

## Missing First Gen Students in the COVID Cohort

**The Problem:** Due to financial hardships tens of thousands of First-Gen Low-Income high-school graduates will defer their college enrollment dreams. This will lead to:

- 1) COVID Learning Loss
  - 2) Persistence Challenges
    - a. Students Developing Purpose for Themselves
  - 3) Difficult Learning Environments at Home
  - 4) Soft Skills Gap (common to first gen students, made worse by COVID)
- We can't replicate the work of the many excellent organizations that provide mentoring to encourage college goal-setting and enrollment, or the many colleges that provide retention support to their own students. **BUT....**

**Our Advantage:** Many members of our organization will be college faculty with the experience to provide *educational skills enhancement* alongside encouragement to persist.

### The Plan for the Organization in the Coming Months:

- 1) Start a Listening Tour, Defining the Needs and Solutions
- 2) Develop a Skills Meta-Curriculum
- 3) Develop Necessary Organizational Structure/Partnerships With Specialists
- 4) Recruit Faculty with Disciplinary Expertise (>50)
- 5) Identify Willing H.S. Graduates (18+)
  - a. Pitch to Parents
  - b. Pitch to Students (deliverable project, admissions advice, rec letter)
  - c. Could we work with college students learning remotely? H.S sophomores or juniors?
- 6) Work Remotely With Students Until 2022 Enrollments

### The Curriculum:

- Short Readings (3-5 pages of commonly-assigned college texts)
- Recorded Videos (Asynchronous, spur reflection on the texts)
- Bi-Weekly Sessions (Oxford tutorial-style, working through written args)
- Soft Skills Tutoring
  - Campus resources, registration, navigating college life, scheduling
- Deliverable Product (published, self-published college-level paper)