In the spring of 2008 a new one-of-a-kind Latino Student Mentor Program was founded as a collaborative project between Northern Kentucky University and the Kroger Company. A combined total of nineteen students and Kroger employee mentors were engaged in the first year. Upon the successful conclusion of the original project, the program and its success live on. In 2014, the Latino Mentor Program was revamped into what we know today as “LAMP”. This program has a new structure as well as a new set of professional mentors from the community to help the students achieve success.

“The Latino Mentor Program really helped me with how I present myself professionally, as well as, with how to network. It was through these skills that I really took off in my involvement here at NKU”

— Arturo Minera
2014 Mentor of the Year

**GENERAL BACKGROUND**

The Latino Mentor Program provides Latino students with a support system comprised of fellow students, faculty, staff, and employees of local organizations with the purpose of improving retention, encouraging career exploration, and providing exposure to professionals in the community. The ultimate goal of LAMP is to help students achieve academic and social success at Northern Kentucky University and beyond.

**MISSION**

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**OBJECTIVE**

- To provide Latino students with a supportive learning environment that fosters their intellectual, cultural, and personal development.
- To support Latino success.

**LATINO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WILL:**

- Plan programs and events that foster student development, personal growth, and academic success.
- Maintain outreach and inter/intra-institutional relationships that enhance well-being, retention, development, and graduation of Latino students.
- Provide opportunities for interaction among students, faculty, and staff outside the classroom.

**WE’RE LIGHTING THE WAY**

- On average, the students involved in the program have a higher GPA, retention rate, and graduation rate than non-participants.
- Students have access to leadership conferences, retreats, and scholarship opportunities.
- Program participants are more apt to be leaders on campus.
- Students learn how to network and conduct themselves in a professional manner.
- Students visited the Latino Programs and Services Office more frequently.