Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP

Region 5 was honored by KAKE TV Channel 10 and Devaughn and James Injury Lawyers in June. Each month a non-profit organization is selected from nominations sent in by the public for their Wins for Kansas segment on the Sunday newscast.

A check for $500 was presented on air to the Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP Region 5 team along with Associate Vice President of Wichita State University, Ms. Deltha Q. Colvin and Director of GEAR UP Mrs. Corinne Nilsen.

Coordinator of Region 5, Ms. Diana Carbajal was interviewed about the KKGU program and gave some insight into the great work that is done throughout the state of Kansas.

The Region 5 KKGU team has decided to use the funds to create starter baskets for graduating KKGU seniors that will be attending college in the Fall. They agreed that these students deserve to start their college career with all of the necessary tools to be successful beyond high school.

To watch the news segment please logon to: [http://Www.kake.com/clip/14405038/wins](http://Www.kake.com/clip/14405038/wins)

Pictured left to right - Front row—Mrs Corinne Nilsen (Director of KKGU), Diana Carbajal, Lorene Berg, Rachel Rhoades, and Ms. Deltha Q. Colvin (Associate Vice President of Wichita State University)

Back row - Abby McCalmont, Kelli Bennett, and Torisha Shorte’

KKGU Region 5 Contacts

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PSST…
Don’t forget to check out an article about foster care and KKGU at -
Kansas Foster Care Tuition Waiver

For our youth in foster care, the Kansas Foster Care Tuition Waiver helps free college become a reality! As part of the Kansas Foster Child Assistance Act, tuition and required fees at Kansas public colleges (including universities, community colleges, and vocational schools) will be waived as long as the following criteria is met. The youth:

1. Enrolls in a Kansas educational institution

AND

2. Is in custody of the Secretary of the Department of Children and Families and in foster care placement on 18th birthday

OR

Is released from custody of the Secretary prior to turning 18, after graduating from high school or attaining GED while in foster care placement or custody of the secretary

OR

Adopted from foster placement on or after 16th birthday

OR

Left foster care placement subject to guardianship under chapter 38 or 59 of Kansas Statutes Annotated on or after 16th birthday

Check with your DCF worker today to get paperwork started. A list of colleges that accept the tuition waiver can be found at www.kansasregents.org.

MoKanNe Student Leadership Conference

Eight Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP Region 5 students were chosen to attend the MoKanNe Student Leadership Conference that took place June 15-17 at Avila University in Kansas City, MO. Throughout the three days the boys got to meet students from other regions, participate in fun mixers such as spoken word open mic night, and collaborate through academic competitions. Erika Coulter, Vice President of Epic Records spoke to the crowd during the keynote address and her experiences were really appreciated by attendees. Spending the night in the dorms gave the students a taste of what college life will be and really made them excited about their future plans.

KKGU Summer Events Wrap Up

Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP Region 5 had a full and educational summer with students. Each week was themed and many amazing opportunities for the students to learn and grow as individuals made for a great summer!

Week one was Harry Potter themed. Students were sorted into houses and competed with each other in tower building and a fun egg drop construction activity. Students were also tasked with designing their perfect dorm room and the week concluded with a Quidditch game.

Week two was all about college readiness. Students learned how to select classes, search for scholarships, and create a budget. The Phoenix Mortgage Group stopped by to teach students about saving for a home and creating a budget that will allow for saving.

Week three was all about STEAM. Students learned about engineering and designed and created bridges. There was even a bridge that withstood 44 pounds of weight and didn’t break!

Week four focused on Spoken Word. Students learned about poetry and how to write with a purpose. The week culminated with original pieces being performed in front of the class.

Fit Kids Week kicked off week five. Students learned about self-esteem and described themselves with self collages and “I AM” poems.

Week six was all about STEAM. Students learned about engineering and designed and created bridges. There was even a bridge that withstood 44 pounds of weight and didn’t break!

Week seven kicked off at Butler County Community College for a program put on by Paradigm Shift. The program focused on building students as leaders.

KKGU Summer Programming wrapped up with Empowerment Week. Students opened up about self-esteem and described themselves with self collages and “I AM” poems.

KKGU Region 5 staff feels like the summer went very well and the kids learned a lot and had fun. They were happy to see individuals grow and emerge as leaders. Overall it was a very successful summer and we look forward to Fall 2018 programming.