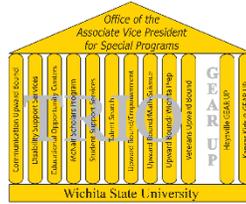


For Immediate Release



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WSU OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS (OSP) CELEBRATE NATIONAL TRIO/GEAR UP DAY BY GIVING BACK TO THE GREATER WICHITA COMMUNITY

February 17 – February 21, 2020 – Wichita, KS – The Wichita State University (WSU) Office of Special Programs (OSP), TRIO and GEARUP program staff and students will volunteer at various organizations in the Wichita community.

WSU OSP TRIO/GEAR UP Programs provide quality services to over 5,000 first generation, limited income, middle, high school, and college students, persons with disabilities, students in foster care, veterans, and adults in Wichita and throughout the state of Kansas.

The Office of Special Programs TRIO/GEAR UP Day will be held the week of February 17, 2020 - February 21, 2020. Historically, TRIO/GEAR UP Day activities began with the College Access, Retention, and Success (CARS) Conference inviting USD259, WSU faculty and staff, and the Wichita community to learn more about the programs offered and the students served. TRIO/GEAR UP Day has traditionally concluded with a banquet recognizing TRIO/GEAR UP alumni and their accomplishments as well as “Building Bridges” honorees, persons and organizations that have partnered and supported the TRIO/GEAR UP community.

For 2020 the eleven (11) OSP TRIO/GEAR UP programs will graciously give back to the Wichita community by hosting a week of *Service Learning*. These 11 programs will spend time with various organizations giving back to a community that has supported TRIO/GEAR UP for more than 50 years.

Program staff and students will volunteer at the following organizations: ICT Food Rescue, Kansas Food Bank, WSU Child Development Center, Wichita Habitat for Humanity, Community Food Ministry, Exploration Place, ICT SOS, and The Lord’s Diner.

Deltha Q. Colvin, Associate Vice President for Special Programs, within the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, has administered these programs on the WSU campus for 45 years and she is a proud alum of the TRIO Upward Bound Wichita Prep program, Class of 1965.

The eleven OSP TRIO/GEAR UP Programs are: Disability Support Services; Educational Opportunity Centers Program; Haysville GEAR UP; Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP; McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program; Student Support Services;

Talent Search; Upward Bound Empowerment; Upward Bound Math/Science; Upward Bound Wichita Prep; Veterans Upward Bound.

It is incredibly rewarding to give back to the Wichita, KS community by volunteering at various organizations that empower people of limited means. For more information on the Office of Special Programs at Wichita State University go to <http://wichita.edu/tgu2020> or contact Dr. Dsouza 316-978-6153

(Short Version)

The Wichita State University (WSU) Office of Special Programs (OSP), TRIO and GEARUP program staff and students will volunteer at various organizations in the Wichita community.

WSU OSP TRIO/GEAR UP Programs provide quality services to over 5,000 first-generation, limited income, middle, high school, and college students, persons with disabilities, students in foster care, and adults in Wichita, KS and throughout the state of Kansas.

The 2020 National TRIO/GEAR UP Day will be celebrated through *Service Learning* activities at various organizations within the Wichita community. The eleven (11) TRIO/GEAR UP programs, administered by Deltha Q. Colvin, Associate Vice President of Special Programs, have resided on the WSU campus for more than 45 years and they are excited to give back to a community that has supported them during this time.

The programs are as follows: Disability Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers Program; Haysville GEAR UP, Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP, McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, Student Support Services, Talent Search, Upward Bound Empowerment, Upward Bound Math/Science, Upward Bound Wichita Prep, and Veterans Upward Bound.

For more information on the Office of Special Programs at Wichita State University go to <http://wichita.edu/tgu2020> or contact Dr. Dsouza 316-978-6153