



## Assisting Underserved High School Graduates in Attaining Post-Secondary Aspirations

### Student Interns:

Zagros Asadi, Drexel University College of Medicine  
Kieran Mullins, Drexel University College of Medicine

**Academic Preceptor:** Zach Kassutto, MD, FAAP, Drexel University College of Medicine

**Community Preceptor:** Harry Levant, 12Plus

### COMMUNITY PARTNER



12Plus is a nonprofit organization that provides support throughout and after high school to help students and alumni achieve their academic and career goals.

<https://www.12plus.org/>

### BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

Philadelphia High School graduates report:

**90.1%** Participated in 12+ Programming during High School

**82.7%** Received Application and Enrollment Support

**79.0%** Received Financial Aid Support

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**93.8%** of students reported 12+ as their primary source of post-secondary support

### TEAM'S EXPERIENCE

The Bridging the Gaps student interns worked with the alumni team at 12Plus this summer and assisted with alumni outreach to help alumni pursue their desired future career or educational pathways. The interns reached out to recent graduates to check-in about life after high school and worked with them to achieve their stated goals or to pursue new paths.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**494/569** - Successfully outreached students  
**258** - Fully responsive students

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"12Plus was great at building relationships with students and helping them have a future after high school."

"They actually care about us!! More than mentors, they were friends guiding me through my college path."

"12Plus taught me to never hold yourself to your surroundings, become greater than everything you've ever been through."

### REFLECTION

"Representing 12Plus as an alumni team member this summer has been an incredibly fulfilling journey. This opportunity has widened my perspective on the challenges students face to break societal barriers, particularly those from underrepresented and under-resourced backgrounds. This experience has strengthened my dedication to advocate for inclusivity and provide equitable opportunities for all. I am grateful that 12Plus allowed me the opportunity to positively impact graduating high school students within the Philadelphia and Camden communities."