

2018-2019 ON TRACK TO SUCCESS

YEAR END REPORT



**United Way
Centraide**
Windsor-Essex County



On Track to Success program graduates, Nimco and Ethan, with their Success Coach, Krystyn Kale.

YEAR IN REVIEW



It has been an exciting year for the On Track to Success (OTTS) program, as it marked the first year that students from the program graduated from high school. We are extremely proud of each and every student for their dedication and determination over the past four years. They've even become mentors for some of the newer students who are just beginning their journey with the On Track to Success program.

This year, each graduate received a \$4,000 bursary from OTTS. Thanks to a new partnership that was developed with the University of Windsor and St. Clair College, the graduating students were also provided with additional bursaries by both local institutions. This commitment helped make their educational aspirations even more attainable. We would like to thank both organizations, their boards, and foundations for providing this additional support for our graduates.

In addition to the financial support, our Career Mentoring program helped prepare Grade 12 students by having them participate in experiential learning experiences at workplaces across the region to help them explore different career opportunities that are available to them. Students also participated in campus tours, financial aid presentations, student shadowing experiences and a 10-week summer transition program — hosted at the University of Windsor with the goal to help prepare students for what to expect in their post-secondary program.

All of these supports have led to some impressive results:

- 88.7% of students enrolled in the program graduated high school in 4 years (7.5% higher than provincial average)
- 72% of students are currently attending a post-secondary program.



On Track to Success program graduate Mikaila, with Career Mentoring Coordinator, Joann Duddy.

Graduation Video: weareunited.com/OTTSGrads

GOOD NEWS

An independent review of the program by Dr. Rajeeva Sinha, Associate Professor from the Odette School of Business at the University of Windsor has concluded the On Track program is making a difference. On Track students have higher grades and attendance, and soft skills (commitment to learn, social competence, positive identity and empowerment) that are indicators of long-term student success and post-secondary school completion rates, when comparing them to students with similar profiles who could not participate in the program.

Full Report: weareunited.com/OnTracktoSuccessResults

BY THE NUMBERS

2018-19 Year End Outcomes for the On Track to Success Program

89%

Percentage of students who graduated high school on time in 4 years, 7.5% higher than provincial average.

\$145K

The dollar amount of bursaries awarded to On Track to Success Program graduates.

72%

Percentage of program graduates currently enrolled in a post-secondary program. The National Avg. is 47% for those with similar household incomes.

88%

Percentage of students still enrolled in the program. This retention rate is much higher than similar youth programs.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



JULIE | VOLUNTEER TUTOR SINCE 2015

Julie has been a committed volunteer tutor since the On Track to Success program began in 2015. In her four years as a volunteer of the program, Julie has helped countless high school students study for math and science tests, complete assignments and push themselves to achieve their potential.

Julie's gentle demeanor, approachability and ability to refocus students has paved the way for countless students to succeed academically.

Her tutoring, however, goes beyond academics. Julie has a special way of making connections with the students to encourage them. She creates an atmosphere of calm, and student's leave with a noticeable boost in confidence after spending some time with her.

Julie received the 2019 Changing Lives by Helping Kids Be All That They Can Be Award at a reception in April.

ON TRACK TO SUCCESS GRADUATES

SINDY | ST. CLAIR COLLEGE GRAD '22

My Success Coach and the program have been very helpful for me throughout these four years of my life. My Success Coach always made me feel comfortable, safe and welcomed. He celebrated my successes, comforted me in my failures, and always pushed me and showed me that I was capable of more.

At times he was an annoying little voice in my ear, but I am so grateful he was. Because without that voice I would not be graduating or going to College. My future would look so different without the On Track to Success program.

I want to thank the donors who helped this program become a reality and have helped fund all of our activities throughout the years. You're truly amazing, and kind hearted people, and the world needs more of you! Thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow and learn.



90% of students in OTTS reported that they believe their life has purpose and that they feel optimistic about their personal future.



AMAU | UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR GRAD '23

I started off my grade 12 year not knowing what I wanted to do. I wasn't sure about my future and what my career goals would be. I didn't realize how much my life would change because of this program.

With the encouragement from my Success Coach, tutors, and mentors, I grew in ways I didn't think I could. I was able to boost my lowest marks and I felt more confident in school. I learned how to be more independent, how to advocate for myself, how to be more responsible and I developed skills that would help me be successful in University.

Not only did I receive assistance, but my family was supported as well. The Success Coaches had such a positive impact on things at home. Sometimes it was a little challenging for my mom who is a single mom, but she was so grateful for the help.

77% of students in OTTS identified that they are motivated to do well in school and that they are actively engaged in their learning.

PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

CUPE

Just over three years ago, the leadership of CUPE Locals 82 & 543, which represents City of Windsor employees, asked what they could do to help support students in the On Track to Success program.

With input from the students, we discussed additional barriers that they faced and financial burdens that caused them stress. With the support of CUPE Locals 82 & 543, these burdens have been alleviated—and we are so grateful.

Now three years later, we could not imagine what the program would look like if it were not for their support.

From providing backpacks that ensure our students feel confident and have the supplies they need to attend school, to purchasing them brand new suits for graduation, to providing them with job shadowing opportunities, to hosting a year end bbq for graduates and their family members to celebrate their success—the list goes on and on. CUPE Locals 82 & 543 have gone the extra mile to ensure students have the social and emotional support to be confident learners and successful young adults.

They understand that when children have people who believe in them and support them, they can achieve anything.



On Track to Success in Action (From Top) ►

- Breann, grade 9 student from Leamington, experiences what its like to work at the City of Windsor as part of Take Your Kids to Work Day.
- The team from CUPE 82 & 543 handing out the backpacks and school supplies they donated.
- Students attending the Windsor Essex Pride Parade with CUPE 543.
- Grade 12 student Jeremiah, with Ari Freed, Co-Owner of Freeds Clothing store. Graduates received a brand new suit, thanks to CUPE 82 & 3137.
- Natalie and Leilani from CUPE Local 82 congratulate recent grad Brandon before his big move to London to study video game design.

On Track to Success Partners

Corporate & Labour Partners

ArcelorMittal Windsor
BASF Canada
Bowman & Partners
Chapman, Sanger &
Associates LLP
CIBC Wood Gundy
CUPE Local 82, 543, 1393, & 3137
Cypher Systems Group Inc.
Jem D. International Partners LP
LAVAL International
Libro Credit Union
Norwex
Pelee Island Winery and
Vineyards Inc.
RT Consulting Inc.
UE Enclosures

Foundations

Barry & Stephanie Zekelman
Foundation
Bill & Rochelle Tepperman
Foundation
FCA Foundation
Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare
UNIFOR Local 2458/ ONA
Local 8/ OPSEU Locals 101/142
The Neighbourhood Charitable
Alliance
O'Brien - Jackson Family Foundation
Peter Gilgan Foundation
Retiree Volunteer Council
The Walter J. Blackburn Foundation
Women United

School Partners

Assumption College Catholic Secondary
Cardinal Carter Secondary
Hon W C Kennedy Collegiate
Leamington District Secondary
Western Secondary School
Westview Freedom Academy

Individual Philanthropists

David Cooke
Mary Jean Gallagher
Patrick and Arlene Goggins
Carl Hooper
Dr. Sanjay Jacob
Dina & Sean O'Neil
Dr. Douglas Paterson &
Margaret Cole-Paterson
Dr. James Purvis
Jeffrey Slopen
Truax Family
Sean & Jennifer White

Key Community Partners

Greater Essex County District School Board
CUPE Locals 27/1348/1358/ETFO Local
3255/OSSTF District 9/WESSOA/OPC
The Corporation of the Municipality of
Leamington
CUPE Local 528.4/ Teamsters Local 879
Sandwich Teen Action Group (S.T.A.G.)
South Essex Community Council
CUPE Local 4523
University of Windsor
Windsor-Essex Catholic District
School Board
CUPE Local 1358/ OECTA
Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society
CUPE Local 2286

**Additionally, thank you to all donors who
prefer to remain anonymous.*



**United Way
Centraide**

Windsor-Essex County