
PROVIDENCE PROMISE

A PATH TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Fall 2020 Newsletter

College Savings

As of September 30th, Providence Promise families have collectively accumulated more than \$375,000 in their college savings accounts! This savings milestone reflects an incredible \$70,000 growth since June 30th.

In addition to their monthly contributions, families and students have been participating regularly in Providence Promise's Incentive Program. Just since January, families and students have earned more than \$20,000 in college savings! Congratulations to our families and students to their commitment to saving for their higher education!

Career Exploration: Construction & Related Professions

On October 29th at 6pm, Providence Promise is hosting a special virtual "Career Exploration: Construction & Related Professions" event for both students and their families! Join us to hear first hand from people inside the industry about their personal journeys and the great opportunities in the construction industry. **Register [here](#)** and get more information about this event.

New Directors Appointed

This week, Providence Promise welcomed three new members to its Board of Directors: Marlen Hernandez, Cameron Arrundell, and Dr. Eve Veliz-Moran.



Marlen (left) came to the U.S. in 2005 from Zacapa, Guatemala. She has three boys and the younger two are enrolled in Providence Promise. Marlen is an active member of our Parent Council, and her older son, Jason, is a member of our Youth Council.

Cameron (right) is a 9th grade student at Classical High School and a member of Providence Promise's Youth Council. He lives in Providence with his sister and his mom, who is a member of our Parent Council. After graduating from college, Cameron wants to be an engineer.



Eve (left) is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Providence College and a mother to four-year-old twins. Her area of expertise is Sociology of the Family with a particular interest in Latino Families and emerging and nontraditional family forms.

Continued Virtual Success

Enrollment

Providence Promise is continuing to offer virtual enrollment to Providence families. Since March 30th, 57 new students have been enrolled virtually! This brings total enrollment to 386 students.

Family Engagement

Over the last several months, Providence Promise students and families have continued to show up virtually in large numbers! Some recent workshops have included technical and socio-emotional supports for distance learning, a panel with Providence College, and Zumba, in addition to Parent and Youth Council meetings.



Providence Promise has also been working with Providence Public Library to put together and deliver "Brain Building Bags" to our 4- and 5-year-old students. These bags include books in English and Spanish, supplies and instructions for various activities, and focus on key pillars of early childhood development, such as literacy and socio-emotional skills.

Book & Food Deliveries

Providence Promise is continuing its "Book Care Package Program" launched in April and we have now delivered 620 books to our students! As a result, some students are earning "book report incentives" almost every week!



In partnership with Awakening Church and the Farmers to Families food program, we have delivered over 100 boxes of fresh produce and dairy to Providence Promise families.

"Yo estoy muy contenta con esta ayuda que nos están dando porque en estos momentos difíciles con esta pandemia habemos muchas familias que nos está costando mucho."

"I am very happy with the help that has been given to us because in these difficult times with this pandemic there are a lot of families like us that are struggling a lot."

Student Spotlight

Providence Promise has two high school seniors who are looking forward to graduating and moving on to enroll in a higher education program next year. In this newsletter, we are highlighting Jonathan Martinez!

Jonathan is a senior at Classical High School. He is an avid swimmer, since being inspired by the 2008 Olympics, and he is a math and science enthusiast. In the future, Jonathan plans to apply his skills in math and science by becoming a chemical engineer.



Jonathan, with the help of Providence Promise is completing his FAFSA and starting his college applications. Providence Promise is also helping him connect with other higher education support programs like the College Planning Center.

"Providence Promise helped me with teamwork skills, even with students younger than me. It's helped me become a leader. "

When asked why he wants to go to college, Jonathan said, "it is a big stepping stone, a leap forward. It will help make me the person I want to be in the future." Jonathan's advice to younger students is that you can always achieve what you want. "Life is building on yourself. Do what you love. Follow your heart."

If you would like to donate to help close the gap between the cost of Jonathan's higher education program and financial aid, please click [here](#).