EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WHO WE ARE

Project GRAD helps Houstonians get into and through college or career training. GRAD has advised thousands of Houstonians from economically disadvantaged households who have enrolled in and graduated from community college and university.

WHAT WE DO

- GRAD college and career advising services are provided at no cost to our clients and are available in English and Spanish.
- We guide individuals through the college application & essay writing process.
- We help to prepare for college entrance exams with online tools.
- We help students & families through the arduous FAFSA & TASFA process to apply for financial aid.
- We connect individuals with scholarship opportunities and help them apply.
- We offer career explorations, including interest & aptitude inventories.
- We offer opportunities to engage with professionals from their careers of interest.
- We connect opportunities to engage with professionals from their careers of interest.

THE NEED

Over 60% of all local jobs will require more than a high school diploma by 2030.

Over 50% of all Houston-area students are growing up in economically disadvantaged households.

Only 12% of these 8th grade students complete any education after high school.

If left unaddressed, the unmet potential of these young people threatens the economic health of the region as well as their own prosperity.

OUR IMPACT ON COLLEGE SUCCESS

Without GRAD support

30%

With GRAD support

57%
OVERALL IMPACT

GRAD has advised many thousands of Houstonians from economically disadvantaged households who have enrolled in and graduated from community college or university.

To date, 57% of GRAD’s college-enrolled students remain in college or have graduated, nearly twice the success rate of their peers across Texas.

OUR MISSION

Project GRAD helps Houstonians get into and through college or career training.

WHERE WE WORKED AND HOUSEHOLDS SERVED IN 2019-2020

OUTREACH, CLIENTS SERVED, OUTCOMES

GRAD reached a combined total of 15,876 individuals through direct service (7,417 clients) and community outreach (8,459 individuals).

- **Direct Service** - GRAD advisors provided college and career support through 1:1 counseling and workshops to 7,417 unduplicated clients.

- **Community Outreach** - GRAD advisors and staff provided information sessions to larger groups and community partners, reaching a population of 8,459.

- **College Enrollment** - GRAD followed the success of 1,757 college students enrolled in 133 community colleges and universities during the academic year.

- **Opportunity Youth** - GRAD advisors continued to work with non-traditional students, youth and young adults who seek help in accessing education after high school to prepare for better employment opportunities. To date, 81% of these clients remain actively engaged; 42% have enrolled in community college and 39% plan to enroll in the next year.

STRATEGIC COLLABORATIONS

- Houston Community College
- Lee College
- Lone Star College
- University of Houston
- University of Houston Downtown

- City of Houston
- Houston Public Library
- Harris County Public Library
- Harris County Precinct Two