

# Happy Birthday, Cal-SOAP!



Celebrating 30 Years of the  
California Student Opportunity and  
Access Program!

# California Student Opportunity and Access Program

## *Our History*



- Established by the legislature in 1978 as a pilot program.
- In 1998, Senate Bill 1666 repealed the 'sunset' date.



# California Student Opportunity and Access Program

## *Our Students*



- Are from low-income families
- Will be first in family to attend college
- Are from areas or schools with low eligibility or college-going rates



# California Student Opportunity and Access Program

## *Our Mission*



- Improve the flow of information about
  - postsecondary education
  - career opportunities
  - financial aid availability
- Improve achievement levels

# California Student Opportunity and Access Program

## *Our Work*



- Academic tutoring and guidance
- College awareness workshops and advising
- Career exploration
- Financial aid workshops
- Parent workshops



# California Student Opportunity and Access Program

## *Our Success*



### 30 Years of Increasing Student Success!

- California's 2007-2008 average college-going rate was 46.9%. Cal-SOAP's was 83.16%.
- Serving over 135,000 students and families!



# California Student Opportunity and Access Program

## *Our Challenges*



### **THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD**

- 2007-2008 - 25% budget cut
- 2008-2009 - "The GAP"
- Projects closed, fiscal agents lost, staff turnover
- Changing funding sources

# California Student Opportunity and Access Program

## *Our Future*



With every grey cloud ... there's a rainbow

- Maintained most operations through the 2008-2009 budget crisis!
- Still serving low income and first generation students statewide!



# California Student Opportunity and Access Program

## *Our Future*



With every grey cloud ... there's a rainbow

- Incorporating Career and Technical Educational activities and services!
- Working smarter - Increasing reportable data!
- New statewide and regional partners



*Staying alive!*



WE'RE MAKING A  
**DIFFERENCE**  
in the lives of our students