



# CU Cradle2Career

Pathways to Success for Every Student



AUGUST 2, 2017

WWW.CUCRADLE2CAREER.ORG

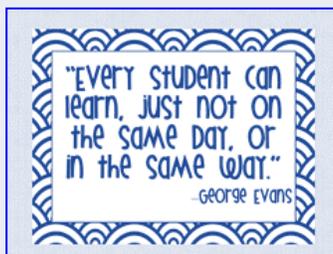
**Equality is giving everyone a shoe. Equity is giving everyone a shoe that fits” – Naheed Dosani**

### **Our Newest Community Council Members:**

Sistering CU  
*Erin Murphy*

UA Plumbers and Pipefitters  
Local 149  
*Matt Kelly*

U of I, College of Business,  
Business Graduate Program  
*Abdul Mahdi*  
*Jenny Larson*



We welcome you to join the CUC2C Community Council. For more information, email Lee Ann Kelly at [l.kelly@cucradle2career.org](mailto:l.kelly@cucradle2career.org)



## The C-U Woods



We all appreciate shade in the summertime. Yet the canopy of intertwined trees in the woods provides so much more than a heat break. That ecosystem provides a diversity that benefits the tiny violets, the dogwoods, the woodpecker, the fox and the large trees alike.

When Collective Impact is embedded into a community’s DNA, it is like that ecosystem. Here’s how we see the “CU Woods” growing.

- The *CU Initiative for Labor Diversity*, sponsored by the AFL-CIO Trades Council and the UI School of Labor Employment Relations. Members of the Workforce Readiness team are on the youth working group.
- The Community Coalition and our Kindergarten Readiness team have begun collaborating on increasing support for families of children 0-5.
- CUC2C is also a partner in the Carle Foundation’s “Healthy Beginnings Community Initiative”. The data Carle collects will help better identify what are the best practices to scale-up through-out our community.

Imagine what our community would be like if everyone from newborns and families, students and non-profits, as well as small and large businesses all had the tools they needed to be the best they could be...it’s something worth working for. – Lee Ann and Denise

## GOAL Teams

### **Kindergarten Readiness (KR)**

Join the *Walk as One (Kindergarten Readiness)* on **September 14, 2017 from 5:30-7:30pm** to support early learning and school readiness. Small volunteer teams will walk door to door delivering KR Kits to families with children ages 0-5, in both Champaign and Urbana. For more information, check out the United Way website. To sign up, go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a45abaf23a0fc1-walk1>

### **Support for Academic Success (SAS)**

1,663 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders completed the Student survey. The summary will be online soon. Meanwhile, check out Parent and Staff survey summaries.

### **Workforce Readiness (WFR)**

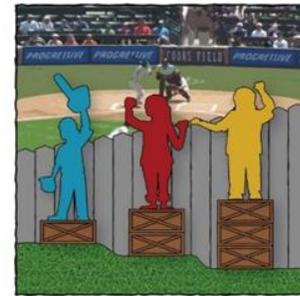
The Middle School group began meeting with the middle school leaders and continues meeting with local providers and out-of-school providers.

“Fairness does not mean everyone gets the same. Fairness means everyone gets what they need.” – Rick Riordan

## The Journey to Equity



EQUALITY



EQUITY

### Celebrating Our Partners: the DREaam House



“Let’s rock the DREaam House, rock the DREaam House!” chanted the excited entering kindergarten boys participating in the Pre-K Jumpstart Program. DREaam stands for “Driven to Reach Excellence and Academic Achievement for Males.” This is DREaam’s third summer of providing a four-week program to increase the kindergarten readiness of culturally diverse cohorts of boys “at promise” for success. In addition to 21 boys in CU this summer, a cohort of 10 boys began in Rantoul, DREaam added the KR Family Camp to increase parent engagement (in both locations) and a summer camp for 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys was piloted.

Summer is just the kick-off. During the year, our kindergarteners through current 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will participate in after-school programming geared toward additional academic support and social emotional learning. Mentoring and family-centered activities will also occur. For more information about DREaam’s impact or how to get involved, please email [tracy@dreaaam.org](mailto:tracy@dreaaam.org).

Are “equality” and “equity” synonyms? No; and the distinction is an important one if we truly want every child to graduate and succeed.

In the graphic above, *Equality* means giving everyone the *same size* box. Equity acknowledges the playing field is not level. For everyone to “equally see” each child is assisted per need. A good example of this is the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Recognizing nutrition enables better learning, meals are provided so everyone is closer to having an equal opportunity to learn.

An uneven playing field exists for many students: English language learners, students with special needs, children traumatized by abuse, chronic poverty and other “adverse child experiences”, and students of color who confront unconscious biases<sup>1</sup>. As a group, they represent most of the students who lag academically or act out in the classroom because of *factors outside of the school’s control*<sup>2</sup>. If we give them the same box, they may never catch up. Yet, if we as a community understand and address their needs, then we have begun leveling the field of learning opportunity.

Isn’t that unfair to the other students? No. The research shows that upholding standards of excellence while bringing equity to the classroom/school lifts everyone up<sup>3</sup>. Classroom/school environments improve, students report being more engaged, and scores improve for all<sup>4</sup>. And when disparities are present at birth, the most economical way for a community to create equality is to bring equity at the earliest age possible<sup>5</sup>.

In the coming months, the CUC2C Steering Committee plans to foster more opportunities for discussion on this vital topic to reaching our goal: “a thriving community where every child achieves and every graduate succeeds.”

<sup>1</sup><https://www.edutopia.org/blog/equity-vs-equality-shane-safir>

<sup>2</sup><https://edtrust.org/resource/breaking-the-glass-ceiling-of-achievement-for-low-income-students-and-students-of-color/>

<sup>3</sup><https://edtrust.org/the-equity-line/diversity-offers-clear-path-brighter-futures-children/>

<sup>4</sup><http://www.centerforpubliceducation.org/educationalequity>

<sup>5</sup><https://heckmanequation.org/resource/13-roi-toolbox/>



- To Erin Gilligan & Sharla Jolly of Cunningham Children’s Center for printing our new pocket card.
- To the local Habitat for Humanity for allowing us to copy the formatting of their pocket card.
- To all the community Council members who helped provide meals and staffed the childcare & bookstore for the DREaam House Family Camp.
- To the Community Engagement team for a great June “Group Jeopardy” Community Council Meeting.
- To Amanda Raklovits and Betsy Su for the hours it took to compile and analyze the SAS Student Survey.