We believe that every student deserves the opportunity to enter and complete postsecondary education.

About

Established in 2005 by Nicole Farmer Hurd, Ph.D., founder and CEO, College Advising Corps works to increase the number of low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented high school students who enter and complete higher education.

Our near-peer model pairs advisers with students close in age and with similar backgrounds. In 2020, College Advising Corps deployed 829 advisers from 30 partner universities to 240,000 students in 782 high schools. More than 100 advisers were former advisees. Sixty-three percent were Pell-eligible in college and 55% were first-generation college graduates. Eight in 10 advisers were people of color.

“Most of our advisers were low-income, first-generation or underrepresented students, which is the population we focus on. Their job is to hold hands with student and tell them, ‘If I can do it, you can do it too.’

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University Chapters

Why?
We have an opportunity crisis in our country. Did you know that for every one guidance counselor there are more than 450 students vying for time with that counselor? Most students spend less than 20 minutes per year with a guidance counselor.

College-educated parents of students from middle-class or wealthy backgrounds are often able to help their teens navigate the complex college admissions and financial aid process. However, low-income and underrepresented students whose parents or guardians have never been to college too often fall through the cracks, loosing opportunity for upward economic mobility.

We will more than double our impact across our first 10 years and enroll one million students from low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented background by 2025.

College Advising Corps advisers bridge the gap. Studies show that students who meet with an adviser are 30% more likely to apply to at least one college, are 26% more likely to apply for a scholarship, and are 27% more likely to submit the FAFSA. Our approach produces exceptional economic returns. During the 2018-2019 academic school year, advisers helped students secure more than $2 billion in institutional aid and scholarship dollars.

“My adviser instilled a new confidence in me, which is not only pivotal at this point in my life but something that I will carry with me forever. He influenced this significant change in my life, and I’m just one student. Imagine how many others he has influenced during his service as a college adviser.”
-Renessa Burke, High School Student

For more information or to request an interview, please contact Karen E. Butler, Sr. Director of Communications, at 860.997.4487.