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# Expanding Horizons Gala

## EVkids + You

The Formula for Success

November 2, 2019

The Charles Hotel

Hosted by

**Latoyia Edwards**

Featuring Youth Champion & Alum

**Dr. Liz City** (H '94)

Honoring EVkids alum **Derick Rodriguez** (EVkids '12)

# EVkids Horizons



Fall 2019

Tutoring expands to 4 sites and 110 pairs!

### St. Christopher Church

40 Tutoring pairs

Located in Dorchester

Students from Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan

*The original Tutoring site has moved around as needed since 1985, and has been back at this location since 2014.*



**"My daughter comes home visibly happier every Thursday after Tutoring."**

**- Mother of a 4th grader**



### Harbor Point

est. 2014

40 Tutoring pairs

Located on Columbia Point in Dorchester

Students from the Harbor Point Housing Development

### Dewitt Center

est. 2018

15-20 Tutoring pairs

Located in Lower Roxbury

Students from Roxbury's Whittier Street and Madison Park areas



**"The only thing I am looking forward to is school and EVkids."**

**- 4th grader Franky**

### Mother Caroline Academy

est. 2019

15 Tutoring pairs

Located in Grove Hall in Dorchester

Students from Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, enrolled in tuition-free all-girls school

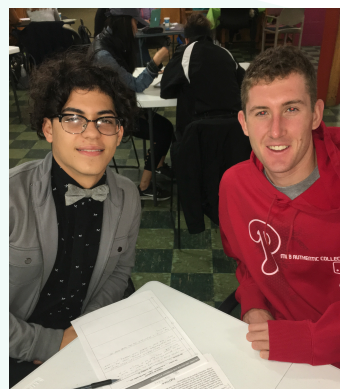


218 Adams St. #220502 Dorchester, MA 02122



## EVkids seniors are looking to the horizon

When it began last year, the EVkids College Success Project had to start on many strategies at once: help the seniors get to the right college, connect current college students with mentors, and start setting juniors up for success in their senior year. College Success Advisor Ashley Clavel spent many hours sitting in living rooms and at kitchen tables, talking to high schoolers and their parents. She started by asking, "What's your spark?"



Angelis (right) wants to get right to work helping kids and youth. She is applying to social work programs that will fast-track her through a bachelor's and a master's so she can have an impact sooner.

Claudia plans to attend UMassBoston and become a pediatric nurse. To get a head start, she is taking a community college psychology class on Sundays, gaining credit to be applied to her future degree.

When Jancarlos (left) finishes up his senior year playing football at Cristo Rey High School, he plans to start an electrician apprenticeship program, combining his interest in electrical work with his skill at hands-on work.

Nazik (right) is working hard in a dual enrollment program at Wentworth Institute of Technology, on her way to becoming an engineer. She is taking college courses that will count towards both high school graduation and her eventual college degree.

## Young alum gives back through education

Like many third-graders, Derick Rodriguez wanted to go and play after school, not go to Tutoring. But after school once a week, there was EVkids Program Director Lauren, waiting to drive him to Tutoring. He didn't get it. Why did she care so much about his report cards or how things were going with his tutor?

Now, as the Director of the Summer Boys & Girls Club, he's thankful she

cared that much.

"I think it helped shape who I am and become the person that I am," he said.

Derick's most influential tutor was a Harvard student named Daniel, who was Derick's tutor for four years, until Daniel graduated college. The pair studied and did homework together, and they also shared personal stories, read newspaper articles, and played chess.

Daniel taught Derick how to play chess, and the stakes were high. If Derick lost a game (which he normally did), Daniel gave him a newspaper article to read. Derick didn't like reading, but he liked these articles, which all had to do with current events around his neighborhood that he would not have known about otherwise. Digging into local news helped him research colleges and ultimately decide to go to UMassBoston.

Working with Daniel sparked Derick's drive to give back to his community, positively impacting kids the way Daniel impacted him. As the director of a Boys & Girls Club, he hopes to inspire children in the same way Daniel inspired him.

"I feel like I learned so much that I wanted to give back the favor, and it's the meaningful work.... I feel like me moving around managing all these different pieces and really be a driving force I felt like as a teacher, it's the most hands-on experience you can get and you're really impacting them on a day-to-day basis."



Derick graduated from EVkids in 2012. Here he is with program staff, on his way to college!

## Alumni Spotlight

## Campers strike up friendships with Marines in Australia

Hi,  
I'm Isabellah. I'm 16 and a sophomore in high school (going into my junior year). I'm spending ten days this summer.

Good Afternoon Isabellah.

Thank you for your letter. I enjoyed learning a little about you and the program. What of choir? Our school had several choirs. I wasn't really seen as the awesome program.

Hi Kathy! Or Captain Hill (whichever you prefer). Thank you for taking the time to answer my letter.

Good Afternoon Isabellah.

Thank you for your letter. I enjoyed learning a little about you and the program. What of choir? Our school had several choirs. I wasn't really seen as the awesome program.

During the Leaders in Training session this summer, teenage campers broadened their horizons so much that they could see all the way to Australia. No, they didn't climb a really high mountain -- they exchanged letters with a Marine battalion stationed in Darwin, in the northeast part of Australia.

Camper Isabellah corresponded with Captain Kathy Hill, an Indiana native who is the only woman assigned to her unit. Isabellah told Kathy about how hard she works in school and on athletic teams, and that she is hoping for scholarships that will make college more affordable. Kathy told Isabellah about her travel all over Southeast Asia, Australia, and the South Pacific, and how much she misses her pet greyhound back home.



Captain Hill's Marine unit takes a break during a hike in Australia.



Counselor Andy, and campers Erwin and Isabellah take a break after a hike in Vermont at EVkids Camp.

### I want to help Boston youth find their spark as they get ready for bright futures!

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