# Table of Contents

## Introduction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Program Profiles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upward Bound Wichita Prep</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talent Search</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Support Services</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Disability Services</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upward Bound Math Science</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Support Services</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Opportunity Center</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Upward Bound</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Upward Bound</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Wichita GEAR UP</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Wichita GEAR UP</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework Assistance Program</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Celebrating 50 Years Centerfold

### 50 Years Later

2015 National TRIO Day Ezine Commitee Members:
Larry Ramos (Chair), Alan Dsouza, PhD, Ashley Cervantes, Travis Feeney, Wilma Moore-Black

Cover art by Fennie Christensen
TRIO Day 2015 is scheduled for February 12, 2015. We anticipate close to 400 attendees to participate in the banquet and other activities to acknowledge the accomplishments of students and honor those who have provided their unwavering support and contributions to the success of the programs and students. The monumental accomplishments of selected students will also be honored.

The Office of Special Programs at Wichita State University (WSU) includes: nine TRIO programs—Communication Upward Bound, Disability Student Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers, Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, Student Support Services, Talent Search, Upward Bound Math & Science, Upward Bound Wichita Prep, and Veterans Upward Bound.

There are also three Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)—state-wide program Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP, North Wichita Partnership GEAR UP and South Wichita GEAR UP; the Office of Disability Services (ODS); and nine College Access Challenge Grants funded by the Kansas Board of Regents and US Department of Education. The Office of Special Programs administers 21 quality programs. Wichita State University is also proud of the individuals who have participated in the programs and work at the University.

This year we are also celebrating the 50 Years of the WSU Upward Bound Wichita Prep Program which was funded in 1965. Wichita State University Vice President for Student Affairs participated in the U.S. Department of Education’s celebration of Upward Bound’s 50 years.

This year’s Building Bridges honorees helped advance the success of the lives of individuals eligible for the programs. Arnold L. Mitchem, Ph.D. is president emeritus of the Council for Opportunity in Education, the national organization for TRIO and GEAR UP activities; Virdena Gilkey is executive assistant to the Mayor and City Council of Wichita, and they are outstanding honorees. Student achievement honorees are recognized by each program for their commendable leadership and academics. We are honored by their commitment and exemplary support.

As the programs look at the legacy of TRIO, GEAR UP, and ODS, we are proud of what the programs have accomplished. For example, the programs provide tutorial support for participants, financial aid and career exploration, and advising and counseling. A staff dedicated and committed to the success and progress of participants is important. Staffs work seven days a week and evenings to ensure this success. The TRIO, GEAR UP, ODS and KBOR grant staffs have planned an exciting and first class Town Hall meeting and banquet program. On behalf of the program staffs, we invite you to join us for the TRIO Day celebration. The staffs of the Office of Special Programs are the motivators for the TRIO Day Program and the driving force to implement successful programs and services. I continue to applaud the staffs for their dedication and commitment.

Thanks to all our stakeholders for your support. TRIO, GEAR UP & ODS Works! We look forward to your continued support and seeing you at the program on February 12, 2015.

Deltha Q. Colvin

To learn more about the impact of and need for TRIO, see the editorial by Larry Ramos, director of Talent Search, “50 years Later, TRIO is Still Needed” on page 19.
WSU Special Programs

Precollegiate TRIO Programs

- Upward Bound
- Wichita Prep
- Upward Bound
- Math Science
- Talent Search
- Veterans
- Upward Bound
- Educational Opportunity Center
- Communication
- Upward Bound

Precollegiate GEAR UP

- Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP
- North Wichita GEAR UP
- South Wichita GEAR UP
- Homework Assistance Program

College TRIO Programs

- Disability Support Services
- Student Support Services
- Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program

Office of Disability Services
Upward Bound
Wichita Prep

2013-2014 Program Highlights
- Provided 2,440 tutoring hours to participants
- 66 percent of students have a 2.50 or better GPA
- 75 percent of spring 2014 graduates enrolled in post-secondary education

CACG Program Accomplishments
- Provided students career exploration workshops
- Provided students federal student aid and how to finance college information
- Provided students ACT preparation payment for ACT test registration
- Provided workshops for parents on the importance of income taxes, federal student aid, pre-college curriculum, college admission process, and ACT prep and ACT test taking strategies

Upward Bound Wichita Prep (UBWP) is a comprehensive, year-round college preparatory program. Since 1965, its mission is to assist low-income, first-generation college bound high school students in their efforts to successfully complete their secondary education, while simultaneously preparing them for the rigors of college life. Over the decades, UBWP’s unique offerings have included a supportive academic year program as well as a challenging and rewarding summer residential college experience.

UBWP’s services and activities are designed to nurture students’ growth in the areas of academics, career exploration, financial literacy, leadership building, cultural enrichment, and volunteer opportunities. The highly qualified staff challenges students to perform to the best of their abilities while taking into account each student’s unique needs for tutoring and postsecondary education counseling. Active participation is required in order to ensure that students achieve their potential.

UBWP’s summer residential component is an extraordinary, life-changing experience for participants. Students are in residence on the Wichita State campus for six to eight weeks. Each activity is designed to emulate an authentic college experience. The students participating in the summer component have successfully completed the academic year component. Participants’ academic records, as well as an individual assessment, are used to design a personalized schedule.

Upward Bound Wichita Prep
1845 Fairmount, Campus Box 94
Wichita KS 67260-0094
Phone: (316) 978-3019
Web: www.wichita.edu/ubwp

Back Row: Travis Feeney, Charlie Jenkins, Lynette Woodard
Front Row: Jaya Escobar, Lisa Perkins, Rhonda Hicks (director)
Low income and potential first generation college students have discovered that many of their concerns about succeeding in school can be addressed by the TRIO Talent Search program at Wichita State. The program has served middle school and high school students in Wichita public schools since 1977.

The purpose of the program is to increase the persistence, graduation, postsecondary enrollment, and postsecondary completion rates of students. The program designs activities and services that ensure students are prepared for postsecondary education.

The program serves the following middle schools in the Wichita public school district: Allison, Brooks, Coleman, Curtis, Jardine, Marshall, Mayberry, Pleasant Valley, Robinson, Stucky, Truesdell, and Wilbur. High schools served include: East, Heights, North, Northeast Magnet, Northwest, South, Southeast, and West. Staff provides information on college admissions, financial literacy, and ACT/SAT test preparation. In addition, campus visits to colleges and universities are held throughout the school year.

The Middle School Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) provides early exposure to postsecondary education for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students. Daily instruction in math, computer technology, language arts, financial literacy/study skills, science and campus visits to colleges/universities are major activities of the SEP. Career speakers discuss their professions and motivate students to consider future aspirations. The SEP culminates with an academic awards ceremony.

2013-2014 Program Highlights

- 1,104 students served
- 99 percent of non-senior participants returned to school in fall 2014
- 100 percent of seniors graduated from high school
- 34 percent of graduates completed a rigorous high school curriculum
- 83 percent of graduates enrolled in postsecondary for fall 2014

CACG Program Accomplishments

- 24 students participated in a campus visit to Texas universities during spring break
- SEP was expanded from 50 to 75 students as a result of CACG funding
2013-2014 Program Highlights

- Served 245 undergraduate students at Wichita State
- 79 percent of the program participants re-enrolled at Wichita State in fall 2014
- 93 percent maintained good academic standing with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better
- 52 percent had a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better
- 27 percent were on the Dean’s Honor Roll
- 12 percent received Academic Commendation
- 192 project-based scholarships were awarded to students
- 44 percent of 2008-09-program cohort graduated with a bachelor’s degree in 2013-2014 (within 6 years)
The Office of Disability Services (ODS) provides the appropriate services for students with disabilities so they have a true college experience. Students who receive services from ODS must provide documentation of their disability. The director and student discuss the impact of the student’s disability within the university to determine the services that would be most beneficial. The student then chooses which of these services they will use in each class.

ODS believes the student is responsible for using and advocating for services that will help them be successful. Some people believe accommodations give students an unfair advantage in the class but ODS understands these services allow students with disabilities to participate alongside the other students in their classes. Success is never guaranteed, but ODS works hard to provide students complete access to the academic environment at Wichita State.

ODS worked with 502 students during the 2013-2014 academic year—an increase of 27 students from the previous year making this the largest number of students ODS has worked with in any previous academic year. Of the 502 students, 192 were receiving services for the first time.

On October 22, 2014 ODS held the 7th Annual Access College Today, a campus visitation program for students with disabilities from area high schools. There were 73 students and 15 school personnel who attended the event. The 2014-2015 academic year appears to be another busy year and the staff anticipates increases in the number of services provided by ODS. Eighty-four new students have already registered with ODS for fall 2014.

2013-2014 Program Highlights
- More faculty made referrals to ODS
- With limited funding, ODS was still able to provide quality services
- WSU recently purchased a new accessibility software package making access for all students more readily available
The TRIO Upward Bound Math-Science (UBMS) Center, in its 22nd year at Wichita State University, serves students from schools in the target area of Kansas. UBMS hosts 74 students who boast an interest in and propensity for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Students participate in academic year and summer components, focusing on college preparation. Activities that support academic growth and non-cognitive skills are planned in an effort to remove barriers to post-secondary education.

Leadership, self-management, community service and personal advocacy are common topics for seminars and workshops. Students engage in active goal setting, action planning and evaluation. These topics and tools are paramount to student success. Students attend Study Buddies Sessions (student led, teacher facilitated academic support) and standardized test taking workshops. Campus tours and cultural field trips round out the services.

During the summer, participants attend a curriculum-driven, residential experience. The summer program allows students to bolster interest in STEM. Participants attend courses developed to foster critical thinking, research and experimentation, and the art of presentation.
The McNair Scholars Program is a federally funded program designed to provide research and scholarly activities that promote the acquisition of a doctoral degree for first generation, low-income and underrepresented college students. The program was created by Congress in 1989 to increase the number of minorities pursuing teaching and administrative careers in higher education. The program is named after Ronald E. McNair, Ph.D. While working on laser physics at the Hughes Research Laboratory, McNair was accepted into the astronaut program and was the second African-American to fly in space. During McNair’s second mission, the Challenger exploded 90 seconds into its flight, killing all seven crew members.

In 1995, Wichita State received funding from the U.S. Department of Education to initiate the McNair Scholars Program on the campus. The program provides services to ensure that participants graduate with bachelor’s degrees and improve their chances of entering graduate programs leading to doctoral degrees. The McNair Program serves 28 students each year and is funded through 2017.

**The services provided by the Program are:**
- PRE-M, freshman students in the STEM fields, helping with college acclimation and student success
- Writing skills development and tutoring
- Research methods course
- Faculty-led seminars, graduate preparation seminars and research assembly meetings
- Mentoring between faculty and McNair Scholars
- GRE preparation
- College campus visits

**2013-2014 Program Highlights**
- 10 program graduates
- 41 students currently enrolled in graduate programs
- 7 program alumni graduating with a master’s degree
- 5 students currently enrolled in doctoral programs
- 16 students graduated with doctoral degrees since 1995
- Over 200 students have presented at local, regional, and/or national conferences
- Over 200 students published in undergraduate journals

McNair Scholars Program
1845 Fairmount, Campus Box 199
Wichita KS 67260-0199
Phone: (316) 978-3139
Web: www.wichita.edu/mcnair
Celebrating 50 Years

August 20, 1964
Lyndon Baines Johnson signs the Economic Opportunity Act that ultimately creates Upward Bound

1972
Veteran’s Upward Bound created to meet the needs of veterans returning from the Vietnam War.

1990
Upward Bound Math Science launches to address achievement gap and underrepresentation in math and science by low-income students.

2013
More than 2 million students have been enrolled in Upward Bound.

Upward Bound
Almost five times as many students from affluent families, where parents earned college degrees, earned their Bachelors’ degrees in six years than low-income, first-generation students, according to Pell Institute data.

Upward Bound makes an impact on such statistics — and, more important, on human lives. Upward Bound participants are three times more likely to complete a college degree in six years than those who did not participate in college access services, according to the Pell Institute, a non-profit educational research organization.

2 million students served

UB students are 3X more likely to complete a degree
Bound Timeline

1965
Upward Bound enrolls 2061 participants in 17 programs across the country. 80% of the participants entered college, fall of 1965; 69% graduate.

Who We Serve

Target Population
Typical Upward Bound students include Americans between the ages of 13 and 18, growing up poor and handling challenges that are unique to a low-income environment.

Often, their parents didn’t attend college; until their first encounter with an Upward Bound counselor, few people have asked them their aspirations.

Notable Alumni
Notable Upward Bound alumni include John Quinones, correspondent for ABC news, and Viola Davis, academy award nominated actress among others.

1980
Higher Education Act reauthorized. Upward Bound eligibility changes to include 150% of the federal poverty level and includes “first generation students” whose parents did not attend college.

2005
The US. Department of Education study; 65% of Upward Bound participants enroll in college including 35% of high risk students.

UPWARD BOUND
A FEDERAL TRIO PROGRAM

65% of UB students enroll in college
Disability Support Services

The TRIO Disability Support Services (DSS) program at Wichita State University has been funded by the U. S. Department of Education since September 2001. The program’s goal is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of students with learning, physical and psychological disabilities.

Services provided by DSS include academic advising, course selection and degree planning, personal counseling, individualized tutoring, career exploration, study/life skills improvement workshops, financial aid search assistance, grant aid/scholarship opportunities, computer lab usage, graduate school information and selection, economic literacy instruction, textbook/calculator/computer loan program, and campus and community involvement opportunities.

DSS is one of the first TRIO programs designed specifically for students with disabilities in the state of Kansas and is currently one of only 25 across the nation. Staff disseminate information to numerous faculty, staff, students and community members to make them aware of the program, as well as, educating constituents regarding what is needed to effectively assist students with disabilities. Four professional DSS staff provide personal, academic, financial aid, financial/economic literacy, scholarship searches, career options and graduate school selection advising. Eleven tutors assist students in undergraduate courses during the grant year.

Program students utilized the DSS and Office of Disability Services adaptive computer lab equipped with 10 work stations. The study skills library includes 40 instructional videos and is available for student checkout.

2013-2014 Program Highlights

- 21 graduates
- 12 Academic Commendation, 14 Dean’s Honor Roll
- 64 students retained
- Awarded $31,000 in grant aid and Educational Opportunity Fund scholarships
- Received award for Best Practices in Tutoring from the Mid America Association for Educational Opportunity Program Personnel Center for Best Education Practices
- The 13th annual DSS luncheon was held in April 2014 and recognized program students, tutors, graduates, administrators, faculty, staff, community leaders and scholarship recipients.

Disability Support Services
1845 Fairmount, Campus Box 145
Wichita KS 67260-0145
Phone: (316) 978-5949
Web: www.wichita.edu/dss

Kayleen Hallberg, Marha Lewis (director), Kimberlee Cook, Afshan Khan

The TRIO Disability Support Services (DSS) program at Wichita State University has been funded by the U. S. Department of Education since September 2001. The program’s goal is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of students with learning, physical and psychological disabilities.

Services provided by DSS include academic advising, course selection and degree planning, personal counseling, individualized tutoring, career exploration, study/life skills improvement workshops, financial aid search assistance, grant aid/scholarship opportunities, computer lab usage, graduate school information and selection, economic literacy instruction, textbook/calculator/computer loan program, and campus and community involvement opportunities.

DSS is one of the first TRIO programs designed specifically for students with disabilities in the state of Kansas and is currently one of only 25 across the nation. Staff disseminate information to numerous faculty, staff, students and community members to make them aware of the program, as well as, educating constituents regarding what is needed to effectively assist students with disabilities. Four professional DSS staff provide personal, academic, financial aid, financial/economic literacy, scholarship searches, career options and graduate school selection advising. Eleven tutors assist students in undergraduate courses during the grant year.

Program students utilized the DSS and Office of Disability Services adaptive computer lab equipped with 10 work stations. The study skills library includes 40 instructional videos and is available for student checkout.
The mission of the Educational Opportunity Centers Program (EOC) is to provide services for adults desiring to pursue education beyond high school. The center’s goal is to increase the number of adults enrolling in postsecondary education.

EOC pursues its mission through a committed professional staff and the idea that educational access is also for persons who are first generation, limited income, under-employed, veterans or persons with disabilities. Staff is dedicated to the academic, cultural and economic development of adult learners from diverse backgrounds.

EOC allows adults to prepare for postsecondary education and acquire the skills needed for college success. Services and activities enhance participants understanding of the connection between education and careers. Services include submission of college and financial aid applications, selecting a college, upgrading computer skills, assessing careers, and improving financial literacy skills.

Central to the success of the program are individualized education action plans that are created for each participant. Participants are administered an assessment to identify barriers to education such as academic, financial and personal constraints. The program affords adults the opportunity to interact with a highly trained staff who understands the needs of adults entering or reentering.

2013-2014 Program Highlights
- 948 adults provided counseling, computer lab usage and academic success software
- $548,930 awarded in federal financial aid
- $530,162 awarded Pell Grants and $18,768 in veterans benefits
- 125 college applications submitted to postsecondary institutions
- 370 participants and 21 community agencies recognized during annual Reach for the Stars: Adult Learners Recognition Celebration

CACG Program Accomplishments
- $2,200 College Access Challenge Grant Scholarships awarded to participants for GED or high school classes
Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP (KKGU), a statewide grant, serves low-income and students in foster care. KKGU assists the target population to reach high school graduation and prepare for postsecondary education. In 2009, Wichita State was awarded a six year GEAR UP grant from the U.S. Department of Education for $36,000,000. Six service regions provide support services and summer programming across the state.

KKGU goals include: supporting students through after-school programming, college tours, career exploration, and family nights to educate families about requirements for postsecondary programs. The KKGU summer programs help students choose careers and explore the educational requirements of careers.

KKGU awards scholarships to high school seniors in the program. Scholarships range from $300 to $3,000 a semester, depending on financial need. Scholarships are used as incentives to improve academic performance, high school graduation rates and efforts towards setting career goals.

2013-2014 Program Highlights

- Served 2,500 low income students including 1,295 in foster care
- 94 percent of high school seniors (386/410) completed a high school diploma or its equivalent
- 179 of graduating seniors enrolled in a postsecondary program
- Since entering the GEAR UP program; middle school participants had a 73 percent increase and high school participants had a 29 percent increase in their knowledge of post-secondary education entrance requirements, costs associated with attendance, and types of financial aid available
- $1,165,578 in need-based college scholarships were awarded to 246 prior and current GEAR UP students during 2013-2014
- Over $3,100,000 of matching (non-cash) contributions (staff time, office space, materials, supplies, consultants and equipment) were donated to the program

CACG Program Accomplishments

- KKGU received a College Access Challenge Grant from the Kansas Board of Regents to provide services to program high school seniors across Kansas

Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP
1845 Fairmount, Campus Box 110
Wichita KS 67260-0110
Phone: (316) 978-7810
Web: www.wichita.edu/gearup
Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) provides a wide array of educational services to qualifying veterans: tutoring, workshops, counseling, career and academic planning, financial assistance, referrals to community agencies and preparatory courses for acceptance into postsecondary education.

**VUB assists veterans by focusing on the following:**
- Assessment of academic skills
- Basic skills development to increase the likelihood for success in core subject areas
- Postsecondary enrollment
- College retention and completion
- Improving English, including comprehension and writing
- Improving math skills to take and pass college level courses
- Teaching techniques and strategies for test taking, study skills and critical thinking
- Assistance in applying for financial aid, scholarships and GI Bill funding

**2013-2014 Program Highlights**
- Developing and establishing substantial partnerships with campus departments/programs and community agencies that serve veterans. Through this collaboration, agencies that serve the underserved homeless population have been reached. VUB along with agencies such as the Salvation Army and Catholic Charities Supportive Service for Veteran Families, VUB is able to better assist eligible veterans for program services.
- VUB has acquired software that gives participants the comprehensive, but academically-focused services through the use of ComFit (math and language assessments and tutorials), that aid participants in fully understanding their educational options and goals.

**CACG Program Accomplishments**
- The VUB program has additional funding, through the Kansas Board of Regents that provides postsecondary education preparation for veterans’ spouses and dependents. The College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) provides the same educational and academic support as its VUB participants.
The TRIO Communication Upward Bound (CUB) program started in 2008 and is the only one of 816 Upward Bound programs in the nation exclusively serving students interested in the communication industry. CUB partners with the administration, faculty and staff of the Elliott School of Communication at Wichita State, as well as communication professionals in the community, to provide communication-related training and college preparation for students. The program’s funding is $250,000 and serves 50 students each year.

The mission of CUB is to help eligible youth graduate from high school and enter college while teaching them valuable skills in the communication and media professions. An important element of CUB is a four-week intensive, residential summer component for high school students. They are housed on campus and attend classes taught by area professionals along with WSU faculty and staff. Students learn about the world of communication while expanding public speaking, writing and media production skills.

2013-2014 Program Highlights
- Improved student attendance at tutoring, Saturday enrichment workshops and college-readiness events and college visits
- Three seniors participated in the summer bridge program and completed community service projects
- State and national recognition of the CUB Reporter, a student-driven publication about the program’s services

CACG Program Accomplishments
- Funding has been directed at increasing the number of students registering for the FAFSA
- Preparation for the ACT and other standardized tests for post-secondary education
- Sponsored “Let’s WRAP,” (Writing Resumes Applications and Papers) workshops
- Extra staff hired to help with student’s one-on-one assistance for writing resumes, filling out job and college applications, and filling out the FASFA
- “Let’s WRAP + More” was expanded to include a reading club
- Projects honoring Gordon Parks’ works and a lecture series with Charles F. McAfee about memories of Gordon Parks.

The TRIO Communication Upward Bound (CUB) program started in 2008 and is the only one of 816 Upward Bound programs in the nation exclusively serving students interested in the communication industry. CUB partners with the administration, faculty and staff of the Elliott School of Communication at Wichita State, as well as communication professionals in the community, to provide communication-related training and college preparation for students. The program’s funding is $250,000 and serves 50 students each year.

The mission of CUB is to help eligible youth graduate from high school and enter college while teaching them valuable skills in the communication and media professions. An important element of CUB is a four-week intensive, residential summer component for high school students. They are housed on campus and attend classes taught by area professionals along with WSU faculty and staff. Students learn about the world of communication while expanding public speaking, writing and media production skills.

Communication Upward Bound
1845 Fairmount, Campus Box 31
Wichita KS 67260-0031
Phone: (316) 978-6731
Web: www.wichita.edu/cub
North Wichita GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) is a U.S. Department of Education funded project. The overall goal of the project is to increase the number of students graduating from high school that are prepared for enrollment in postsecondary institutions. Wichita State University receives $740,000 annually for six years with a required $740,000 match. The project will also track students during the seventh year as they complete their first year of college.

North Wichita GEAR UP (NWGU) serves seven schools within the Wichita Public Schools (USD 259) district. NWGU annually serves a cohort of 925 students from seventh grade through graduation. Project components include career, academic, and personal counseling, early intervention programs, cultural activities, mentoring, Saturday and after school tutoring, and workshops/trainings for parents and professionals.

NWGU has three main goals:
1. Increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.
2. Increase the rate of high school graduation and enrollment in postsecondary education for GEAR UP students.
3. Increase North Wichita GEAR UP students’ and their families’ knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation and financing.

2013-2014 Program Highlights
The project objectives include the following outcomes:
- By year five of the grant (cohort grade 11), the target cohort will improve state assessment reading scores by 15 percent as compared to the previous non GEAR UP 11th grade cohort’s reading scores
- Graduation rates for the NWGU cohort will increase by 10 percent by the end of the sixth year.
South Wichita GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) is a U.S. Department of Education funded project. The overall goal of the project is to increase the number of students graduating from high school and prepare them for enrollment in postsecondary institutions.

Wichita State University receives $740,000 annually for six years with a required $740,000 match. The project serves six schools within the Wichita Public Schools (USD 259) district; SWGU annually serves a cohort of 925 students (from seventh grade through college enrollment). Over the duration of the grant, the grant award totals almost $10 million (with matching funds included).

Project components include counseling (career, academic, personal), early intervention programs, cultural activities, mentoring, Saturday and after school tutoring, and workshops/trainings for parents and professionals.

The SWGU has three main goals: Increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education for GEAR UP students; Increase the rate of high school graduation and enrollment in postsecondary education for GEAR UP students; and Increase South Wichita GEAR UP students’ and their families’ knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation and financing.

2013-2014 Program Highlights

- The project objectives include outcomes that by year five of the grant (cohort grade 11), the target cohort will improve state assessment reading scores by 15 percent as compared to the previous non GU 11th grade cohort’s reading scores.
- Graduation rates for the GU cohort will increase by 6 percent by the end of the sixth year.
- The project also seeks to serve cohort families since the final outcome objective seeks to annually demonstrate an increase in knowledge of postsecondary education options, preparation and financing for at least 50 percent of participants and families.

South Wichita GEAR UP
412 S. Main Rm. 240
Wichita, KS 67211
Phone: (316) 973-7934
Email: vic.chavez@wichita.edu
Advanced academic performance and post-secondary readiness is the focus of the Homework Assistance Program (HAP) which was established in 2008 as a collaboration among the pre-college TRIO programs and Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP.

In recent years, HAP has operated as a separate entity funded, in part, by the U.S. Department of Education and hosted by Wichita State University (WSU). The program has expanded its mission for the students who use the program’s services. The HAP staff believes that the competition for college admission has increased. College admissions is not just about graduating and academic achievement, but instead students entering college are challenged to demonstrate the discipline associated with rigorous curricula in the focused areas of writing, math, science, and technology.

Monday-Thursday HAP connects students with certified teachers and collegiate tutors, providing drop-in tutoring and homework assistance to eligible Wichita Public Schools students in grades six through twelve. HAP is not just an afterschool program. Collaborative services augment the objectives of TRIO and GEAR UP, as well as the current STEM education initiative. Students have access to laptops, a printer, and school supplies to complete their assignments and projects. In addition to tutoring, ACT, financial aid, and financial literacy workshops are conducted on a monthly basis. With the support of Wichita State and the cooperation of schools throughout the Wichita metro area, the program provides mentoring and homework assistance to qualified middle and high school students who are TRIO and GEAR UP participants.

2013-2014 Program Highlights
• Approximately 15-18 students attend HAP on a daily basis
• 380 hours of tutoring and homework assistance were provided
• 780 hours of trained professional teaching were provided
• Held 13 workshops and guest speakers for students during the year

Homework Assistance Program
1845 Fairmount, Campus Box 110
Wichita KS 67260-0110
Phone: (316) 978-7955
Web: www.wichita.edu/hap
This year marks the 50th anniversary of the creation of Upward Bound, a federally-funded educational program that serves high school students from low-income families and students from families in which neither parent holds a four year college degree. In essence, this year marks the beginning of TRIO. Throughout the year, celebrations and other events have taken place to commemorate this important milestone in U.S. history. Millions of Americans have taken part in these programs and as a result lives have been changed for the betterment of our society. Yet, many question the importance, and in extreme cases, the very existence of these programs designed to level the playing field for disenfranchised groups to realize educational opportunity.

TRIO projects were established under President Lyndon Johnson’s 1964 War on Poverty. TRIO programs are this country’s first efforts in solely helping low income students go to college. Currently, nearly 1,000 programs serve approximately 790,000 students from demographic groups that are traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education. Wichita State University currently houses nine TRIO programs, three GEAR UP programs, and nine College Access Challenge Grants.

Typically, TRIO projects provide tutoring, academic counseling, educational and cultural enrichment, financial guidance and other services needed to promote success at the high school and college levels. The ultimate goal of these programs is to increase the rate at which participants complete high school and enroll in and graduate from postsecondary institutions, and enroll in and complete doctoral programs.

To take the success message to lawmakers and the nation, TRIO programs are represented by the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) located in Washington, D.C. COE provides a unified voice for TRIO that the investment in college access and success pays huge dividends in human achievement.

The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) is the only national educational association that represents Hispanic-Serving Institutions. Its goal, like TRIO’s, is to increase opportunity and open new doors for historically underserved populations, says Dr. Antonio Flores, HACU executive director and a former director of the Upward Bound Program. “Upward Bound gives them confidence, skills, knowledge and resources. Very few programs can transform lives like Upward Bound,” says Flores. “It needs to be made a national enterprise. We need to massively replicate its mission.”

Lawmakers are urged to continue investing in student success because it is vital to the economy and the strength of this country.

“We believe that the students we serve have the talent, when joined with higher education, to reach their full potential. If we can provide students with those opportunities, we can contribute greatly to the infrastructure of this country,” says Maureen Hoyler COE President. Many lawmakers have made support for TRIO funding a priority because they believe in the programs and the impact they have had on people in their states. “I can’t imagine a better investment of federal dollars than what [TRIO programs] do to help kids aspire to college, prepare for college, and graduate from college” says Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA).

Many influential and notable people have stepped forward to share the significant impact that TRIO has had on their life. From movie stars to business leaders, TRIO continues to find more and more people who are at the pinnacles of their professions who are alumni of TRIO. A common theme is apparent when they talk about the influence TRIO had on him or her. “If it had not been for Upward Bound, I wouldn’t be where I am today” said Dmitry Stockton, president & CEO, GE Asset Management.

Some famous TRIO alumni include actresses Angela Bassett and Viola Davis; former professional athletes Patrick Ewing, and A.C. Green; astronaut Jose Hernandez; business entrepreneur William Sanchez; congressional member Gwendolynne Moore; and broadcast journalist John Quinones to name a few. As long as TRIO is around to address poverty and illiteracy, many more successful stories will be written.

Sources:
TRIO Programs are funded 100% and GEAR UP is funded 50% by the U.S. Department of Education and hosted by Wichita State University under the Division of Student Affairs.

The TRIO and GEAR UP pre-college programs are also supported by funds from the Kansas Board of Regents under the College Access Challenge Grant program.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION
Wichita State University does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, marital status, political affiliation, status as a veteran, genetic information or disability. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Executive Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS 67260-0138; telephone (316) 978-3186.