

**Carla Cribb**

TRIO SSS

My journey has been a very difficult one, and I have endured many hardships only to overcome and conquer every single one. I had my first child at the age of 18 and by the age of 30, I had seven amazing children. I didn't think I could achieve a higher education, but I have watched myself unfold into a strong and confident woman. I have overcome and persevered throughout my pursuit of a higher education.

I have been in the TRIO program since 2008, when I first enrolled at Columbia Basin College. TRIO helped me to achieve my AA degree and get accepted into Washington State University Tri-Cities. The TRIO program has been there for me to provide endless support through academic advising, book loans, tutoring, and emotional support in times of personal distress that affected my abilities to succeed as a student. TRIO has believed in me. They helped me prepare and get into a highly competitive bachelor's degree program, and I'm proud to say I am now in my second year of the BS in a Nursing program. I am extremely grateful for having TRIO to guide and direct me in my academic journey.

 <http://tricity.wsu.edu/trio/>

## Student Success Services

In 2010, Washington State University Tri-Cities was awarded the TRIO Student Support Services program grant to serve 140 first-generation, low-income, and disabled students each year. That is over 10% of our institutions student population! In the first 5-years of our grant we had 135 program participants graduate with a Bachelor's degree. In the last grant year (2014-2015), our persistence rate was 96% and our good academic standing rate was 95%. Seeing the positive impact our program has had on our participants during the first grant cycle, we wanted to continue to provide these essential support services. We reapplied for another grant in the last grant competition and were thrilled to be refunded for another 5-years! The students in our program may be the first in their family to attend college or have other personal barriers to overcome, and we see them push through those barriers every day to earn the privilege of becoming a college graduate. We are honored to take this journey with our students and provide the support, encouragement, and resources they need to achieve their educational goals.

# TRIO