Postsecondary enrollment and college credentials are beyond the reach of many low-income students and their families.

- Nationally, 48% of recent high school graduates from families in the lowest income quartile enroll in a postsecondary education within six years, compared to 79% of graduates from families in the highest income quartile (Cahalan et al., 2022).
- In Toledo, Ohio, fewer than 20% of adults have earned a postsecondary certificate or degree (U.S. Census Bureau, 2021).
- At Jesup W. Scott High School in Toledo, only about one third of high school graduates enroll in college.

**HOPE Toledo Promise is the first fully funded two-generation scholarship program in the United States.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>HOPE Toledo Promise</strong></th>
<th><strong>Northwestern University</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WHERE?</strong></td>
<td>HOPE Toledo Promise and Northwestern University began collaborating in 2020.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toledo, Ohio, starting with families of Scott High School graduates and expanding to other high schools in the future.</td>
<td>The Northwestern team are national experts in two-generation theory and research and have a long history of research-practice partnerships.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WHAT?</strong></td>
<td>Study data include:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full package of services:</td>
<td>- Administrative data on Scott graduates and HOPE Toledo Promise participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 4.5 years of full college tuition, room and board, books, and fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Wrap-around supportive services and coaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Youth and parents attending college at the same time</td>
<td>- Surveys of youth and parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WHO?</strong></td>
<td>- Interviews with program and community leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To date, offered to two cohorts of Scott High School graduates (N = 208). Parents are eligible if:</td>
<td>- Interviews and focus groups with youth, parents, and families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Their child participates</td>
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<tr>
<td>- They have a high school degree or equivalent</td>
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<tr>
<td>- They have not yet attained a Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Early Indicators of HOPE Toledo Promise’s Success

### Program Entrance
- **61%** of eligible youth (127 of 208)
- **19%** of eligible parents (24 of 127)

entered the HOPE Toledo Promise program.

### College Enrollment
- **56%** of eligible youth (117 of 208)
- **10%** of eligible parents (12 of 117)

enrolled in a postsecondary institution with a HOPE Toledo Promise scholarship.

### College Persistence
- **54%** of enrolled youth (63 of 117)
- **58%** of enrolled parents (7 of 12)

persisted by continuously enrolling in a postsecondary institution.

### College Graduation

Six students have graduated from a postsecondary institution:

- five youth with phlebotomy, EMT, massage therapy, and cosmetology certificates
- one parent with an addiction counseling certificate.

### Looking Ahead

**Program:** Continue to offer intensive supports to help students prepare for and persist in college, and increase parent engagement.

**Research:** Add new cohorts of students and use National Student Clearinghouse data to study college outcomes over time.

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**Behind the Numbers: Voices of Students & Staff**

“**It feels like a family.**” The program’s staff benefits students. For example, intensive coaching seems to promote kinship, camaraderie, and better use of college resources.

“**It’s more than just a scholarship.**” Students appreciate the opportunity to remain engaged in the program when life circumstances necessitate a pause in college enrollment, and then to re-enroll and compete over 4.5 years.

Among the seven families attending college at the same time, novel benefits include **mutual motivation, healthy competition,** and shared skill development which may lead to higher rates of college persistence and completion.

“We both support each other; we both motivate each other. And we both give each other pep talks when we’re feeling down, or when there’s news coming up. And we pray together.” —Cayla (Youth Scholar)

“**It’s kind of building our relationship a little bit more than what we had. [...] So basically, we’re trying to figure out who can get the best grades by the end of the semester.**”

Challenges remain for youth and parents, including financial and food insecurities, loneliness, and limited academic preparation. HOPE Toledo Promise is addressing these concerns.

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**Persistence Rates by Cohort**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>After One Year (Cohort 2)</th>
<th>After Two Years (Cohort 1)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>69% (33 of 48)</td>
<td>43% (30 of 69)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>80% (4 of 5)</td>
<td>43% (3 of 7)</td>
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