West Virginia, California, New York

Community(s): Charleston/Huntington (WV), Oakland (CA), Amherst/Buffalo (NY)
Partner: PeerForward (formerly known as College Summit)
Projects: Writing coaches, college counseling and mentoring

# Volunteers:
2013 (40 - WV) Trip Producer: Connie Spencer ’82 MArch
2014 (16 – CA) Trip Producer: Jeff Harlowe ’77
2014 (22 – WV) Trip Producers: Bill Dahl ’69 and Barbara Dahl
2015 (19 – NY) Trip Producers: Bill Dahl ’69 and Barbara Dahl

Organized in collaboration with PeerForward (formerly known as College Summit), a national nonprofit organization which transforms the lives of low-income youth by connecting them to college and career, the purpose of these service trips was to make a difference in these students’ lives by providing writing, college counseling, and mentoring services to a group of local high schools in underserved areas with the goal of increasing enrollment rates at institutions of higher education. One of PeerForward’s most successful programs is the summer workshop; students are selected from partner schools to attend intensive workshops on a college campus where they learn to be advocates for their futures, get a feel for campus life, and master the nuts and bolts of getting into college. PeerForward staff and volunteers are the backbone of these workshops and provide imperative coaching and mentoring for these students.

About the community(s):
Local high school students from underserved areas of Amherst/Buffalo, Oakland, Huntington, and Charleston participating in the PeerForward program at their schools.