**2016 College Changes Everything Conference Family Engagement Workshop**

**Session Title:** *"Holistic Approaches: Models for Engaging Parents and Families for School and Community Improvements"​*

**Session Description:** This session will consist of a panel discussion from parent leaders for the Waukegan 2 College program and staff from Project SUCCESS Educational Opportunity Center at Chicago State University. Panelists will discuss how parents are making a difference in their community as engaged as parent leaders and community organizers. Additionally, panelist will discuss a holistic model designed to create opportunities for parents and families to establish and re-engage in their own educational goals *(The FAMLEE Engagement Model- Focus on Alternative Methods for Learning and Engaging in Education)*. Participants will be able to identify common themes of both models for parental engagement, centered around goal-setting and community partnership-building.

**Panelists Questions:**

* What are some challenges and barriers surrounding getting parents engaged in their student’s educational objectives?
* Why is it important for a parent to be engaged in the educational process: 1. For the student. 2. For themselves. 3. For the household. 4. For the community-at-large.
* Why the focus on alternative school students and families?
* Who should be at the table of discussion?
* What methods/resources will we use to engage/re-engage students? Parents? School Administrators/Staff?
* Can someone give examples of how their interaction with the school district has changed things for them?
* How do you perceive your role as a Parent Leader and how has that developed?
* What defines success on the path to college and how did you get to that understanding?
* How does it help to have a sense of community around you? How does it feel knowing you're not alone in this?

**Panelists and Descriptions:**

Mr. Brian Johnson has been a Project Counselor with Project SUCCESS for the past 10 years. Mr. Johnson is responsible for recruiting and providing program services project participants, specializing in alternative schools and GED programs. .

Ms. Sydnie Monegan has been a Project Counselor with Project SUCCESS for the past 10 months. Ms. Monegan is also responsible for recruiting and providing program services to project participants, specializing in community partnerships and correctional facilities/programs.

Dr. Nayshon Rosebourgh has served as the Director for Project SUCCESS for almost two years. Dr. Rosebourgh manages the day-to-day programmatic and administrative functions, necessary to implement the federally-funded project, designed to help low-income, first generation adults enroll in a GED program or other postsecondary program.

Laura Rios is the program manager with Waukegan to College (W2C).  During the past 6 years Ms. Rios has worked with families in Waukegan, IL to guide them on the path to college.  W2C focuses on the whole family not just the student, and has created a robust and energetic Parent Leaders’ Team who meets with staff monthly on program improvements, and shepherds a team of families.

Teresita Correa is the President of the Waukegan to College Parent Leaders’ Team and has served in this role for the past 5 years.  Ms. Correa is the Chairperson of the W2C Community Service Committee, and she serves on the Community Organizing Core Team working hard to improve education for all students in Waukegan.  She is the proud mother of four children, and her youngest begins his high school career this fall.

Martha Padilla has been with Waukegan to College for the past two years.  Mrs. Padilla is the mother of two children in high school.  One is a senior and the youngest begins her freshman year.  Mrs. Padilla is an active member of the W2C Community Organizing Core Team, and most recently has spoken at public events to encourage and motivate Latino families to take an active part in school board elections.  She is a member of the W2C Board of Directors and serves on their Resource Development Committee.