Program Initiative

Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves: high school students from low-income families; and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education. All Upward Bound projects MUST provide instruction in math, laboratory science, composition, literature, and foreign language.

Partnership with Independent School Districts

The Upward Bound program at El Paso Community College (EPCC) has partnered with two rural school districts to provide services to their high school students. Clint Independent School District and San Elizario Independent School District are the partners that we are currently working with. The high schools that we currently serve are Clint, Horizon, Mountain View, and San Elizario.

Federally Funded Grant

The Upward Bound program is an externally funded program that was awarded a grant in 2007. The program was originally funded for four years and was recently extended for one additional year. We decided to recruit freshmen from the participating high schools and this past May and June we graduated 49 out of 50 students from our original group/cohort. When we discovered that we were extended for one additional year we went back to our partner schools and recruited another cohort of 53 students even though we are funded for 50 and we also received a 3% cut for this last year. The annual budget for the Upward Bound program is $250,000. The upcoming RFP and competition for the next cycle of Upward Bound grants will be the fall of 2011.