



TRIO ACHIEVERS:

Aaron Sanchez



TRIO

TRIO, along with my mentors, had a huge impact in my life personally, educationally and professionally! I can relate it to having a big brother or sister who graduated from college and was providing guidance and support every step of the way. TRIO created opportunity for me and, more importantly, gave me the tools and the confidence to successfully navigate college. I went from asking myself if I would ever attend college to then asking myself "what college will I attend?"

"TRIO gave me hope"

Growing up I was surrounded by gangs, drugs and bad influences and there weren't many positive role models to follow. I also had to learn how to balance my time between work and school. **There were times when I considered quitting school to work more.** Originally, I wanted to be a probation officer to help my community deal with the issues of gangs, violence, and drugs.

"TRIO changed my life, changed my family's life and really made education a reality"

After being in TRIO and working with other first generation students like myself I decided there was a different way to contribute to my community. I decided to pursue my master's in order to become a counselor, create change and be that bridge to success that others were for me. **Now I am able to impact other students' lives.**

"Take advantage of all that TRIO has to offer"

Surround yourself with positive people that have goals. Keep working hard and understand that failure is a part of the process; learn from it and never give up. Ask for help and ask many questions along the way. **Know that TRIO, along with many of us, will always be here to support you in your journey!**

Current Career: Counselor and Teacher Education

Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice - CSU Stanislaus
Master's of Education in School Counseling with PPS Credential - CSU Stanislaus

TRIO Program: Educational Talent Search

Mark Twain Junior High School
Modesto High School