Upward Bound Wichita Prep

Jaya Escobar-Bhattacharjee, Rhonda Hicks (director), Travis Feeney

Upward Bound Wichita Prep (UBWP) is a comprehensive, year-round college preparatory program. Since 1965, its mission has been to assist low-income, first-generation college-bound high school students in their efforts to successfully complete their secondary education while simultaneously preparing them for the rigors of college life. Over the decades, the program's unique offerings have included a supportive academic year program as well as a challenging and rewarding summer residential college experience.

Services and activities are designed to nurture student growth in the areas of academics, career exploration, financial literacy, leadership building, cultural enrichment, and volunteer opportunities. Upward Bound Wichita Prep students are challenged to perform to the best of their abilities while assessing each student's unique needs for tutoring and postsecondary education preparation. Active participation is required in order to ensure that students achieve their potential.

The program's summer residential component is an extraordinary, life-changing experience for participants. Students are in residence on the Wichita State campus for six to eight weeks. Each activity is designed to emulate an authentic college experience.

The students participating in the summer component have successfully completed the academic year component. Participants' academic records, as well as an individual assessment, are used to design a personalized academic plan.

2017-2018 Highlights

- Provided students with 1,725 hours of academic tutoring
- 71.1% of students achieved a GPA over 2.50
- 60.7% of seniors graduated completing a rigorous secondary school curriculum.
- 67.8% of participants who graduated in Spring 2018 enrolled in college for the Fall of 2018
- Students provided over 300 hours of community service

Contact: (316) 978-3019
             wichita.edu/ubwp