

MTB NEWS

April 2022

It takes
MORE THAN
BOOTSTRAPS
to succeed



More Than BIG NEWS

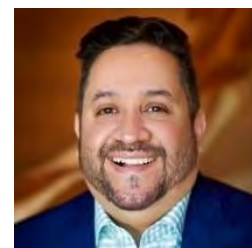
In last month's MTB News we shared that Lizbeth Coliente and Melissa Reyes have both been selected for the Governor's Hispanic Fellows Program. As part of this program, **Lizbeth, College Student Leader**, has been assigned to the Plainfield Public Schools Office of Community Relations for her summer placement. She will be creating press releases, completing translation work, and documenting events and activities, participating in assemblies, field trips, and other community events. **Melissa, College Student Leader**, will be interning this summer, as a Governor's Fellow, at the **Immigration and American Citizenship Organization (IACO)** in Passaic. Her placement will allow her to give back to her community and an organization that helped her father to become a United States citizen.

In addition, **Lizbeth** has been selected as a finalist for the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar Program. Congratulations and continued success to her as she continues with the process.

MTB Welcomes New Advisory Members

Juan Rengifo is an AVP and Branch Manager for Citizens Bank (formerly Investors Bank of New Jersey). He is a graduate of Rutgers University, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Business Management. Juan's previous work experience includes managerial roles at PSEG, Jersey Central Power & Light, Merrill Lynch, Popular Community Bank, PNC Bank and Acme Markets.

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Margarita Fuentes, a first-generation and low-income college graduate from Passaic, New Jersey, majored in American Studies and minored in Caribbean Studies at Wesleyan University with a concentration in Race and Ethnic Studies. She has a passion for community building, having been a Resident Advisor for the Social Justice house on campus.

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The MTB Desk



Over the next few weeks, MTB will be sharing videos on our social media about financial aid facts. Check out the first in this series [HERE!](#)



Mark Your Calendar!

Apr 23, 2022

10:00-11:00 am

More Than Bootstraps Advisory Board Member **Dawn M Wilson** will lead our High School Fellows and College Student Leaders in a discussion of **Wellness and Self-Care**, with a focus on strategies for navigating the challenges to mental health and wellness that first-generation students of color face in higher education.

College Student Leader Recruitment

May 15, 2022 (DEADLINE)

More Than Bootstraps is accepting applications for the next cohort of College Student Leaders! If you're a recent (including Class of '22) first-generation

graduate from the **Passaic Public Schools** who will be enrolled in college this coming (2022-23) school year, you can become a mentor to help first-generation high school juniors and seniors on their journey to **higher education**.

The MTB Leader Fellowship includes a monthly stipend of \$300, a computer, and a stipend of \$1000 for summer training.

Visit **MTBLeadersApply22** for more information, and be sure to submit your application before the May 15th deadline.

SAVE THE DATE!

MTB Graduation Celebration

May 21, 2022

10:00-11:30am

Mark your calendar! We will **celebrate** the end of the second year of More Than Bootstraps and the graduations of some of our high school fellows and college student leaders. **Passaic County Community College** will be hosting us. Families and kids are warmly invited to share in our celebration. We have some awesome speakers lined up and some swag in the works.



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