

# MARCH UPDATES

Celebrations, Updates, and More!



Dear Donors and Advocates,

As we enter the Spring of our 3rd year of programming here in Passaic, we're celebrating wins! We started in Summer 2020 with an innovative vision, a bit of funds from many of you, and a lot of belief in what first-generation college students can achieve.

The program is paying huge dividends for our students, and we want to share some of their successes with you, who gave them some time and space to come together as a community of success.

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## CELEBRATING WINS

You may have seen our #CelebratingWins series on social media, showcasing the ways our students are achieving success!



CONGRATS TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWS!

Our **five High School Fellows** have been receiving college acceptances and weighing their financial packages. **Look out for college signing announcements -- coming soon!**

Our **14 High School Juniors** are achieving all sorts of wins, including straight A+s from one student and a major win against procrastination for another!

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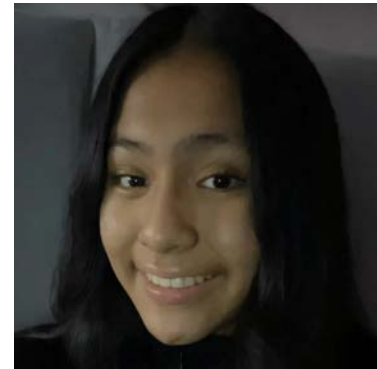
## CONGRATS TO OUR COLLEGE STUDENT LEADERS!



Michelle



Melissa



Ashley

**Ashley** has been selected for the prestigious New Jersey Governor's Hispanic Fellows Program for Summer 2023. She will be completing her paid internship at the Immigration and American Citizenship Organization (IACO).

**Michelle** has been selected as a Management Leadership for Tomorrow (MLT) Career Prep Fellow.

Read more about Ashley and Michelle [here](#).

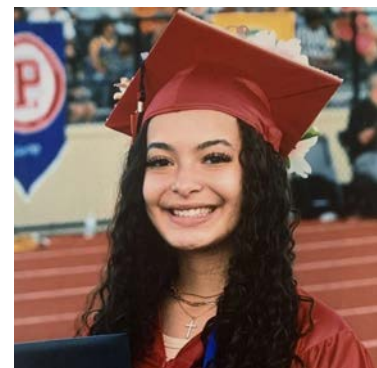
In conjunction with Dartmouth's Center for Social Impact, **Melissa** did some amazing and award-winning work on LGBTQ+ invisibility in Passaic.



Nereida



Evelin



Kamila

**Nereida** and **Evelin** made the Dean's List!

**Kamila** received an [Academic Excellence Award](#) from Resident Life.

**Lisberma** was accepted into the [Columbia Mailman School of Public Health](#) for an accelerated MPH!

**Lizbeth** received the [Walker Transfer Scholarship](#) for next year when she finishes her degree at Ramapo College!

**Parth** landed a position as a [College Advisor for Princeton's Freshman's Scholars Institute!](#)



Lisberma



Parth



Lizbeth

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## WELLNESS IS NECESSARY FOR SUCCESS

This year, our intern, **Ayana Goodwin**, from the Rutgers Graduate Social Work Program, inaugurated monthly Wellness sessions, helping students cope with the particular stresses that come with being the embodiment of their parents' hopes and dreams as first-generation college students.

[In this clip](#), Ayana talks about the concept of self-sabotage.

### Quotes from Students

*We were able to see examples of bills so that we know what it looks like in a real-life scenario, and then the leaders explained their bills, so I feel better about the money aspect and I feel supported It can sometimes be overwhelming.*

*In today's meeting, we talked about financial aid. It was such an informative meeting as so much information that I knew was wrong and I realized that I have so many opportunities to gain money.*

*I've been struggling with the decision-making that comes with picking a major and picking a college, and it all feels like it's going by really fast. It's nice to know that other people have the same questions as me.*

*We started off by writing one thing we failed at and one thing we succeeded at but thought we would fail at. It was a nice experience to realize that we all have failed at certain tasks but we overcame those situations.*

# UPCOMING GRADUATION CELEBRATION

More Than Bootstraps  
**GRADUATION EVENT**

**SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL**

**DATE**  
May 20, 2023

**LOCATION**  
Passaic County Community College

**PURPOSE OF THE EVENT**  
Bring together our high school students, college students, and their families to celebrate the incredible achievement of our first-generation graduates.

**CONTACT**  
Audrey Fisch, President, MTB  
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**DEADLINE**  
April 24

On **May 20, 2023**, we gather at Passaic County Community College with our rising first-year college students, their younger peers, our MTB College Student Leaders, and our MTB families to celebrate **graduation and college signing**.

We are still welcoming sponsors for this event, so please spread the word.

Click link below for more information:  
[MTB Sponsorship Opportunity](#)

## Thank You ♥

We are on track to have our largest group of students in 2023-2024. [Consider a donation today](#) to help us support our projected class of [28 high school students and 14 college students for 2023-2024](#). And thank you for all you have done to help our students empower each other.

SUPPORT MTB

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MTB was founded by educators who understand the significant obstacles that first-generation college students face on their journey into and through higher education. To succeed, they need **More Than Bootstraps**