

# GEAR UP Makes College Real

Success Stories – Parent / Family

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**Geoffrey is only a junior in high school, but he already knows the he wants to be a bio-medical engineer.** Talking with his mother Gloria Murry, he asks how the GEAR UP program has helped.



Creating a community of support gets kids into college. In September 2006, Geoffrey will start college as a science major.

“What activities or resources have you found through the GEAR UP program that you haven’t found anywhere else?” asks Geoffrey.

Gloria discusses the 3 ways GEAR UP has helped. “The most valuable resource I would say would be having a family because I consider GEAR UP my family.” GEAR UP not only provides information, but the parents and kids support each other.

Next, Gloria says that GEAR UP has provided her with the information that she needed to get back in

school. A core group of GEAR UP parents have returned to college since participating in the program. They want to be role models for their children and community.

But getting her son into college is the most important says Gloria, **“especially helping me to be aware of the importance of getting you into college,** filling out college applications, going through that whole process which I was just terrified of in the beginning.” Now with the help of their GEAR UP family Geoffrey will be going to college.

Read more about the program online: <http://www.gearupchicago.org/>

**Did you know?** Did you know there are techniques you can use to manage your time better? Collageboard.com has a top 10 list. The first is make a "to do list" every day. Find out what other tips there are. Visit: <http://www.collegeboard.com/> and search for Time Management Tips.