



Henry Street Settlement is incredibly grateful for your generosity towards Expanded Horizons College Success, our eight year comprehensive college success program that stays with students from their freshman year of high school to college graduation. Through the program, young people—often the first in their families to have the opportunity to enroll in college—receive invaluable support to achieve college acceptance and graduation. Thank you for supporting this program and helping us provide vital resources to our youth.

### About Expanded Horizons

Beginning in ninth grade, this eight-year cohort model provides low income, minority youth with the academic, social, and emotional guidance they need to become confident, college-ready students; gain entrance to four-year colleges; and, once enrolled, thrive on campus and obtain college degrees. The model effectively prepares youth for the multi-faceted scholastic and personal demands of college coursework and campus life, and helps them build both the academic skills and character traits—resourcefulness, communication, confidence, and resiliency—necessary for college and career success.



### Impact by Numbers in Fiscal Year 2016

- A total of **173 high school students** and over **300 program alumni in college** were served through Expanded Horizons
- **97% of college freshmen** completed two semesters of college
- **100% of the high school seniors** graduated from high school and were admitted into at least one 4-year college
- **100% of seniors** put down deposits and completed enrollment to attend college this fall

## Community Need

Henry Street developed Expanded Horizons in response to the enormous need for college access and retention services in New York City, particularly on the Lower East Side. Increasingly, a college degree is a prerequisite to employment and financial stability: by 2020, over 65% of jobs in the United States will require training and degrees beyond a high school diploma, and workers who possess these qualifications will earn \$1.19 million more than their high school graduate counterparts over the course of their working lives.

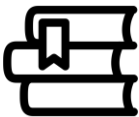
In Henry Street's target school district, Manhattan 1, academic achievement and college enrollment are troublingly low. **Only 58% of students who entered high school in 2011 graduated on time by 2015.** Among those who do graduate, few are prepared for the rigors of higher education: **only 31% of our district's recent cohort was college-ready upon high school completion.** A longitudinal study by the National Center for Education Statistics shows an alarming gap in college completion for these students: **just 14% of low-income individuals achieved bachelor's degrees** over the 13-year study. Expanded Horizons also seeks to rectify the disparity in college graduation rates for low-income youth.

## Our Approach

Expanded Horizons addresses the multitude of complex barriers to college success faced by low-income and minority youth by engaging both high school and college participants year-round through the following mix of comprehensive, convenient, and culturally competent services. We focus our programming in four core areas: academic enrichment, social-emotional learning, college counseling, and retention services.



## Academic Enrichment



To help students build a strong academic foundation, Expanded Horizons provides intensive academic support, including tutoring and interactive sessions in English and mathematics for all high school participants. Academic instruction includes writing and critical thinking skill development for freshmen through seniors, Regents preparation for all grades, and SAT preparation for juniors.

## Social and Emotional Learning



Expanded Horizons incorporates a strong focus on social-emotional learning for participants throughout high school. We facilitate activities that provide youth the opportunity to develop traits key to academic persistence, like self-advocacy, self-regulation, help seeking, and problem solving. These efforts are enriched through our workshops that encourage youth to explore themes of leadership, belonging, and identity; take a stand on social and political issues; and discover the power they have as leaders and team players.

## Spotlight on Hip Hop



Expanded Horizons began offering free hip hop dance classes this year as a part of our social and emotional learning program. Hip hop helps our students gain confidence and be more comfortable with themselves and their bodies. Students in these classes also gained a stronger sense of community and learned to be less afraid of trying new things.

## College Counseling



Each Expanded Horizons cohort is served by college counselors who guide them through the college and financial aid application processes. Students work with college counselors to develop a list of academically suitable institutions, and receive assistance as they file applications. Students also receive help filling out financial aid/scholarship applications.

## Spotlight on Henry Street University

Every summer, our college counselors lead Henry Street University, Expanded Horizon's summer college prep program for all high school students. As a part of this program, students go on college field trips, work on their college applications, create portfolios and begin researching and applying for scholarships. Henry Street University aims to improve early college awareness so that even high school freshmen are intimately aware of the steps they must take to achieve college acceptance.



## Retention Services

Expanded Horizons includes a Coordinator of College Success and a Retention Counselor who support participants' achievement and persistence in college. This team holds monthly phone conversations with alumni and communicates with them through email, Skype, and FaceTime to help them navigate campus life. We also host "hub events," which target geographic areas with large concentrations of students (such as Buffalo, Syracuse, Binghamton, and Boston) and offer an opportunity for students and staff to celebrate milestones and address challenges to college success through one-on-one advisement and group outings. We host similar events in NYC for students who attend school locally, and facilitate in-city gatherings during school breaks to convene all alumni. During visits to college campuses, the retention team meets with school staff to establish relationships and develop linkages to ensure that youth can easily access on-campus supports, such as mental health services, academic advisement resources, and writing and career centers.

## Carlos' Story

Carlos leaned on Henry Street this past year when his family went through some challenges with the financial aid process. Carlos' parents didn't have social security numbers – a requirement to process financial aid. Carlos and his parents were at a loss, so they turned to Carlos' college success counselor at Expanded Horizons, Chris Fagan.

Chris spoke to the school to ensure that Carlos could continue his classes while the financial issue was resolved. He then worked with the financial aid office and the IRS to determine that tax ID numbers could be used in lieu of social security numbers. He accompanied Carlos' parents to the IRS office to guide them through the complex process and resolved the issue with the financial aid office. Thanks to Chris' tireless efforts, Carlos' financial aid package was restored and he is attending college worry free.

Thank you again for supporting the Expanded Horizons College Success program. Henry Street is proud of our new model's success so far, and we look forward to continuing our vital efforts to level the playing field for ambitious, but underserved youth who are determined to improve their future prospects through higher education. For more information on this program, please reach out to Ellen Schneiderman at [eschneiderman@henrystreet.org](mailto:eschneiderman@henrystreet.org).