DIVISION OF STUDENT SUCCESS
AND P-20 INITIATIVES
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

Pictured below: Alex Barlas - Charleston, WV

Helping students of all ages PURSUE and ACHIEVE
postsecondary education and training
GEAR UP U! SUMMER ACADEMY

Concord University
Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives

2013 Year in Review::: p. 3
ABOUT THE DIVISION OF

STUDENT SUCCESS and P-20 INITIATIVES

The Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives strives to facilitate and create a statewide culture that values education and actively cultivates the academic achievement of all citizens, regardless of age or income. The division coordinates several college access and completion initiatives, including:

COLLEGE FOUNDATION OF WEST VIRGINIA (CFWV): a college readiness outreach initiative aimed at helping students plan, apply, and pay for college. Through the CFWV effort, the division provides a one-stop college-planning website, CFWV.com. The division also has launched a pilot project, funded by the Kresge Foundation, to provide students with college counseling and college-planning reminders via text message. Other CFWV outreach activities include training educators and community outreach professionals to provide in-depth college counseling, coordinating West Virginia's statewide “College Application and Exploration Week” event, and engaging the community in promoting a stronger college-going culture across the state. Additionally, the division supports the work of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission's Division of Financial Aid in informing students of the availability of financial aid and assists in the efforts of the Commission to help adult students complete college degrees. The West Virginia Department of Education, the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education, the West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts, and various other educational organizations are partners in these efforts.

WEST VIRGINIA GEAR UP: a federally funded, six-year grant program aimed at increasing college-going rates among students in ten high-need counties. West Virginia GEAR UP provides academic preparation and college readiness services to approximately 5,500 students each year.

COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM: a federally funded, five-year grant program aimed at increasing the educational attainment rates of all citizens, particularly those from high-need areas. The College Access Challenge Grant program supports the development and maintenance of the state's college-readiness web portal, CFWV.com, and provides resources to support the CFWV outreach initiative.

COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY: a one-day financial aid event designed to offer students and families the opportunity to receive free help in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
The past year has been characterized by growth, expansion, and refinement, as we strive to scale and sustain the important work of promoting college access and student success in West Virginia. 2013 marked the five-year anniversary of the award of our office’s federally funded Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grant, which served as the catalyst for the creation of the Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives. In the five short years since we started this work, we have implemented a variety of college access and success programs that have demonstrated promising results in West Virginia and served as a model for communities across the nation.

For example, since 2009, the West Virginia GEAR UP mentor program has provided annual college, career, and self-development counseling to more than 1,000 at-risk students. The initiative focuses on empowering our state’s students and has offered personal guidance to kids who demonstrate tremendous potential but need a boost of support. This program, which was developed “on the ground” here in West Virginia, is now viewed as an exemplary practice by youth leadership and college access programs across the United States.

College Application and Exploration Week is another statewide initiative that has yielded widespread and lasting results. This past fall, we expanded the effort to include elementary and middle schools, in addition to high schools and adult basic education sites. More than 150 schools participated in the 2013 event, and students as young as five-years-old learned about college options and the importance of postsecondary education.

We also made impressive progress in expanding and refining our financial aid awareness efforts. In 2013, we focused relentlessly on improving our statewide FAFSA completion rates. Working closely with the Division of Financial Aid, we launched a full-scale public information and outreach campaign and set statewide goals for FAFSA completion. We not only met those goals, but exceeded them. This year, more than 56 percent of West Virginia 12th graders completed a FAFSA — up seven percentage points from 2012.

None of these accomplish are ours alone. These achievements are made possible only by the energy and vision of partnerships that extend well beyond the walls of the Higher Education Policy Commission. The meaningful and extensive collaboration our state has put forth to help more students pursue and succeed in postsecondary programs is truly inspiring. Together, we are working to build a true college-going culture in West Virginia.
GEAR UP “COLLEGE & CULTURE” TOUR

Tour of Shepherd University and Washington D.C.
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COLLEGE APPLICATION AND EXPLORATION WEEK
University High School counselors and teachers
Pictured students from Summers County High School took a ride on the PRT during a tour of West Virginia University.

COLLEGE APPLICATION & EXPLORATION WEEK

Hedgesville High School
The College Foundation of West Virginia (CFWV) is a statewide outreach initiative intended to help students and families prepare for and succeed in college. The central component of the initiative is CFWV.com, a one-stop college- and career-planning web portal designed to consolidate previously decentralized resources and offer a comprehensive guide to planning, applying, and paying for college in West Virginia. CFWV was created through the vision of the West Virginia Legislature, which provided a $2 million one-time appropriation to launch and market the website and broader outreach initiative.

The CFWV campaign has been sustained primarily through the utilization of funds provided by the federal College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) program. CACG is a five-year grant program aimed at increasing the educational attainment rates of all citizens, particularly those from high-need areas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

(304) 558-0655
CFWV.com
cfwv@hepc.wvnet.edu
2013 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Progress and outcomes achieved in 2013 through the CFWV initiative include:

**College access marketing and outreach initiatives:** The Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives conducted a statewide college access marketing campaign aimed at increasing students’ and families’ awareness of postsecondary opportunities and the processes associated with postsecondary enrollment and completion. The campaign features the faces and stories of students and families from West Virginia, and incorporates television, radio, web, and print advertisements, along with billboards, event sponsorships, in-theater advertising promotions, and social media strategies.

**Adult learner outreach:** The Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives supported the Commission’s “Degree Now” adult learner initiative, which is funded by a grant from the Lumina Foundation for Education. Staff helped develop informational materials for adult learners and coordinated a statewide marketing campaign aimed at encouraging adults to return to the classroom.

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**CFWV.com account holders by role**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middle School Students</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Students</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Students</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Learners</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chart 1:** Accounts created on CFWV.com, by user role. The College Foundation of West Virginia coordinates a statewide marketing and outreach effort aimed at helping adult students return to the classroom. More than 10 percent of all CFWV.com users are self-identified adult learners.

1 Source: College Foundation of West Virginia, Account Holder Data (2013)
**College Application and Exploration Week:** The College Foundation of West Virginia, in partnership with West Virginia GEAR UP, West Virginia TRiO programs, and other community organizations, hosted the state’s fourth statewide College Application and Exploration Week, October 14-18. During the week, more than 150 middle schools, high schools, and colleges organized college awareness activities, including “college spirit days,” and “ask me about college” events that encouraged students to talk to teachers about their college experiences. During the weeklong event, more than 4,200 students applied to college — and more than 40,000 students learned about college options.¹

**Financial aid awareness:** Staff from the Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives and staff from the Division of Financial Aid coordinated a comprehensive public awareness and outreach campaign to increase students’ and families’ awareness of financial aid opportunities and the importance of completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Components of the campaign included statewide promotion of available financial aid workshops, semi-monthly email updates to school counselors and county school superintendents informing them of their schools’ current FAFSA completion rates, advertisements on the radio, the internet, and on billboards, and school-level outreach and awareness activities. As a result, West Virginia increased its 12th grade FAFSA completion rate from 49 percent in 2012 to more than 56 percent in 2013.²

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**Chart 2:** WV 12th grade FAFSA completion rates, 2012 and 2013

**Chart 2:** From 2012 to 2013, West Virginia’s 12th grade FAFSA completion rates increased by more than seven percentage points, from 49 percent in 2012 to above 56 percent in 2013.²

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¹ Source: Survey of College Application and Exploration Week Site Coordinators (2013)

² Source: U.S. Department of Education FAFSA Completion Data (2013); West Virginia Department of Education 12th Grade Enrollment Data (2013)
**Student Success Summit:** The Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives partnered with the West Virginia Department of Education to coordinate the state’s third Student Success Summit. The two-day event focused on encouraging collaboration among the state’s education and workforce systems to build a more seamless, “cradle-to-career” educational pipeline for West Virginia’s students. More than 350 individuals participated in the event, including PK-12 educators, counselors, and administrators; higher education faculty, counselors, and administrators; community members; college access providers; workforce counselors; and PK-12 and postsecondary students.

**PK-12 and community collaboration:** Staff members from the Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives provided training workshops for PK-12 staff, higher education staff, college students majoring in education programs, and representatives from community organizations. Nearly 1,400 PK-20 education stakeholders have participated in a College Foundation of West Virginia training workshop.¹ Staff members also work directly in PK-12 schools to inform students of college opportunities. CFWV representatives participated in the annual statewide fall college fair tour, and staff members offered in-school and after-school presentations throughout the year. The division also helped support the work of the West Virginia Clearinghouse team, whose outreach counselors met with thousands of students and parents over the course of the year to provide financial aid and college-planning assistance.

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**CFWV.com Utilization**²

**VISITORS:** 232,000+ individuals visited CFWV.com during 2013.

**APPLICATIONS:** 73,000+ college applications have been submitted through CFWV.com.

**ACCOUNTS:** 192,000+ accounts have been created on CFWV.com.

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¹ Source: College Foundation of West Virginia Training Logs (2013)

² Source: College Foundation of West Virginia, Account Holder Data and Google Analytics Reports (2013)

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Table 1: CFWV.com utilization statistics.
STATEWIDE COLLEGE FAIR TOUR

Boone County
IN THE SPOTLIGHT

WEST VIRGINIA STUDENT SUCCESS SUMMIT

In August, the College Foundation of West Virginia hosted the third annual West Virginia Student Success Summit, a two-day conference convening educators and community outreach professionals working across the “cradle-to-career” education continuum. More than 350 people attended the 2013 event. During the Summit, dozens of presenters provided more than 50 breakout sessions on a variety of topics, ranging from school and community partnerships to curriculum development to college access and completion.

The Student Success Summit is truly a collaborative effort. All four CFWV partners — the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education, the West Virginia Department of Education, and the West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts — assist in coordinating, promoting, and staffing the conference. Additionally, West Virginia’s military service units, federally funded GEAR UP and TRiO programs, and various community organizations support the Summit. The event provides a unique forum that brings together a wide range of individuals with varying perspectives and experiences.

Students have the opportunity to voice their opinions to administrators. Middle school teachers can talk shop with community college faculty. And early childhood development specialists might brainstorm with college presidents about issues facing their communities.

“It’s an energizing and inspiring environment,” one Clay County educator wrote in her evaluation of the Summit. “It’s one of the best conferences I’ve attended.”

“It’s an energizing and inspiring environment... one of the best conferences I’ve attended!”

Clay County educator
Describing her appreciation for the Student Success Summit, a collaborative P-20 conference.
Today's the first day of the West Virginia Student Success Summit. Follow #edchatwv to see what's happening!

Dr. Phares - if a child fails 1 class n 9th grade, odds of graduating r cut n half. Most often the class is alg 1. PE comes 2nd. #edchatwv

We teach! What's your super power? #EDCHATWV pic.twitter.com/dD6yy6i8UZ

75% of our undergrads are juggling, work, family, and school. □ #EDCHATWV

Every kid needs a champion

Student Success Summit Attracts Hundreds to Explore Ways to Support Students at Every Level.
GEAR UP LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Community Service Project
WEST VIRGINIA GEAR UP

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

West Virginia GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) is a federally funded grant program aimed at increasing the academic preparation and college readiness of students within ten under-served counties in West Virginia. The program is funded by a six-year, $18 million federal grant awarded in 2008 to the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission by the United States Department of Education. The program operates within 14 schools and provides college access services to a cohort (the class of 2014), and a priority group (students in the 11th and 12th grades). West Virginia GEAR UP provides college-planning and academic enrichment services to an average of 5,500 students each year. The program is projected to serve more than 13,000 students over the life of the grant.

SERVICE AREA

West Virginia GEAR UP’s service counties are Boone, Clay, Lincoln, McDowell, Mingo, Roane, Summers, Webster, Wirt, and Wyoming. The program collaborates with three college partners: Concord University, Glenville State College, and Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

(304) 558-0655
www.wvgearup.org
gearupinfo@hepc.wvnet.edu
2013 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

West Virginia GEAR UP provides intensive programming and services to help students prepare for and succeed in college.

**Governor’s Honors Symposium for West Virginia GEAR UP graduates:** West Virginia GEAR UP held the fifth annual “Governor’s Honors Symposium,” an awards ceremony to honor the accomplishments of the program’s high school seniors and encourage them to pursue education and training beyond high school. The event was held at the Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences and featured a college fair and mobile financial aid lab. Governor Earl Ray Tomblin declared the day, “GEAR UP Day,” in the state of West Virginia.

**“GEAR UP U!” summer academy:** West Virginia GEAR UP hosted its fourth annual summer academy for GEAR UP students. The five-day academy was held on the campus of Concord University, one of West Virginia GEAR UP’s three college partners. Participating students also visited nearby Bluefield State College. Eighty-six students graduated from the academy. Students participated in core classes — English, math, and science — and elective classes, such as health sciences, communications, engineering, and business. Current college students led nightly mentoring sessions, which allowed GEAR UP students to learn more about life on campus and the challenges and opportunities of pursuing a college degree. Concord University awarded students who completed the academy a $1,000 scholarship, renewable annually up to four years, to cover the cost of tuition and other fees should students choose to attend Concord. Bluefield State College also offered a $1,000 annual scholarship.

**West Virginia GEAR UP mentor program:** West Virginia GEAR UP implemented the fourth year of its comprehensive mentor program in all of the program’s service schools. The program incorporates college- and career-planning activities within self-development exercises and facilitates meaningful, supportive relationships among school personnel and community volunteers and the students they mentor.
**Higher Education Readiness Officers (HEROs) Program:** In 2010, West Virginia GEAR UP created the Higher Education Readiness Officers (HEROs) program, a student-led, peer-to-peer outreach effort through which students work to build and grow a college-going culture in their schools and communities. HEROs participate in extensive leadership training and self-development exercises and then apply those skills by designing and leading activities to promote college readiness and academic achievement. Nearly 400 students served as HEROs during the 2012-13 academic year.

**Student Leadership Academy:** West Virginia GEAR UP hosted its fourth annual “Student Leadership Academy” on the campus of West Virginia State University. More than 350 students participated in the event, which focused on encouraging students to take personal responsibility for their future. During the academy, students completed a service learning project to build more than 500 science kits for local elementary schools.

**College awareness interventions:** West Virginia GEAR UP provides funding for college awareness activities, such as parent and family nights and college tours. Campus visits have been particularly successful. During the 2012-13 academic year, 1,055 students toured a college campus as a result of the GEAR UP program.¹

**Parent and family events:** West Virginia GEAR UP emphasizes parent and family involvement as a key component in increasing the educational attainment rates of students. GEAR UP coordinates and funds family college and financial aid awareness nights throughout the year and encourages parents to work with their students to build a college plan on CFWV.com.

**Classroom enhancements and technology upgrades:** West Virginia GEAR UP has funded numerous technology upgrades, including smart boards, computer labs, and learning software.

**Tutoring and academic enrichment:** West Virginia GEAR UP provided funding and resources for services such as ACT preparation classes and credit recovery courses. West Virginia GEAR UP also has funded dual enrollment courses, typically in the subjects of math and English. Additionally, every West Virginia GEAR UP school provides free tutoring services to students in the 2014 cohort.

**Professional development:** To ensure sustainability of the college-readiness initiative, West Virginia GEAR UP funds professional development activities for educators at every GEAR UP school each year. During the 2012-13 academic year, the program funded several professional development opportunities, including training workshops designed to help GEAR UP counselors utilize CFWV.com.

¹ Reporting period: August 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013; Source: West Virginia GEAR UP Participation Summary Report
West Virginia GEAR UP’s efforts have yielded positive results for the communities the program serves. Highlights include:

**A positive shift in parents’ aspirations for their children:** At the program’s start, only 63 percent of parents of students in the West Virginia GEAR UP cohort (class of 2014) expected their child to earn a two-year degree or higher. Those numbers have shifted dramatically. Surveys of GEAR UP parents and students during the 2012-13 academic year indicated that cohort parents now have higher expectations for their children; 92 percent now believe their student will complete a two- or four-year degree.¹

**Percentage of parents who expect their child to earn a two- or four-year degree versus a high school diploma**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Some College</th>
<th>Four-Year Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Quick fact:**

86 percent of GEAR UP students in the class of 2014 have spoken with someone regarding the availability of college financial aid.¹

¹ Source: West Virginia GEAR UP Baseline Data Survey (2008); West Virginia GEAR UP Annual Program Survey (2012-13)
Increased financial literacy and college knowledge: West Virginia GEAR UP students’ and parents’ understanding of college costs and the availability of financial aid have steadily increased since the program’s start. Though both students and parents continue to overestimate the cost of tuition at West Virginia’s public colleges, the gap between perceptions and actual costs has narrowed.1

GEAR UP students also demonstrate a far greater awareness of the cost of college and their options for paying for their education compared to their non-GEAR UP peers across the state. For example, 70 percent of GEAR UP seniors reported being aware of the federal Pell Grant program compared to just 58 percent of students statewide.2

Perhaps as a result of these changes, GEAR UP parents now indicate greater confidence in their family’s ability to pay for college. In 2008, 52 percent of parents of cohort students said they “definitely” or “probably” could pay for college. In 2013, 68 percent thought so.1

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**Percentage of cohort student estimating the cost of one year of tuition, by cost range**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to $10,000</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,001 - $20,000</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above $20,000</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I don’t know.”</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chart 4:** Each year, cohort students (class of 2014) are asked to estimate the cost of one year of tuition at an in-state public four-year college. In the early years of the program, student responses were scattered widely, and most students either overestimated the cost of tuition or responded “I don’t know.” By year five, the majority of student estimates were clustered below $10,000 — close to the actual cost of between $3,000 and $7,000. Source: West Virginia GEAR UP Annual Program Survey (2009) (2013)

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**Parents of GEAR UP cohort students who think they “definitely” or “probably” can afford college**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Who Think They Can Afford College (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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Strong program participation rates: The majority of school personnel in West Virginia GEAR UP schools indicated that they believe the project is being implemented as intended in their school.¹ Program activities and services are constant and ongoing in all service schools, and the program provided more than 62,484 service hours to students during the 2012-13 academic year, along with more than 4,009 hours to parents and more than 2,115 to educators.²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENT events</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Avg. Hours Per Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College Campus Visit</td>
<td>1,055</td>
<td>2.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic/Career Counseling</td>
<td>2,869</td>
<td>3.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family or Cultural Event</td>
<td>1,336</td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Aid Counseling</td>
<td>1,287</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Site Visit</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>1.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentoring Activities</td>
<td>2,218</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rigorous Academic Curricula</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>73.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Program</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>66.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutoring</td>
<td>1,565</td>
<td>13.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARENT events</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Avg. Hours Per Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College Campus Visit</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling and Advising</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>3.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Events</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Aid Workshop</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>2.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EDUCATOR events</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Avg. Hours Per Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>7.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Development</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Reporting period: August 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013; Source: West Virginia GEAR UP Participation Summary Report

Quick fact: 1,055 students toured a college campus during the 2012-13 academic year as a result of the West Virginia GEAR UP program.²

² Reporting period: August 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013; Source: West Virginia GEAR UP Participation Summary Report
ABOUT THE MEASURES AND REPORTS PROVIDED

West Virginia GEAR UP follows a rigorous evaluation plan, as outlined on the program’s website at www.wvgearup.org/research. The program conducts an annual survey among students and parents in order to measure the project’s progress toward meeting its annual and long-term objectives. The program only collects surveys from students who have been given permission by their parents to participate in the program evaluation process.

Due to discrepancies between the program’s annual reporting period and its annual service period (the latter is aligned with the academic year, the former begins and ends in March of each year), data and measures presented in this report represent varying time frames. For this reason, reporting periods are frequently listed in the footnotes. Much of the data regarding the GEAR UP program encompasses multiple academic years and multiple federal performance reporting years. This report is intended to provide a glimpse of the accomplishments achieved through the GEAR UP program as it relates to the work of the Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives during the 2013 traditional calendar year.
College Goal Sunday is a one-day event offering students the opportunity to receive free, one-on-one support in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

The Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives, along with partner organizations such as the West Virginia Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, the West Virginia TRiO Association, West Virginia GEAR UP, and others, is responsible for organizing the event and marketing the services available. In West Virginia, the College Goal Sunday effort is supported by funds from the federal College Access Challenge Grant program and USA Funds, a nonprofit corporation.

In 2013, College Goal Sunday workshops were held at the following locations: Bluefield State College; Capital High School; Concord University; Davis and Elkins College; Erma Byrd Higher Education Center; Fairmont State University; and Pierpont Community and Technical College; Gaston Caperton Center; Glenville State College; Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College; Lewis County High School; Lincoln County High School; Marshall University; Marshall University Mid-Ohio Valley Center; Mingo Central High School; New River Community and Technical College; Potomac State College of West Virginia University; Putnam County Career and Technical Center; Ripley High School; Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College; Shepherd University; West Virginia Northern Community College; West Virginia University; and West Virginia University Institute of Technology.

Information regarding College Goal Sunday can be found on CFWV.com.
2013 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

On February 10, 2013, the Division of Student Success and P-20 Initiatives and its partners coordinated the fourth annual statewide College Goal Sunday event. More than 400 volunteers from various college access organizations and higher education institutions across the state joined forces to offer students free, confidential assistance in completing the FAFSA. In the program’s third year, workshops were held at 23 locations statewide and nearly 2,000 students and family members received help during the event.\(^1\) Eighty-four percent of students who attended completed a FAFSA on site that day.\(^2\)

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**Quick fact:**

Eighty-four percent of students who attended College Goal Sunday completed a FAFSA on site that day!\(^2\)

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1 Source: College Goal Sunday Workshop Registration Forms and Location Summary Report

2 Source: College Goal Sunday Participant Survey
“COLLEGE PREP RALLY”
Concord University