



As a first-generation Latina from a low-income family [and] being born and raised in East Harlem, I am a firm believer that every student—regardless of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background, religion, etc—should be afforded the opportunity to a higher education and also be equipped with the tools to be successful at their college or university.

In working with my students, I hope that my story, being from this community, and relating to them on a personal level, will inspire them and show them that, yes, this journey is hard; it is not easy but with the right tools and support, it can be done.

I am all about breaking generational curses and for my students, many of them will be way makers for the future generations in their family and change their family legacies trajectory.

As a CBI alumna, the reason I wanted to work as a DCC [director of college counseling] is because I believe in the mission, values, and the work of CBI. I had a DCC that assisted me and paved the way for me, so it is only right that I take all the knowledge I have gained over the last eight years, and share it with my students.

I do not believe in being a gatekeeper and want my students to know that they have the right to an education; they have a right to want a better future for themselves and for their families.

– Alexa Laboy, CBI Director of College Counseling