



Mothers Living & Learning Student Parent Success

Presented by: Dr. Barbara Treadway and Larissa Buster

College of Saint Mary -Fast Facts



- Enrollment around 1,000
- All female undergraduate institution
- Male and female graduate programs
- Student mothers make up 10-15% of the enrollment any given year
- Graduation rate for student who identify as single mothers at the college is 68%.
- The college is located in Omaha, Nebraska-population around 510 thousand (Omaha Proper)
- Founded in 1923 by the Sisters of Mercy

How it all began... Student Parent Success at CSM

- **2000 the Mothers Living and Learning program started out in an academic building with three women and their children.**
- **2012 the director of Single Parent Success was created to assist Residence Life with MLL-combined role**
- **2013 the opening of Mothers Living and Learning, Madonna Hall –donor funded**
- **2013 Director of Single Parent Success created as one role/separated from Residence Life serving all single mothers attending the college**
- **2021 Single Parent Success became Student Parent Success and continues to collaborate with residence life to provide services and resources to the residential student mothers**



Mothers Living and Learning Program

Qualifications

Old Qualifications

- Age limit – 35 years old
- Number of children – 2
- Ages of children – 6 wks – 10 yrs
- Required to have roommate
- Full-time student (12 credits)

Current Qualifications

- Age limit removed
- Number of children – 3
- Ages of children – 6 wks – 12 yrs by time of graduation
- Roommate optional
- Full-time student (12 credits)

Amenities within Building/Program

- Suite-style living for student mothers and their children
- In-suite full bathroom, living area, bedrooms, and kitchenette
- Access to kitchens, dining areas, and free laundry facilities
- Food pantry within building
- Access to on-campus meal plan for student parent and children
- One-price room and board plan
- Free parking on-campus and WiFi
- Supervised playtime two – three times a week.









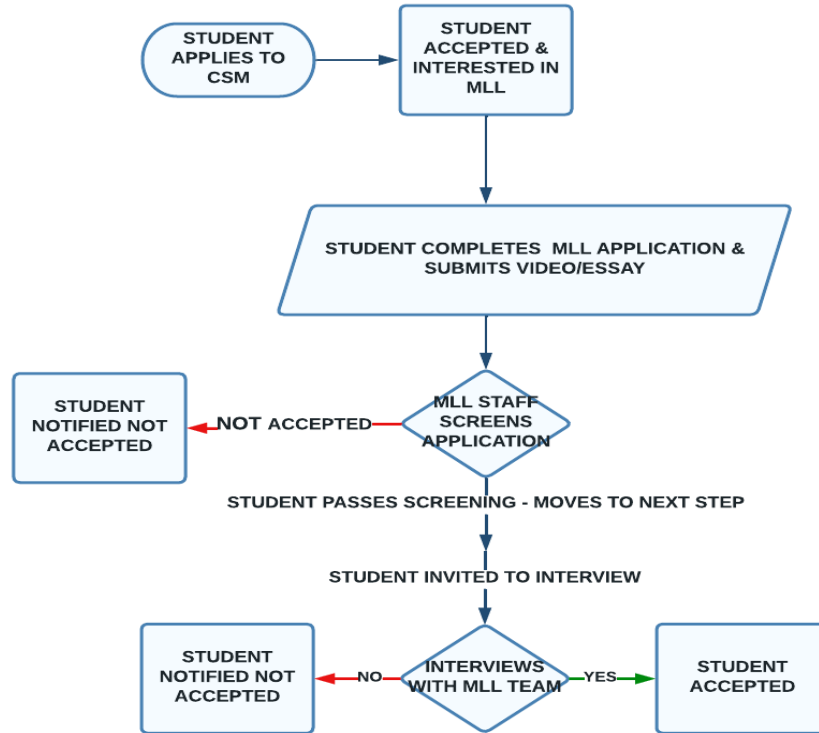


Steps for Acceptance to Program

- First apply and be accepted to College of Saint Mary as a full-time undergraduate student
- Meet the qualifications for the MLL program
 - Undergraduate, not married, 3 children, full time student
- Complete an MLL application
- Complete an MLL interview

CSM Mother Living & Learning (MLL) Review Process

Melanie Felton | Updated October 11, 2022



Application

- Electronic Form
- Application
 - Student information
 - Emergency Contact Information
 - Child Information
 - Additional information
- Application Reviewed by MLL Staff; if accepted contacted regarding scheduling interview

Interview Process

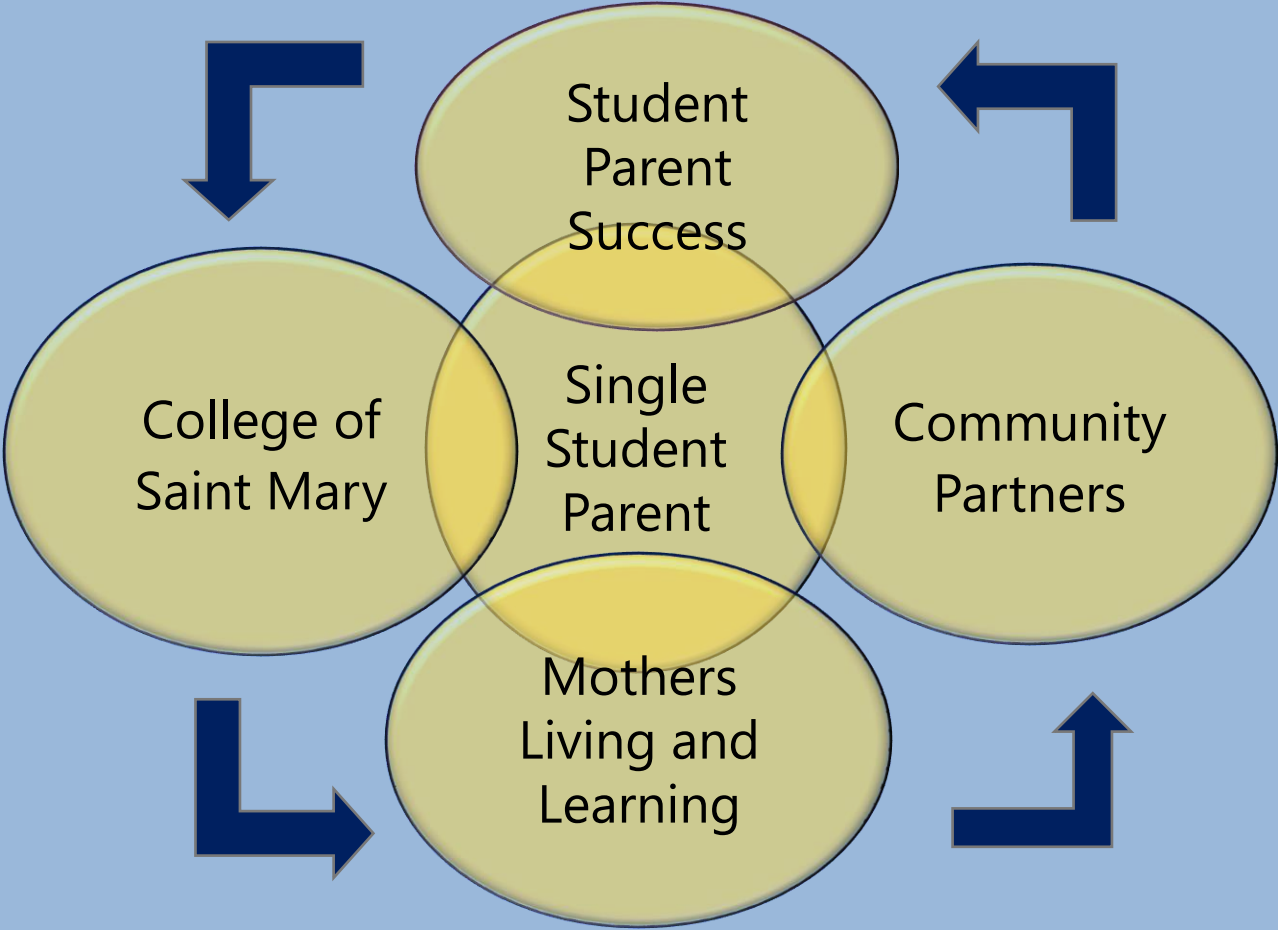
- Interview is scheduled for 1 hr with DRL, ADSSS, MLL Committee Member
- Interview questions cover
 - Expectations of College Life
 - On Campus Living/Engagement Expectations
 - Resiliency
 - Parenting & Resources
- Scoring Matrix (scale of 1 -3) to measure 14 different categories.
 - Must receive a minimum score of 32 to receive acceptance to the program

Specific Policies/Concerns within Building

- Emergency contact for both parent and child are required
- Comfort within the building
- Non-MLL caregiver
- Remain open during normal college closures
- Readiness of students to be in college

Student Parent Success

Student Parent Success Relationship Model



Role of Student Parent Success Support for All Student Mothers

Student Parent Success

- IDS160 The Successful Single Mother
- Parenting Series
- CSM Advantage (if applicable)
- Monthly programming
- Graduation luncheon in May
- Assist with state benefits
- Child Support Services
- SNAP guidelines/food insecurity
- Needs Intake for single mothers
- Emergency funding
- Christ Child Society Scholarships
- CSM/UNO food and diaper bank
- Childcare -Spellman Child Development Center
- Housing guide
- Resource guide



Support for Mothers Living and Learning

- Community Days
- IDS160 The Successful Single Mother
- Parenting Series
- Residence hall programming
- Assist with state benefits
- Child Support Services
- SNAP guidelines/food insecurity
- Emergency funding
- Christ Child Society Scholarships
- CSM/UNO food and diaper bank
- Childcare -Spellman Child Development Center

Mothers Living
and Learning



College of Saint Mary Collaborative Components

- Enrollment Partnership
- Student Success Advising
- MLL Committee (revise/assessment)
- AVISO alerts
- Faculty involvement
- Campus Counseling/VCG
- Leadership Opportunity

College of
Saint Mary

Omaha Community Resource Partners

- Child Support Services
- DHHS
- WIC
- Children's Hospital
- Project Harmony
- Child Saving Institute
- Bethlehem House
- MOMentum
- Local housing partners
- Catholic Charities
- Ways to Work
- Habitat for Humanity
- Education Quest
- Christ Child Community
- Local donors



Questions / Comments

Contact information

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**Dr. Barbara
Treadway**

is the Assistant Dean of Student Support Success/Student Parent Success at the College of Saint Mary. Barb has served in higher education for more than 20 years at both large public and small private institutions. She has also held leadership positions in several non-profit organizations in roles working with at-risk youth in the community. The college's mission is to provide access to education for women in an environment that calls forth potential and fosters leadership. The college serves over 40% at risk students each year and 10% of those students identify as single parents. In her spare time, Barb works with various dog rescue organizations finding homes for dogs in high kill shelter situations and spends time with her own fur babies Guinness, Winston, Collins, and Kiki the cat.



Larissa Buster

is the Director of Residence Life at College of Saint Mary and oversees the Mothers Living and Learning Program. She has been working at CSM for the last five years and is passionate about the education and empowerment of women. Larissa has a master's degree in Student Affairs and Higher Education Counseling and is currently working on her Doctor of Education degree. In her limited free time, she enjoys diamond painting, taking Zumba classes, and spending time with friends and family.