



### Hannah Dozier

TRIO SSS

My name is Hannah Dozier and I am a non-traditional, first-generation and low-income student at Big Bend Community College. I am also a full-time wife and a mother of three. My mother, who was very active in my life has and will be my biggest inspiration. She had 10 children, was married with my father for 20+ years before he unexpectedly departed, leaving her to raise us all. During her marriage she left her career goals for my father to pursue his. As if that wasn't enough stress she soon found out she was battling colon cancer. Which she ended up losing the battle to in 2013. While she was inspiring to us all, she taught me to not dwell on the past and accept the present.

My middle daughter, Rene, was born unique with a visual impairment, cerebral palsy, and epilepsy. All of these symptoms have led her to have speech delays and other numerous developmental delays. Despite all this, she is the happiest little girl on this planet. She has a passion for music, books, and being with her family. She drives me to always put my best foot forward. I have had my fair share of "bumps in the road" and have experienced some things that most people don't. Nonetheless, my career goal is to become an entrepreneur as I think this would be fitting for the kind of flexibility that my family requires.

"In addition to academic skills, academic advising, and financial literacy, TRIO-Student Support Services has been the "priceless" vehicle that stopped for me when I found myself at a crossroad." Ultimately, TRIO has provided me with the gifts of morale support, encouragement and confidence. Which has translated to never give up and rise up against the odds."

<http://www.bigbend.edu/academics/trio-sss/>



## Student Success Services

Through a grant competition, funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education. Student Support Services (SSS) projects also may provide grant aid to current SSS participants who are receiving Federal Pell Grants (# 84.063). The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants.

All SSS projects must provide: academic tutoring, which may include instruction in reading, writing, study skills, mathematics, science, and other subjects; advice and assistance in postsecondary course selection, assist student with information on both the full range of student financial aid programs, benefits and resources for locating public and private scholarships; and assistance in completing financial aid applications. Education or counseling services designed to improve the financial and economic literacy and assist students in applying for admission to graduate and professional programs; and assist students enrolled in two-year institutions and applying for admission to, and obtaining financial assistance for enrollment in four-year programs. The SSS projects may also provide individualized counseling for personal, career, and academic information, activities, and instruction designed to acquaint students with career options; exposure to cultural events and academic programs not usually available; mentoring programs, securing temporary housing during breaks for students who are homeless youths and students who are in foster care or are aging out of the foster care system.

# TRIO