

Purpose and Scope of Project

East Multnomah County is recognized as a region with one of lowest education attainment rates, highest poverty index and most diverse population of US immigrants and non-English speakers in the state of Oregon. The **East County Pathways to College Success Consortium** will have a direct impact on our youth in public schools and their families through utilization of existing collective impact efforts to create a college going culture in our community, which provides opportunity to ALL students in surrounding school districts.

Understanding that each student has specific educational goals with differing levels of support needed, the Consortium will also serve as the driving force behind the development of multiple guided pathways for students through completion of their post-secondary goal, including multiple and varied accelerated learning opportunities. This will ensure that students who are interested in college level coursework have the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school, with the added benefit of forming relationships with key college staff and faculty, before their first day of college classes.

Through increased College Now Dual Credit opportunities while in high school classes, availability to attend college early in a Middle College program, alignment of instructional support best practices of AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) from high school to college, increased events and exposure to opportunities on the Mt. Hood Community College and Portland State University campuses, and teacher professional development and planning time, this grant will meet the need of all the educational partners in our region and create multiple realistic and achievable pathways for students to complete high school and get an early start into post-secondary training and achievement of credentials.

In a region as unique as East County, it is crucial that our teachers, administrators, counselors, students and families mobilize and unify to achieve college success. Through the work of the Consortium, they won't embark on that journey alone. *"Access without support is not opportunity."* - Vincent Tinto