



THE VALUE OF COLLEGE



**EDUCATE ONE LATINO,
EMPOWER A COMMUNITY™**



C

hoosing college does not set this generation of scholars apart from their families. It honors the sacrifices made and is a living legacy to the generations before them.

As leaders of the Michigan Hispanic Collaborative, we are privileged to witness the profound impact that higher education has on our community. Every day, we see the transformative power of college education in the lives of Hispanic scholars and their families across Michigan. It is with great enthusiasm that we share our thoughts on why college matters so deeply to us.

Education makes opportunities. It represents the chance to secure stable and rewarding careers and achieve financial independence. The economic benefits of a college degree are undeniable, providing our scholars with the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in an increasingly competitive job market.

A NOTE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Beyond the economic advantages, college education is a journey of personal growth and self-discovery. It equips our young people with critical thinking skills, cultural awareness, and a broadened perspective of the world. These attributes are essential in nurturing the next generation of leaders who will drive positive change within our communities and beyond.

In our community, the success of one individual often ripples outward, inspiring others to pursue their dreams. When a Hispanic scholar graduates from college, they become a beacon of hope and a role model for their peers. They show that it is possible to overcome obstacles and achieve greatness, regardless of one's background. This is particularly important in fostering a culture of aspiration and ambition among our youth.

However, we must acknowledge the barriers that still exist for many Hispanic scholars. Financial constraints, lack of access to quality education, and limited knowledge about the college application process are significant challenges.

At the Michigan Hispanic Collaborative, we are dedicated to breaking down these barriers. Through one-on-one coaching, access to tailored resources, and a multi-generational approach, we strive to support our scholars at every step of their educational journey.

We believe that by investing in the education of our youth, we are investing in the future of our entire community. It is a collective effort that requires the support of families, educators, policymakers, and community organizations. Together, we can ensure that every Hispanic scholar in Michigan has the opportunity to pursue higher education and achieve their full potential.

Thank you for your support and commitment to our mission. Let us continue to work together to create a brighter future for our community through the power of education.

With gratitude and hope,

JoAnn Chavez

JoAnn Chávez
Founder, President & CEO of
Michigan Hispanic
Collaborative

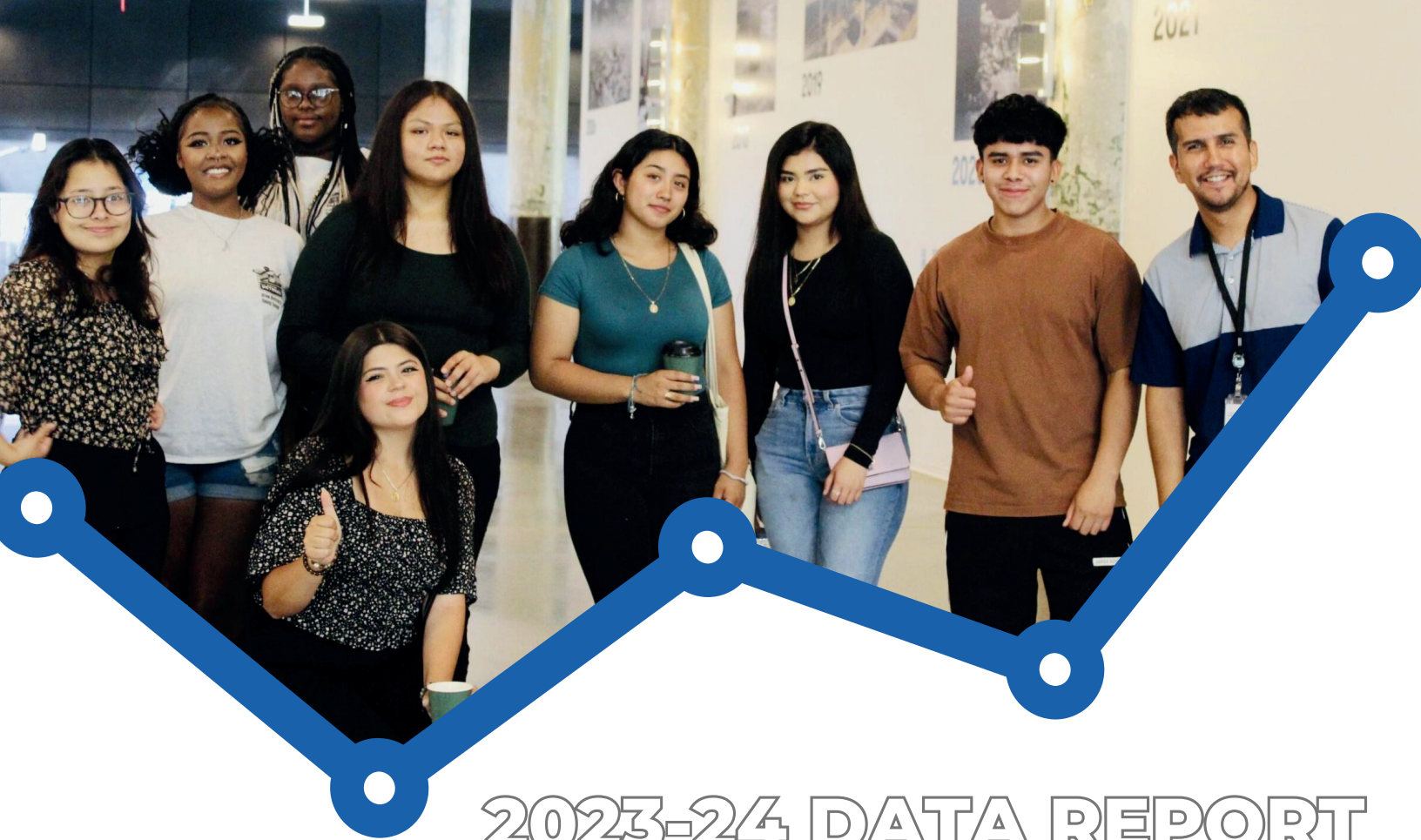
Lawrence Garcia

Lawrence Garcia
Board Chair of Michigan
Hispanic Collaborative

Amanda Said Canto

Amanda Said Canto
Acting Executive Director &
Chief of Staff of Michigan
Hispanic Collaborative





2023-24 DATA REPORT

100%

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
RECEIVED THEIR DIPLOMAS

41

COLLEGE GRADUATES

90%

SCHOLARS WENT ON
COLLEGE TOURS

STATISTICS SUPPORTING

Secondary Education

Lifetime Earnings

On average, individuals with a bachelor's degree earn approximately **\$1.2 million** more over their lifetime compared to those with only a high school diploma.

Job Projection

By 2026, about **35% of job openings** will require at least a bachelor's degree, and an additional 30% will require some college or an associate's degree.

Life Satisfaction

Individuals with higher education levels report higher levels of life satisfaction and **lower levels of stress** compared to those with less education.

99%

COLLEGE PERSISTENCE RATE
*between 2022-23 and
2023-24 academic years*

100%

**OF ACTIVE SCHOLARS
COMPLETED FAFSA**

The Proof is in the Program

"I have always wished to attend the University of Detroit Mercy after high school. I had a difficult time applying for FAFSA and was quite discouraged. I wasn't sure college was for me. My coach thought differently. Thanks to my coach's relentlessness in troubleshooting and communicating with the Department of Education, I am now attending my dream school in the fall on a full-ride tuition scholarship!"

Janeth Hernandez

"Since joining the MiHC as a scholar, I received academic support, career workshops, and office hours, which have expanded my knowledge and networking skills. I interned at Ally Financial, one of MiHC's sponsored partners. My coach helped me with my relationship building skills which truly paid off! I will be joining the Ally team as a full-time employee upon graduation."

Liset Diaz

"Last year, I wasn't sure if I would go to college. My coach saw my potential and encouraged me to apply to several colleges and even helped me submit my applications. Now, I have a full-ride and I owe it to my coach because without her helping me and pushing me towards success, I wouldn't be going to college."

Joshua Garza



INITIATIVES

FOR THE FUTURE

The Michigan Hispanic Collaborative is excited about its newest initiatives which will enhance our work and expand opportunities for Hispanic communities statewide. By continuing to foster and strengthen partnerships with local businesses and educational institutions, we aim to create sustainable pathways for growth and empowerment.

Team Growth + Training

We are implementing a structured approach to staff and coach training, which includes:

- Curriculum Development
- Workshops and Seminars
- Ongoing Professional Development
- Mentorship and Peer Support
- Feedback and Evaluation
- Community Engagement

We are prioritizing community growth by expanding our team of coaches to enhance support for individuals and families. With a stronger, well-trained team, we can offer our scholars personalized support, resources, and a dedicated advocate to guide them through their journey.

Research Fellows

Armed with vital data about the Latino community in the context of education and research, our research fellows will enable us to customize our programming and support for greater impact and effectiveness.

New Office

This new space at Newlab, situated in the historic former Detroit Book Depository, provides a vibrant hub where we can connect with our community in-person and continue to build real relationships between coaches and scholars.



Pilot Expansion

We are shaping the future by expanding our pilot initiatives to the west side of the state, introducing a dedicated elective course in Wyoming, MI, that empowers scholars and promotes community growth.

Nationally, only about 1% of philanthropic dollars are directed toward Latino-led and Latino-serving organizations.

Our work is not possible without those who believe in our critical mission. Our partners and advocates continue to support our programming and growth through mentorship, professional development, career opportunities, and funding.

It's up to us to propel this movement forward.

There are many ways you can get involved including:

- 1** Serve as a Career Advisor through CareerSpring or participate as a panelist for MiHC career exploration panels

Contact us at mihc@mihc.org for more information.
- 2** Build awareness of MiHC by engaging with your employer to provide career and internship opportunities for our scholars
- 3** Donate to provide funding for our programming.



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ADVOCATES

> \$5K in contributions for FY24

State of Michigan

Jamie and Denise Jacob Family Foundation

Community Foundation of Southeastern Michigan

Pulte Family Foundation

Kresge Foundation

Skillman Foundation

Ally

Radical Fund

DTE Foundation

