

Outreach

Community Ministries

Restoring Hope, Providing Opportunities

leadership • student • learning • college • diploma • scholar • career • degree • alumni • training • knowledge • certificate • academia • honors • mentoring • leadership • student • learning



COLLEGE

OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM • 2018

From CEO Chris Ellerman

It has been a tremendous year for Outreach's College Opportunity Program. For nine consecutive years every high school senior has successfully completed the SALT program, and this year is the largest class to date! All students have been accepted to at least one college and will be enrolling this fall, from College of DuPage to Augustana and University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. As you will see, many of our current students and alumni are active in their church and communities.



At Outreach Community Ministries, we believe all people, especially young people, should have the opportunity to become all that God intends them to be. Our calling has always been to come alongside our neighbors in DuPage County who are vulnerable—that they would hear this from the Lord: *"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. 'They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.'* – Jeremiah 29:11

This is the mission we have chosen for the College Opportunity Program: To remove barriers, restore hope and provide the opportunity for young people to achieve their college and career goals. Today our graduates are teachers, engineers, career counselors and business leaders. Several have gone on to graduate school. We are proud of their individual achievements and delighted to be part of what God is doing in their lives.

And those achievements wouldn't happen without you. On behalf of each student whose future is brighter as a result of your involvement, thank you for your partnership with Outreach.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Ellerman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" being more prominent than the last name "Ellerman".

Chris Ellerman
Chief Executive Officer



About College Opportunity Program

The College Opportunity Program (COP) removes barriers that prevent promising students with challenging family or financial circumstances from seeking higher education. COP is a holistic college and career assistance program consisting of college preparation for high school students and a college or vocational school scholarship program.



SALT

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LEADERSHIP TEAM (SALT) HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

SALT serves high school students interested in pursuing higher education or vocational training. Students must be motivated to attain high levels of academic achievement, employment and developing life skills. Students meet with program staff during the week for academic tutoring, skill development and activities. Open gym nights and Bible study groups are optional and students participate. College visits, field trips and career nights are offered.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The College Scholarship Program provides a merit-based college or vocational school scholarship to SALT graduates needing financial assistance, along with support services that include a college coach/mentor and on-campus services as needed.



SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS

Fund a future by investing in the College Opportunity Program. Your gift will help underwrite access to higher education for youth at risk. Full-year scholarships for high school SALT are \$2,500 per student. For the College Scholarship Program, a full-year scholarship is \$5,000 per student.

Visit outreachcommunityministries.org/give or contact **Bonnie Malcolm Chrisman** at **630.682.1910** to support this transformative program.

A black and white photograph of four young women standing outdoors. The woman in the foreground on the left is wearing a headband with the word 'PINK' on it and a dark jacket with a Nike logo. Behind her are three other women, one of whom is holding a book titled 'COLLEGE TESTS' and another is holding a clipboard. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a brick wall and some buildings.

2017-2018 COP Outcomes



High School College Prep Program (SALT)

- 29 total students in the program
- 90% of students earned a "C" average or better
- 93% of students maintained good grades or improved academically throughout the school year
- 100% of seniors graduated (9 total)
- 100% of graduating high school seniors were accepted to at least one 4-year college
- 100% of graduating high school seniors are enrolling in college in the fall of 2018

College Scholarship Program

- 20 students were enrolled in college; an additional student continued to work with COP staff to transition to the military
- 72% achieved a GPA of "C" or better in their first semester
- 56% are involved in extracurricular or leadership activities on campus
- 100% were employed at some point this year (summer or school year or both)

Post- Graduate Outcomes

- 26 total college graduates
- 24 of 26 are currently working or in graduate school
- 5 have completed or are attending graduate school and one is starting medical school in fall of 2018
- 12 are actively involved in their church and/or community



INCOMING FRESHMEN



Faisal Ahmad graduated from Wheaton North High School this year. He has been attending OCC since 7th grade and was involved in the OCC summer work program. For the past few years, Faisal has worked at TEAM as a facility assistant, where he maintains the grounds. He has a love for basketball and is self-motivated by his desire to improve, often spending hours in the OCC gym, until the lights are turned off. His most recent psychology class has solidified his desire to pursue psychology in college. He plans to attend College of DuPage in the fall and later transfer to University of Illinois Chicago, where he was also accepted this year.



Josh Banks graduated from Wheaton North High School in May 2018. While in high school, he played football and started attending OCC in the summer of 2017. He has a desire to study marketing and have a career in fashion merchandizing. He will attend College of DuPage in the fall.



Abubacar Gborie graduated from Glenbard West High School in May 2018. Throughout his high school career, he excelled in Track and Field. Abubacar has been involved in OCC programs since he was in kindergarten and is well liked by his peers. He has a strong interest in business and was paired with a career mentor two years ago, who he continues to meet with to discuss business careers and other relevant topics. Abubacar was awarded the 2018-2019 Jonathan D. Petit Memorial Scholarship in recognition of academic success, involvement in extracurricular activities and service projects. Abubacar is already a business owner and plans to attend Guilford University, where he will learn skills to better develop his career.

JaDyn Johnson graduated from Wheaton North High School with honors in May 2018. He started attending OCC as a freshman. Although AP classes consume most of JaDyn's time and energy, he still gets to pursue what he loves most...music. He is an active participant in the school band and plays the clarinet. JaDyn will attend Augustana College and focus on either a STEM career or music.



Melvin Jones graduated from Wheaton North High School in May 2018. He started attending OCC programs in the middle of his sophomore year. Melvin plans to attend College of DuPage in the fall of 2018 to study a combination of photography and business. One day, he would like to run his own photography company. He is an avid basketball player and a valued employee at the Jubilee Furniture Company.



Par Kim graduated from Wheaton North High School in May 2018. She entered the College Opportunity Program at OCC in the summer of 2017 through the Summer Youth Employment Program. Kim currently works at Wynscape, a rehabilitation center in Wheaton. Her strong passion to help others can be easily seen, not only through work, but also the several hours she spends volunteering at her church as a Sunday school teacher. Kim has been accepted to several colleges but plans on attending College of DuPage this fall and is interested in pursuing a career in ministry.





Norberto Lopez graduated from Wheaton North High School in May 2018. He started attending OCC in preschool through the Head Start Program and has been involved in many activities OCC offers. Norberto's compassion for people led him to a summer job at Western DuPage Special Recreation Association, where he has received remarkable evaluations from the staff. He currently works two jobs while balancing school and college preparations. He plans to attend Illinois State University this fall, where he will study accounting.



Tim Hydzyk graduated from Wheaton North High School in May 2018. He started attending OCC in 3rd grade. While enrolled in OCC's Summer Youth Employment Program, Tim worked for Pioneer Clubs and was such an excellent worker that he was asked to return for a third year this summer. This fall, Tim will attend College of DuPage, where he plans to enroll in the 3+1 program with Lewis University. Tim plans to use his passion for video games, computers and technology in the computer programming field.



Serena Mitchell graduated from Bartlett High School with honors in May 2018. She started attending OCC's College Opportunity Program as a freshman and later became involved in OCC's summer programs. Her hardworking attitude was evident while enrolled in the programs, where she often received outstanding evaluations from supervisors. Serena's hard work and determination helped her obtain the Jonathan D. Petit Memorial Scholarship in recognition of academic success, involvement in extracurricular activities and service projects. Serena plans to attend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in the fall and hopes to eventually attend law school.

CURRENTLY ENROLLED

Anthony Ahmed withdrew from the second semester of his sophomore year at Aurora University to pursue his own business venture with a few friends, who specialize in marketing and sales.



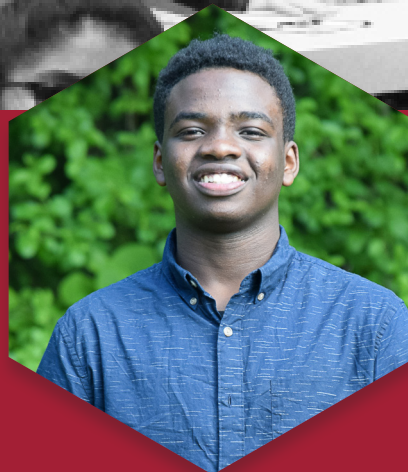
Luis Valle decided to take a break from College of DuPage early this year. He is currently employed at Mugg's restaurant and deciding if he would like to pursue culinary studies



Brenen Wilson just completed his third year at Indiana State University, where he is majoring in social work, minoring in psychology and working in the Recreation Center.



Mohamed Dafelseed attended College of DuPage for his second year. He is currently working as many hours as he can at a local department store and plans to transfer to a 4-year school in the fall or spring of next year.



Jailan Richards completed his first year at Elgin Community College and is interested in studying criminal justice. Jailan also works part time as a package handler at FedEx.

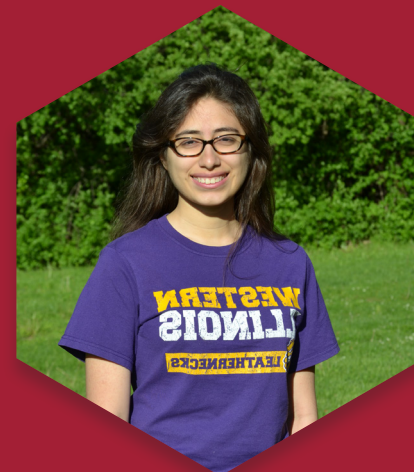
Adolfo Randa continued at College of DuPage this year on a part-time basis, and he works at Gripple in Aurora.



Morenike Fatuga completed her second year at Jacksonville University in Florida, where she is majoring in broadcast journalism.



Tannia Escobar will graduate from Western Illinois University in December 2018 with a double major in education and chemistry. In the past, Tannia has been an active member of WIU's Latina's in Progression Towards Success, Chemistry Club, and the Latin American Student Organization. This past year, in addition to her continued participation in the chemistry club, she also served as the President of the National Science Teacher Association.



Mohamed Gborie just completed his second year at DePauw University in Indiana, where he is majoring in communications. He has been busy balancing his job in the athletic department while competing in track. He recently spent a few weeks studying in Nicaragua with a school program. This summer he will participate in an internship with a logistics firm in Chicago.



Alex Gonzalez completed a semester at College of DuPage in the fall of 2016, while working at TEAM and Windsor Park. Alex studied hard, passed his test, and was accepted to the military police. In May 2018, he left for basic training in Missouri. Alex was very excited, as this has been his dream since he was a little kid.





Hmangaih Lal just completed her first year at North Park University, where she is exploring different career paths in business. Over winter break, Lal was able to job shadow in the HR department at Outreach. This semester she had an opportunity to intern at a local social work organization, serving women in need and recently started working in the finance department at her university



Emari Jones completed her second year at Auburn University in Alabama, where she is majoring in communications and plays Division I basketball



Juan Lopez just completed his first year at College of DuPage, where he is studying Information Technologies (with hardware issues in particular). In addition, Juan currently works part time in IT at Gripple at Aurora.

Briajah Moore just completed her second year at Ball State University in Indiana, where she is a childhood development major. Throughout the year, she participated in IMPACT, which is an extension of CRU (campus ministry) for black students. Briajah also participated in the R.E.A.C.H. Program (mentoring) and the Black Student Association. This summer, Briajah will work as a teacher's aide in the elementary program at OCC.



Maria Ni Pang Par just completed her second year at College of DuPage. In the fall, she plans to transfer to a 4-year school in Indiana. She plans to study social work, as she would like to help people. Maria attends United Chin Christian Church and dedicates her time there as a Sunday school teacher and as a youth leader.



Aldo Nolasco is currently enrolled in the nursing program at College of DuPage, where he is pursuing his associate's degree. He then plans to obtain his bachelor's degree, while working on his own boot camp fitness business and coaching soccer.





Anaiyeh Smith just completed her fourth year at University of Central Missouri, where she is now double majoring in digital media and communication studies. She is busy balancing her full-time workload at school with being a mother. This summer, Anaiyeh has an internship in Kansas City.



Theresa Sung transferred to College of DuPage from Aurora University this spring to focus on completing her general education requirements. She attends United Chin Christian Church, where she is a praise and worship back-up singer and a Sunday school teacher.



Yazmin Alpizar plans to continue her education at College of DuPage, where she is getting certified as a medical assistant. In May, she ceremoniously walked across the stage at graduation and will officially graduate after completing a course this summer. She is employed at a local nursing home, where she works with older adults.

COLLEGE GRADUATES



Alberto Ayala graduated in December 2016 from University of Illinois, where he majored in computer engineering. In his time there, he was involved with Phi Beta Lamda, a business-oriented high school and college club, and he worked as an elementary tutor. He is currently employed as a .net developer for Quicknet Solutions in Chicago.



Carla Ayala graduated from the University of Illinois in May 2011 with a bachelor's degree in sociology. She currently works as a mental health counselor at Chicago Lakeshore Hospital, Children Pavilion, and is the Team Leader for the children's unit, ages 5-12. She volunteers at Thresholds Food pantry.

Jessica Beamon graduated from Hamline University in May 2017 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry/pre-pharmacy. She completed her first year of pharmacy school at Presbyterian College in South Carolina.



Delissa Carter completed two years in the Culinary School at the College of DuPage, where she majored in baking and pastry, in the spring of 2013. She works full time at Kids and Company as a cook and has her own cake decorating business called Delicious Treats by D. Delissa hopes to one day own her own bakery.



Guadalupe Cortes graduated in 2010 from the Illinois Institute of Technology with a degree in architectural engineering. She continues to work as a mechanical engineer at Affiliated Engineers in Madison, Wisconsin.



Thomas Crockett graduated in May 2012 with a degree in communications from Miles College. After graduation, Thomas was employed at MagnetStreet in Carol Stream, IL, where he worked for four years. He and his wife relocated to Atlanta, where he works as a machine operator for a company called Bagcraft. In his free time, he volunteers to coach basketball.





Murisa Dogic Mustafa earned a Bachelor of Arts in public relations and communications from Illinois State University in 2009. Murisa currently works at Ulta Beauty as a Visual Merchandising Analyst. She and her husband Dez had their first child in October 2016 and just announced that she is pregnant with their second child. The couple just purchased their first home in St. Charles, IL.



Samantha Gabhart graduated from Judson University in 2006 with a degree in music education. In the same year, she married James, who she met at Judson. The couple now has three children and Samantha stays home as a full-time parent and is currently home-schooling their kids. In the fall of 2016, the Gabharts moved to Spokane, Washington, where James is enrolled in missionary training school with Moody Aviation.



Zack Gentle graduated from Aurora University in December 2016 with a degree in criminal justice. In May he was accepted to the Chicago Police Force, where he will start training soon. He is currently employed as a security officer at Oak Brook Mall and volunteers with the DuPage County Sheriff's Office as a volunteer patrolman. Zack also attends Willow Creek Community Church.

Auvriel Greenlea graduated with honors in 2012 from Northern Illinois University, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in English. In January 2017, Auvriel graduated with an MBA, concentrated in human resources from Robert Morris College. She currently lives in Aurora, and is active with New Life Christian Church in southeast Chicago. Her job with Roosevelt University was recently eliminated, and while Auvriel is looking for a new job, she is volunteering her time in the Human Resources office at Outreach Community Ministries.



Melissa (Harper) Obichukwu graduated from Eastern Illinois University in December of 2011 with a degree in education. She currently teaches at Elgin High School. In 2014, she completed her Masters of Education and was married. She and her husband live in Bartlett and attend Schaumburg Community Church, where Melissa leads the teen church and is involved in protocol. She and her husband also operate a business teaching cooking classes and together, the couple has a one-year-old son.



Amy Halder graduated Cum Laude from the Honors College of University of Illinois at Chicago in May 2016, with a Bachelor of Science in neuroscience. Aspiring to be a physician, Amy took two gap years to strengthen her medical school application. She worked as a Research Assistant with the Pancreatic Cancer Initiative at University of Chicago for a year before starting her current role at Northwestern Medicine. At NM, Amy works as Clinical Research Coordinator at the Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute, helping develop new device therapies to treat patients with aortic valve stenosis. This fall, Amy will attend medical school at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine.





Monique Johnson graduated from Howard University in May 2014 with a degree in psychology. She completed her Masters of Arts in clinical mental health counseling at Wheaton College in May 2016. She completed a one-year internship at Outreach Community Counseling Center in Carol Stream and began as a therapist at Leyden Family Service and Mental Health Center. She currently works as a clinical therapist at 360 Youth Services in Naperville.



Chay Latimer graduated from Pivot Point Academy, a cosmetology school in 2015. She currently lives and works in Indiana. Her goal is to earn enough to build her own home music studio.



Destiny Lee graduated from Eastern Illinois University in May of 2013 with a Bachelor's of Science in health studies. . In the same year, Destiny won the title of Miss Black Illinois 2015, along with a scholarship to pursue graduate studies. After two different careers, Destiny decided to further her education and in January 2017, she moved to Springfield, IL to start the Masters of Public Administration program at University of Illinois Springfield. She interviewed with public agencies through the Graduate Public Service Internship Program to help pay for tuition and gain job experience in the public sector. Six different agencies offered her an intern position. Destiny accepted the Budget Analyst internship with the Illinois Department of Corrections and will graduate in December 2018.

Phillip McClure graduated from Duke University in 2016 with a major in English, a minor in economics and a certificate in journalism. In the summer of 2015, he interned in the marketing department at Microsoft headquarters in Seattle, where he is now employed. Phil was actively involved on campus life from acting and directing to serving as Duke's athletic mascot.



Terry Moore graduated from Eastern Illinois University in 2015, where he received a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Organizational Development with a concentration in Leadership and Supervision. Since graduation, Terry has held property manager positions in Iowa City, IA and Chicago, IL. In May 2018, he accepted the position of Property Loss Consultant with GNY Insurance Companies. Terry and Angela (former Outreach student) attend Willow Creek Community Church and they recently celebrated their first wedding anniversary.



Hannah Oresteen graduated from Gordon College with honors in May 2013 with a double major in social work and sociology. Hannah currently works as an in-home family therapist in Salem, Massachusetts and hopes to enroll in graduate school to pursue a Masters of Social Work, so she can serve immigrant and refugee populations. Hannah was married in September 2014 to Chris, an event administrator at Harvard College, and they have a home together near Boston.





Jessie (Rowlett) Ray graduated in May 2013 from Wheaton College with a degree in elementary education. She completed student teaching at a school on a Navajo reservation in New Mexico and is now employed as a teacher. Jessie married her husband John in June 2016. John was recently accepted to medical school and will be attending Midwestern University. The couple will be moving back to the Wheaton area this June.



Edward Silva graduated in December 2014 from Northern Illinois University with a degree in English. He currently works for Leviton as a Buyer/ Planner.



Denisha Smith graduated in 2009 from Eastern Illinois University with a degree in communications. In 2012, she earned her Master of Education Administration from American Intercontinental University. Denisha is employed as the assistant director of admissions at Roosevelt University. In 2016, Denisha bought her first townhome. Denisha is mom to twins: a boy and a girl.

Shemeka Smith graduated from Illinois State University in 2008 with a BS in communications. She is attending Benedictine University, pursuing a MA in Management and Organizational Behaviors. Shemeka is active in her local church, and lives in Carol Stream.



Phil Tafere completed his sterile processing certification at College of DuPage. Phil was recently made a manager at his work, and in his free time he continues to write and record his own music. Phil currently attends Wheaton Christian Center.



“For I know the plans I have for you,’ s
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Yadira Valerio graduated from Aurora University in May 2016, where she was busy serving as a Spartan Ambassador (representing the campus to prospective students) and working three jobs (in the offices of admissions, catering and student activities). In the fall of 2016, she got a job in Rhinebeck, New York at Ramapo for Children. She is a retreats facilitator for inner-city children. She also serves as a job coach and mentor to individuals who are transitioning to an independent lifestyle.



Tonika White graduated in 2014 with a BA in business from Aurora University (AU). She graduated from AU again in December 2016 with her MBA with a focus in leadership. Tonika is currently working as a team manager at Sears Holdings, Inc. She recently accepted a new job opportunity where she will be relocating to the west coast. She still plans on pursuing her doctorate and is researching programs.

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2018 Spring College Tour