

# TRIO Alumni Highlights



August 2017

The AAEOPP Alumni Committee is proud to present our Alumni Star of the month: Cody Hammack from Bevell State Community College

## Alumni Committee

Terri Ricks, Alumni Chair  
Kayla Light, Alumni Co-Chair  
Erica Tabb  
Lisa Moore  
LaKee Binion  
Cody Hammack

The committee members would like to invite you to nominate one of your TRIO Alumni. Please send nominations to Terri Ricks ([tricks@wallace.edu](mailto:tricks@wallace.edu)) and Kayla Light ([kayla.light@bscc.edu](mailto:kayla.light@bscc.edu))

Your AAEOPP Alumni Committee has been hard at work to jump start a new effort to recognize our outstanding alumni. Starting this month we will send a monthly newsletter that highlights the amazing work our alumni do in their professional fields. We are particularly interested in those alumni who returned to TRIO as a career. We want to encourage you to nominate an alumnus from your department to be presented in our letter.

To apply, simply send us a picture and a 250 word write-up on how you started in TRIO, what you are doing now, and how TRIO advanced your life and education. It is our sincere hope that we will end up with enough emails to flood our inboxes for the year, so please do not hesitate to apply. Alumni are TRIO's shining stars because they embodied the success of our programs. TRIO works, so let's show it!

Pictured: Cody in a red letterman jacket to the right of the photo. This photo was taken while he was a Upward Bound student.



Story by: Cody Hammack

## Living The Dream

If you ask me how I am doing, I will always say, “I am living the dream” because I am. I feel lucky because I not only work in TRIO, but I work for the very program that made me who I am. Without a doubt,



Upward Bound helped pave the way for my success. As a Bevill State Community College Ambassador, I had the full benefit of Upward Bound's academic, social, and professional support, which helped me to succeed in school and my professional career. I accredit Upward Bound for instilling the “never quit” attitude toward earning my Bachelor's Degree.

Although I faced obstacles along the way, earning my degree remained at the forefront of my goals, dreams, and aspirations. Now in 2017, I have a Master's Degree from the University of West Alabama, I work in TRIO, and I am also an adjunct Psychology instructor at Bevill State.

Pictured above: Cody in a red polo shirt sitting at an event table for Upward Bound. He is working for Upward Bound as their program coordinator in this photo.

Works at Bevill State Community College

Upward Bound Alumnus

6 years with Upward Bound

Serves AAEOPP and SAEOPP through volunteerism

Emerging Leader, AAEOPP

National Student Leadership Congress

“Cody is a dedicated and valuable asset to our UB program. Being an alumnus of the program he once participated in establishes credibility with our participants. Cody is an example of how TRIO works!”

Lana May, Director of Bevill State's Fayette UB program



Special thanks to Shawanda Benjamin, AAEOPP President and Director of TRIO programs at UAB, Lana May Director of Upward Bound at Bevill State Fayette, and Tina Dorius, Director of SSS at Bevill State Sumiton, for assisting with this month's newsletter