

LET'S
GET **READY**



BIG CHALLENGES, BIGGER WINS IMPACT & INSIGHTS REPORT

LET'S
GET **READY**

www.letsgetready.org

Let's Get Ready envisions a future... where students from all socioeconomic backgrounds have the support they need to attain a college degree.

Since 1998, Let's Get Ready (LGR) has harnessed the power of young people by leveraging virtual tools to increase college enrollment and degree attainment rates for over 70,000 students nationwide. As a national leader in college access and success, LGR has a proven track record of working with local communities, in systems, and directly with students to implement our model at scale nationally.

Our Approach



Near-Peer Coaching

LGR's has designed a student-centered, virtual coaching model that ensures continuous learning, swift interventions, increasing customization, and differentiated levels of support that meet a diverse set of needs by centering our students' learning and expertise.



Efficiency

At an annual organizational cost per student of less than \$200 and a tech-enabled operating model, LGR can prioritize quality and flexibility as we grow to support typically underserved students and communities nationally.



Accessibility

LGR ensures its culturally responsive virtual coaching model is accessible to students at all stages of their academic journey, no matter if they transfer between institutions or courses of study, pause their education, or relocate to different geographies.

As a result of this innovative approach, 86% of LGR students enroll in college and graduate at DOUBLE THE RATE of their peers from similar backgrounds, compared to the national enrollment rate of 57% for all students.

**LET'S
GET READY**



BIG CHALLENGES BIGGER WINS

A message to our community from LGR's CEO, Lena Eberhart

Five years ago, we faced a global crisis and a time of great uncertainty for our students, families, partners, and the organization. Since then, we have more than doubled the number of students we serve each year. In this LGR Impact & Insights Report, you will find celebrations of our approach and impact, and highlights showing that even as we have grown broader, we have also invested heavily in depth and innovation:

We pivoted to fully virtual programming, which is now the foundation of one of the most scalable, efficient, and flexible models for post-secondary success in the sector. This type of nimbleness ensures LGR's program is relevant and available to students and partners who are often overlooked.

We have deepened our level of responsiveness to students' differentiated needs. We know that not every student's post-secondary pathway is linear and often includes unanticipated transfers, housing instability, financial difficulties, and lack of a sense of belonging. Students require support that meets them where they are and speaks directly to their unique and evolving barriers to college degree attainment.

In line with our commitment to rigorous evaluation and continuous learning, we are conducting an externally validated study of our model. This summer, we are launching a Randomized Control Trial, which will **measure our impact on 10,000 students attending 31 additional colleges across the country!**

Today, as we see yet another challenging moment in the education landscape, **WE ARE READY** to face it with resolve, clarity, and resilience. With your help, we are keeping our foot on the gas and anticipate tripling the number of students served over the next three years. Thank you for supporting Let's Get Ready and for your commitment to ensuring that **ALL** students enter adulthood with abundant opportunity, support, and purpose.

Sincerely,

LENA EBERHART
CEO



TL
DR

JUST THE HEADLINES!

LGR's Graduation Rate is

64%

which is **higher** than the national average for **ALL** students, and **DOUBLE** the rate of their peers from similar backgrounds.

[▶ LEARN MORE](#)
ON PAGE 6



LET'S GET READY HAS DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS SERVED IN FIVE YEARS!

NEARLY

9 OUT OF 10

LGR students enroll in college, compared to 57% of students nationally!



[▶ LEARN MORE](#) ON PAGE 5

LGR'S ENROLLMENT & GRADUATION RATES ARE HIGHER THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE!

INSIDE THIS REPORT

Learn about our national expansion efforts and why 95% of students recommend LGR to their peers! Inside, you will discover our students' remarkable achievements this year, including their enrollment in and graduation from college at rates that exceed national averages, thanks to our culturally responsive approach & near-peer coaching model, which addresses their differentiated needs.

[▶ LEARN MORE](#)
ON PAGES 7-8



LGR STUDENTS ENROLL IN COLLEGE AT A RATE 25 PERCENTAGE POINTS HIGHER THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE!

Regardless of family background or income levels, Let's Get Ready (LGR) students demonstrate significantly higher college enrollment rates compared to the national average for all students. LGR students enroll in college at a rate 25 percentage points higher than the national average for all students.

Nationally, we see incredible examples of student and partner success through our College Access programming. Our program model leverages the leadership, knowledge, and reliability of near-peers and our dedicated program team to advise and mentor students during these complex and pivotal moments, which is why **86% of LGR students successfully apply and enroll in college.**

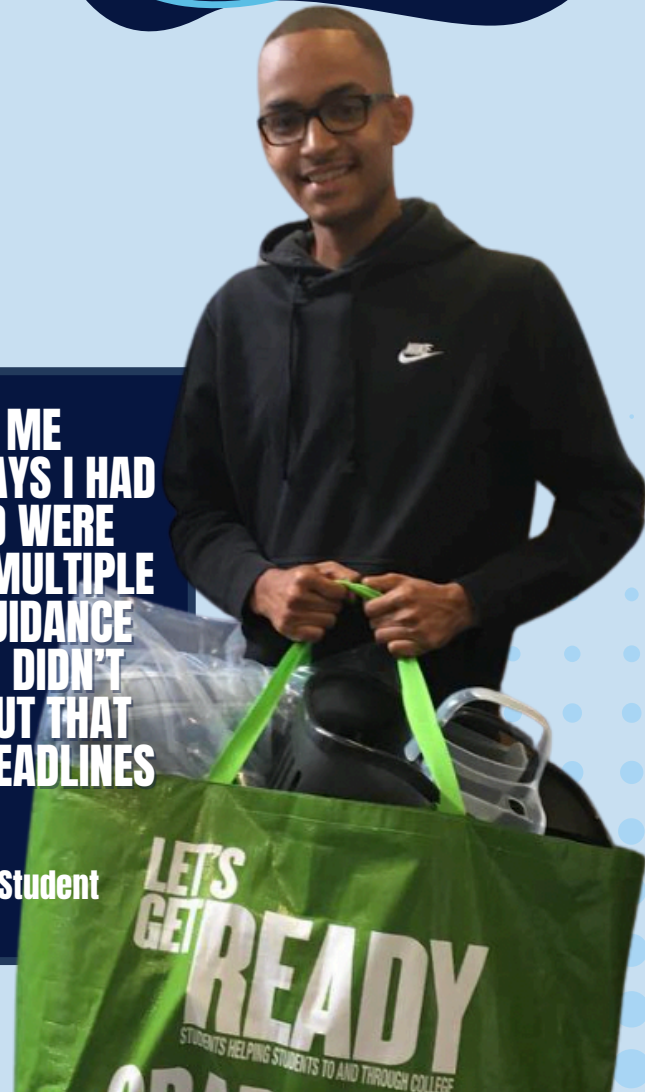
LGR students are 51% more likely to enroll in college than students from similar backgrounds. LGR students enroll in college at a rate higher than that of ALL students, including those from the highest income quartile.

**DID
YOU
KNOW**

LGR PREDOMINANTLY SUPPORTS STUDENTS WHO ARE FIRST-GENERATION TO COLLEGE AND FROM LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES. HOWEVER, LGR STUDENTS ENROLL IN COLLEGE AT RATES HIGHER THAN ALL STUDENTS, EVEN THOSE FROM THE HIGHEST-INCOME BACKGROUNDS!

“MY COACH WAS EXTREMELY PATIENT WITH ME REGARDING MY PERSONAL STATEMENTS AND ESSAYS I HAD TO WRITE. THEY MET WITH ME FREQUENTLY AND WERE SUPER RESPONSIVE WHILE PROVIDING FEEDBACK MULTIPLE TIMES, WHICH WAS OF GREAT HELP SINCE MY GUIDANCE COUNSELOR AT SCHOOL WAS ALWAYS BUSY AND DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TIME FOR THINGS LIKE THAT. WITHOUT THAT HELP I WOULD'VE PROBABLY FALLEN BEHIND ON DEADLINES OR HAD INCOMPLETE ESSAYS.”

An Anonymous quote from a surveyed LGR High School Student



LGR'S GRADUATION RATE IS HIGHER THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE!

LGR'S 64% COLLEGE GRADUATION RATE EXCEEDS THE NATIONAL AVERAGE FOR ALL STUDENTS!

Despite many students coming from historically underrepresented backgrounds, our college graduation rates have increased by three percent from last year, and LGR students continue to graduate at double the rate of their peers from similar backgrounds, exceeding national benchmarks. For the past five years, LGR's six-year graduation rate has averaged three percentage points higher than the national graduation rates, regardless of income status, family background, or other factors.

LGR has more than doubled the number of students we serve in the past five years and welcomed students who are on nonlinear pathways to college degrees with more complex needs. Despite the diverse needs of our students across the country, our near-peer coaching model continues to prove effective for all students.

Luvonda was an LGR student for seven years, having started the program in 11th grade. She received her undergraduate degree in psychology and, in May 2025, earned her master's in clinical mental health counseling with honors. She is now pursuing her Ph.D. with a full scholarship. She credits LGR with supporting her through college. **"My LGR coach showed me a path to college and unlocked a path to resources that made my college experience free... I would not be where I am without my family and LGR support system."**

34%
ABOVE
NATIONAL
AVERAGES

FIRST GENERATION STUDENTS

LGR students' bachelor's degree attainment rates are 34 percentage points higher than the national average for first-generation college students.

27%
ABOVE
NATIONAL
AVERAGES

LOW INCOME BACKGROUNDS

LGR students' degree attainment rates are 27 percentage points higher than the national average for students from low-income backgrounds.

64%
LGR
GRADUATION
RATE

NATIONAL AVERAGES

LGR students' graduation rate is 64%, which is higher than the national average for all students, regardless of income or background, over the past five years.



How We Know That Near-Peer Coaches Are The Best Resource For Coaching Students

For 25 years, LGR has provided students with near-peer coaching, supporting over 70,000 students. However, the question “How can 19 and 20-year-old students provide reliable, comprehensive coaching to their peers?” is often asked.

Behind-the-scenes coaches are supported by a team of program implementation, design, data, student support, and curriculum and training leaders, as well as robust technology and learning management systems to guide their coaching. LGR’s coaching model works because it is fortified by an ecosystem that places student-to-student support at the center.

Why Our Approach to Coaching Works?

1 High Quality Training

In 2024, LGR invested significantly in coach training through a specialized team and learning management system to support their ability to respond to their peers.

2 Not One Size Fits All - Customized Curriculum

The needs of our students are complex. Our culturally responsive curriculum addresses this complexity by creating guides, resources, and modules tailored to support students with diverse needs.

3 Support for Differentiated Needs & Experiences

LGR coaches do not work in a vacuum; they are supported by a team of full-time program leaders, including a Director of Student Support Services who can provide intentional, rapid responses as needed.

4 Our Students Trust Our Coaches

On average, 81% of LGR’s Success program students say that their coaches provide relevant, relatable, and warm guidance.



INTERVIEW W/ VIRNA,
LGR's Director of Curriculum + Training

How does LGR’s LMS support coaches and students?

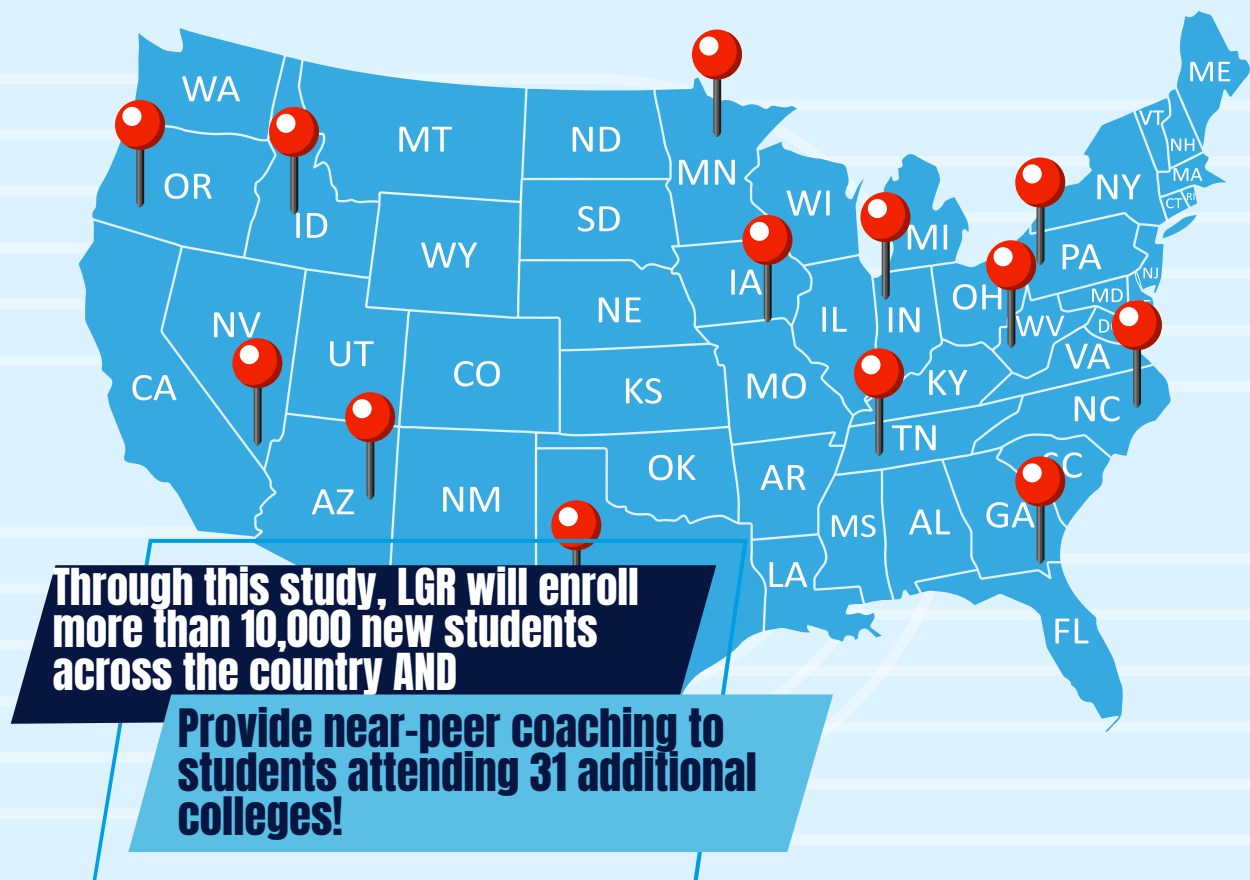
VIRNA: LGR360, our learning management system, was designed to meet the complex needs of our students. Leveraging external subject matter experts on the topics of transfer, stop-out, and re-admission, we surveyed our students to gather information about their experiences in this area. This led us to refresh our Academic, Social/Emotional, and Financial conversation guides for Coaches to better help them listen for signs that a student should consider transferring, as well as create six new tip sheets for students about various transfer and stop-out related topics.

How are coaches and students responding to this support?

VIRNA: Initial data show that 82% of coaches find the LMS user-friendly, and 96% share that it was relevant, indicating they felt ready to implement their learning. Additionally, 89% of students found their coach to be helpful, and 97% felt comfortable sharing with them.

OUR INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH, EVALUATION, AND INSIGHTS

Let's Get Ready is excited to participate in its first-ever randomized control trial (RCT), a real-world research initiative that will measure LGR's programmatic impact on its students. In partnership with the Behavior Change for Good (BCFG) initiative, **a multidisciplinary team of researchers based at the University of Pennsylvania will analyze the impact of LGR on first-year students at 31 additional colleges across the country.** Key outcomes include retention after students' first year and graduation after six years. We will also have the opportunity to analyze college-related activities tied to persistence, such as utilization of professors' office hours, GPA, self-reported sense of belonging at college, and mental health indicators, including feelings of stress.



This is a critical project for LGR, presenting a key opportunity to evaluate and understand the program's impact across a diverse array of students and institutions. An RCT is considered the gold standard for measuring cause and effect because of its ability to control for factors such as self-selection, thereby providing a clear understanding of an intervention's "value add." In addition, this study will provide the opportunity to deepen LGR's reach as colleges in the study will be located across the country, including in California, Idaho, Texas, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, Georgia, West Virginia, and many more.

The initial results are expected to be available in 2027.

LET'S GET READY

BIG CHALLENGES, BIGGER WINS



www.letsgetready.org



646.808.2760



info@letsgetready.org



@LGRforCollege



82 Nassau Street
#61819
New York, NY 10038