Rev. 9.1.23

Reading Area Community College
UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM
Fact Sheet

- **The Upward Bound Program** is free and voluntary to qualified high school students. It is a federally funded grant program authorized by the Higher Education Act of 1965 (US Department of Education) through Reading Area Community College.

- **Goal** is to provide intensive academic support for students to successfully graduate high school and enter post-secondary education.

- Serves **63 students from Reading High School** identified as low income, first in family to attend college, and who desire guidance and support in pursuing their goal of attaining a college degree.
  - GPA of 2.0 or above is required for participation
  - US citizenship or permanent resident

- Typically, participants **enter the program** in the summer before 9th grade and stay in the program through their first year of college. Occasionally openings occur during the school year and upper-class students may apply.

- Prepares high school students for success in postsecondary education through extensive **academic year programs** that include academic advising, college planning, financial aid counseling and career awareness.

- **Cultural capital** investment through college visitations, cultural field trips and targeted workshops.

- Required **six-week summer component** includes instruction in **English, Math, Science, Business** and a **Foreign Language**.

- Unique partnership program with community organizations to assist students.

- On-going relationship with **parents, counselors, and teachers** to ensure student success. Similar to a wrap-around academic support program.

- **Application process**: interest form, application, two teacher/counselor recommendation forms, interview.

- **Staff**: - Laura C. Kruse, Director
  - Dr. Joyce M. Ballaban, Advisor
  - John M. Duggan, Advisor
  - Alan Cook, Advisor
  - Venessa Albarran, Secretary – English/Spanish Bilingual

- **Offices located** in Reading High School and GoggleWorks.

- **Call 610.374.0844 or email upwardbound@racc.edu** for additional information or to refer a student.