

# Everything to Win by MiHC

## MiHC's Umbrella for Student Success, Family Engagement, and Economic Mobility

*ETW honors the strengths students already carry and helps them choose their future with clarity, confidence, and power.*

Everything to Win (ETW) is MiHC's organizing framework for helping first-generation and under-resourced students make informed, confident decisions about their futures.

ETW is not just a class, workshop, college access, or future pathways success program. It is MiHC's practical, student-centered approach to helping students recognize their strengths, understand their options, build decision-making skills, and move successfully from high school to college, career pathways, and long-term economic mobility.

ETW is built on a simple theory of change: when students build self-knowledge, decision-making skills, practical competencies, and trusted relationships, they are better able to choose aligned pathways, persist through challenges, and move toward long-term economic mobility.

**At its core, ETW reflects a simple belief:** Students already bring talent, culture, resilience, family wisdom, and ambition. MiHC's role is not to decide their future for them, but to help them see the full range of possibilities before them, weigh their options, trust their strengths, and choose a path they can pursue with confidence.

### Why ETW Matters

Too many students are asked to make high-stakes decisions about college, jobs, careers, money, family responsibilities, transportation, work, and their futures without consistent guidance or clear decision-making tools.

For first-generation students, this is not a talent gap. It is an infrastructure gap. Students often receive information, but information alone is not enough. They need space to reflect, adults who believe in them, tools to compare options, and support to follow through when decisions become complicated.

ETW helps students move from exposure to action.

### Why This Approach Works

Research and lived experience point to the same conclusion: information alone does not change outcomes. Students need trusted relationships, clear tools, repeated practice, family engagement, and support at the moments when decisions become real. ETW brings those elements together so students can move from awareness to action, and from action to persistence.

**In short:** ETW does not assume students lack ambition. It assumes systems must do a better job helping students act on the ambition they already have.

### What ETW Builds

Through ETW, MiHC helps students activate and strengthen the forms of capital they already carry and will continue to need:

**Human Capital:** Students identify their strengths, values, interests, and goals. They develop confidence, communication, resilience, critical thinking, and self-advocacy.

**Knowledge Capital:** Students learn how postsecondary systems work, including college pathways, career options, applications, financial aid, credentials, and workforce expectations.

**Financial Capital:** Students build practical financial literacy through budgeting, saving, credit, debt, cost comparisons, and real-world financial decision-making.

**Social Capital:** Students learn how to build and use relationships that open doors: family support, peer networks, mentors, educators, professionals, and community connections.

**Cultural Capital:** Students understand their culture, language, identity, family values, and lived experience as assets - not obstacles - in shaping their future.

## How ETW Works Across MiHC

ETW provides the shared framework across MiHC's work, while La Próxima Generación and related coaching models deliver that framework through direct student, family, and transition supports.

**In the classroom**, students engage in hands-on learning, reflection, future planning, job and career exploration, financial literacy, and life design.

**Through coaching**, students receive real-time guidance at key decision points so they can make informed choices and follow through.

**With families**, MiHC treats parents and caregivers as essential decision partners. ETW respects family wisdom, culture, language, and experience, and lived experience while helping families navigate unfamiliar systems with clearer information, trusted relationships, and practical support.

**Across transitions**, students are supported as they move from high school to post-secondary education, training, employment, and early career pathways.

**With partners**, ETW gives schools, funders, employers, colleges, and community organizations a clear framework for aligning support around student success.

## What Students Experience

- Develop a clear and actionable post-graduation plan
- Explore college, career, and workforce pathways
- Understand their strengths, values, and goals
- Build financial literacy and budgeting skills
- Practice communication, networking, and self-advocacy
- Connect with mentors, professionals, and trusted adults
- Make informed decisions with confidence
- See their culture, family, and community as sources of strength

## What Makes ETW Different

ETW is not simply mentorship, college access, or college success work - though it strengthens all three.

Mentorship gives students relationships, encouragement, exposure, and guidance. College access helps students complete the steps to enter postsecondary education. College success helps students persist once they are enrolled.

ETW begins earlier and works more broadly. Because it starts in the classroom - five days a week, one hour a day - students are not waiting for support to find them. They practice future planning, financial decision-making, communication, reflection, career exploration, and self-advocacy as part of their regular school experience.

Through daily classroom engagement, coaching, family partnership, and capital-building experiences, students learn how to understand themselves, compare options, weigh tradeoffs, build relationships, manage money, and choose aligned college, career, and life pathways.

In simple terms: mentorship offers guidance; college access helps students get in; college success helps students stay in; ETW helps students choose well, prepare fully, and move forward with sustained support.

ETW does not replace these programs. It strengthens them by giving students a shared framework for making informed decisions and turning support into action.

## The Outcome MiHC Is Building Toward

When students have the tools, confidence, relationships, and support to make strong decisions, they are more likely to choose aligned pathways, persist through challenges, complete degrees or credentials, and move toward meaningful careers.

**That is why ETW is more than college readiness.** It is future readiness. It is family mobility. It is workforce development. It is decision-making infrastructure.

Because ETW is a shared framework, it can be embedded across classrooms, coaching, family engagement, school partnerships, employer exposure, and postsecondary transitions.