

AMIGOS at Maple Street Middle School

The Mary Jane Underwood Stryker Institute for Service-Learning

This bilingual mentoring program fosters intercultural awareness, understanding, and knowledge. The younger students offer the college students a glimpse of immigrant life and a chance to hone other language skills. Both partners have come to value collaboration across boundaries, as they have created deep, joyful, and long-lasting personal and multicultural friendships. AMIGOS was honored in June 2006 with the Governor's Service Award for Innovative Mentoring Program for its "unique and effective approach."



The AMIGOS program pairs college students one-on-one with middle school students. About 20 K College students participate in AMIGOS as volunteers or for federal work study.

AMIGOS supports bilingual students to acquire the tools and support they need to empower themselves inside and outside of the classroom, while building meaningful relationships across cultural differences.



"AMIGOS has given me an incredible opportunity to integrate myself into the Kalamazoo community and experience the wealth our youth has to offer."

–Cameron Lang K '12

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Poster created by Civic Engagement Scholar, Anna Miller, K'12.