

Upward Bound

NEWSLETTER

Wilkes University

Fall Edition - 2022

Who is UPWARD BOUND?



A Trio Program that provides necessary support to students in their preparation for college entrance. Upward Bound brings forth opportunities for future generations to succeed in their pre-college performance, and ultimately, in their higher education pursuits.

The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

Upward Bound serves:

- High school students from low-income families.
- High school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree.

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Upward Bound offers...

- Academic instruction in...
 - Mathematics
 - Laboratory sciences
 - Composition & Literature
 - Foreign Languages
- Tutoring
- Counseling
- Mentoring
- Cultural enrichment
- Work-study programs
- Education/Counseling services designed to improve the financial and economic literacy of students



Wilkes University's Upward Bound program extends a huge token of gratification to our Summer Program teachers. They spent 5 weeks working diligently to bring a rich curriculum to our rising stars! Thank you for spending the summer with us, our students, and summer staff.

We could not do it without you!

Ms. Amanda Brooks, Mr. Nicholas Carpinello, Ms. Rudina Hancyzc, Mr. Jerome Hannon,
Ms. Amy Hoose, Ms. Lisa Imbriaco, Ms. Melissa McHale, Ms. Kaitlin Rando, Ms. Jill Saporito,
Mr. Aaron Stoker, Ms. Jill Stretanski

SUMMER with Upward Bound



TRIO
UPWARD BOUND

- **38** senior students graduated from Upward Bound in the spring of '22!
- All of our graduated senior students will be going off to attend college this fall!
Wilkes University, LCCC, Penn State University, Colby College, Spelman College, Lehigh University, University of Scranton, East Stroudsburg University, DeSales University, Bloomsburg University, and more...!
- Our summer program was jam packed with nearly **40** rising Juniors, and **4** Bridge students!
- All 4 of our Bridge students have passed their finals, earning them their free college credits!



Upward Bound was like a parallel universe, at times I felt reality dawning upon me, but the **summer program** found a way to turn my worries into excitement... Everything, and everyone, just felt different. This was definitely an escape from the troubles of highschool.
-Jean M., UB Rising Junior

Before Upward Bound, I didn't understand what real friendship was supposed to feel like, but I met so many amazing and kind people during the **summer program** that I now don't just settle for friends that treat me bad.
Thank you and all the summer staff for making it the best summer I've ever had.
-David H., UB Rising Junior

Meet the Upward Bound

STAFF



Upward Bound staff on the porch of Conyngham Hall.
(left to right) Angeline Abraham, Briauna Robinson, Neil Murphy, and Sharon Nolan

Our Director

Upward Bound's new Director, **Angeline Abraham**, has a decade of experience working in youth development. The new director has a long history with TRIO that dates back to high school. The **two-time** TRIO alum is a graduate of Wilkes University's Upward Bound program and Mansfield University's Student Support Services program. Before her current role, Angeline served as Assistant Director for Educational Opportunity Centers, Inc., home to two TRIO programs and currently serves on the PA TRIO Membership Committee.

Angeline earned a bachelor's degree from Mansfield University. She later graduated from Temple University with a Master's in Social Work with a concentration in management and planning. She is a 2018 graduate of Leadership Wilkes-Barre, a community leadership development organization; and a 2019 graduate of the University of Scranton's Nonprofit Leadership Certificate Program. Angeline is also a certified strengths coach.

Angeline is looking forward to giving back to the Upward Bound (UB) program and is appreciative of the opportunity to continue supporting students. She's honored to be working alongside two Wilkes UB alum, Mr. Neil Murphy, the program's College Coordinator; and Ms. Briauna Robinson, the program's Academic Coordinator. She's thankful for Mrs. Sharon Nolan, the program's Office Coordinator for all of her assistance during this time of transition.



Our Academic Coordinator



Upward Bound's new Academic Coordinator, **Briauna Robinson**, is a fresh Wilkes University alum with a passion for working with young people. With her English degree in secondary education and creative writing, Briauna will be ensuring all Upward Bound students are receiving excellent academic assistance, are exploring new routes to learning, and are broadening their perspectives.

Being the Academic Coordinator goes beyond our students by also working directly with Upward Bound's teachers and tutors. Ms. Robinson works to guarantee *all* Upward Bound educators are prepared, comfortable in their classrooms, and feel heard within the program.

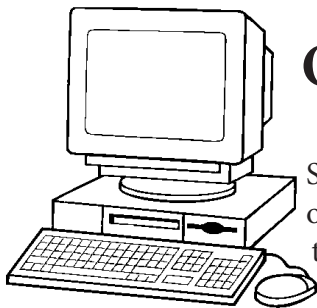
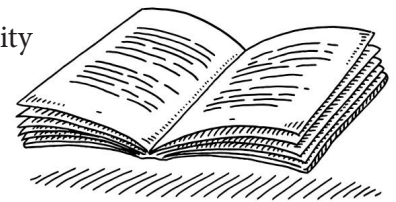
When Briauna steps out of the office, she spends her time stepping into fictional realities typed on book pages. She can also be found capturing photography, tinkering with her computer, or trying out a new recipe!

Our College Coordinator

Upward Bound's College Coordinator, **Neil Murphy**, is a Wilkes University & Upward Bound alumni who wanted to give back to his community by taking part of supporting students with their pre-college process!

Neil Murphy writes:

"Hello, I am Mr. Neil Murphy! I am the college coordinator for Wilkes' Upward Bound Program. I am the go-to person for any kind of college, career, or financial aid advising. I look over financial aid statements, help with college applications, set-up students with SAT/ACT and college application waivers, and much more. When I'm not advising, I am usually reading books or binging Netflix to keep busy."



Our Office Coordinator

Sharon Nolan is the Office Coordinator for the Upward Bound Program.

She is well experienced with Upward Bound, playing a large role in the productivity of our program and bookkeeping. Our Office Coordinator is the back bone of our staff team. She absolutely loves working at Wilkes University and with the Upward Bound students. Sharon also enjoys spending time with family and using her free time to take on gardening, sewing, and baking!

The past summer at Wilkes University was spent with nearly **forty students** and only five Tutor Counselors (TCs), one Resident Director (RD), and one Assistant Resident Director (ARD) to corral them all! That being said, we would love to extend another huge thank you to the Upward Bound Summer staff. You all handled this summer with ease, bringing experiences of a lifetime to young minds while positively representing Upward Bound's mission every day.

We could not have done it without you!

RD Jacob & ARD Jessica

&

TC Rosy, TC Sean, TC Lauren, TC Keira, and TC Briauna.

THANK YOU



(Top Row, Left to Right) RD Jacob, TC Rosy, TC Lauren, TC Keira
(Bottom Row, Left to Right) TC Sean, ARD Jessica, TC Briauna

Upward Bound was the **best opportunity** I was given and I am so thankful I followed through with doing this program. I've made such long life friends here, and would not change it for the world. I was able to sit down with a group of people and talk about my life without feeling displaced or judged. That's what made me connect with these people so easily. Everyday I wake up and say, "I wish I had one more day at Upward Bound", if anyone had this opportunity *take it no matter what.*
-Brooke P., UB Rising Junior

The **summer program** really helped me discover that college is for me, and that being socially engaged with community is something that I strive for. It taught me what it means to have real friends, real adults who care about you, and what it truly means to express yourself freely. The program taught me freedom and love.
-Anonymous UB Rising Junior

Our new MISSION STATEMENT



The Upward Bound program at Wilkes University is a Federal TRIO Program that provides the framework for college success through individualized academic and personal services for potential first-generation college bound high school students in Luzerne County who prove a financial need.

& VISION

To be Wilkes University's prominent face of precollege success; to formulate and establish innovative partnerships in the community, so that the horizons of our students broaden and college retention improves

Fall Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Saturday & Sunday: Not in Office

Conyngham Hall, Wilkes University
130 S River St, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

Important Fall Dates

September 22	UB Fall Semester Begins
October 13	NO UB Class – Fall Break
November 24	NO UB Class - Thanksgiving
December 8	UB Fall Semester Ends

**CAN'T WAIT FOR
FALL TO KICK OFF!**