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**For Immediate Release
Office of Public Information**

Crowder College CAMP Grant Refunded

Neosho, MO - Crowder College, College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) received word that the grant would be funded for another year with anticipation that it would continue for a total of 5 years. This grant is provided by the US Department of Education in the amount of \$421,200 for the (2016-2017) academic year.

CAMP was developed to assist students that are engaged, or whose parents are engaged in migrant and other seasonal farm work, and are enrolled or are admitted for enrollment on a full-time basis, in the first academic year at an institution of higher education.

"The CAMP staff and I are very excited about the CAMP grant being re-funded for yet another five years. We look forward to serving many more students in the future. CAMP is a perfect example of how individuals can excel beyond their expectations, if given the opportunity and support to do so. We are very proud of our students and their outstanding accomplishments, and consider it an honor and privilege to work with them and this program here at Crowder College." Alicia Irsik, Director of CAMP.

Crowder College CAMP was awarded the initial grant in **2001**. Since that time the program has served **over 675** students with many completing their **bachelor's and master's degrees**. **In addition, two students are currently pursuing doctoral degrees**. The Crowder College CAMP mission is to provide a fully encompassed freshman experience for migrant college students that will propel them into successful college completion and career attainment.

Former CAMP student, Maria De La Torre stated, "I miss the support and feeling of having a team while I was in college, CAMP was that team for me. CAMP helped me by pointing me in the right direction to pursue my dream of becoming a nurse."

Maria De La Torre, successfully completed Crowder College CAMP and continued studies until graduating with honors from the nursing program. After graduation she started working as a Registered Nurse (RN), with the McDonald County Health Department in Pineville, Missouri.

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