dull with repetitive information. They are engaging, inspiring, and motivational; full of discussions where students have the power to ask an infinite number of questions to gain knowledge unavailable in your local schools.

We were presented with interactive projects and activities that informed and exposed us to issues in health and safety precautions, emergency first aid procedures, CPR training, how to read and understand blood pressure and heart monitors, and knowledge on heart disease. We also engaged in scenarios involving natural disasters, such as how to prepare for them and survive the experience. There was a collegial aspect which included how to prepare and organize your college essay. This is just a small list of activities we experienced.

We all found the activities fun, informative and they assisted some of us in confirming our decision to enter our perspective field of interest. The Medical Specialists were not just available to us during their visits at Cranbrook, they availed themselves to us by giving their email so we could stay in touch in the future when we have additional questions. Overall the Beaumont Medical Scholars Program is unique, inspiring, important, and a must do for any student contemplating a career in medicine. We all extend an invitation for those curious students to join us and be inspired.
A Day at Little Caesars Arena With the Detroit Pistons

By Anthony Harbin and Brenda Gatlin

One of the many goals for the Cranbrook Horizons-Upward Bound program is to ensure that students are exposed to educational and cultural experiences they might not otherwise receive. This includes professional athletic events. Therefore, on Sunday November 11, 2018, one hundred and fifteen students boarded the Trinity Bus and spent the day at the new Little Caesars Arena located in downtown Detroit. The day was filled with activities that broadened the horizons of the students. Although most of our students reside in Detroit, this was the first opportunity for many to visit the new arena.

The day commenced with lunch at Mike's Pizzeria Restaurant, located in the arena. Students enjoyed pizza, salad, and a beverage. Because we were on such a tight schedule and had to be “high time on task” to include all of the activities planned for the day, we were indebted to members of the restaurant staff who were effective and efficient in feeding 115 teenagers and 15 staff in the time allocated. After lunch, the activities planned for the day included a tour of the arena, a panel discussion, a chance to walk on the basketball court, the opportunity for selected students to actually stand by the Piston players during the National Anthem, and an opportunity to shoot a free throw. Students of course were also able to watch the game.

One of the most informative sessions was the panel discussion during a mini-workshop. The panel consisted of four staff members from the Piston’s organization. Students had the opportunity to learn about various job opportunities and internships provided by the Piston Organization. So often, students are only aware of the action on the basketball court. However, after the mini-workshop session they learned about other careers involved in professional sports, “from streaming live entertainment and games, to emerging technology and law, marketing, security and community outreach programs, and much more.” They learned there are so many other operational concerns that must be engaged in to form an organization like the Pistons. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in an informative dialogue.

Subsequent to the panel discussion, students were able to watch the Piston’s in action. Although we didn’t win, all who attended certainly enjoyed watching the action on the court. When the game ended, students had the opportunity to enter the basketball court and shoot a free throw – attempting one shot at each basket. What a thrill for each student. Even some of the staff tried their hand at shooting a free throw. The students had a full day – leaving tired - but appreciative of having the experience.
8th Annual Ben Snyder Memorial 5K Walk/Run

Sunday, June 23rd, 2019

Cranbrook Art Museum

39221 Woodward Ave

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

Register, sign up to volunteer, or donate in support of the 5K at this link: tinyurl.com/y4dchy8q

$20 Online Registration!

$25 ON-SITE REGISTRATION

8:00 am to 8:45 am

T-shirts will be first come, first served.

Kids under 13 are free (no t-shirt)*

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Your support is what enables us to continue to fulfill our mission.

“HUB Gives You Nothing But A Chance”

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