This fall was a semester full of relationship building with LOTS of new students and watching our upperclassmen shine! Out of 22 new, eligible students we had 18 engage with our supportive services. Many new students struggled with the transition to college, and we saw increased number of students lacking the financial means to afford textbooks and other classroom materials. We are seeking solutions to address these concerns and making plans for sustainable support efforts.

Heading into the Spring semester, we anticipate celebrating three program graduates in May! We had 15 upperclassmen receiving program support for a total program size of about 33 students this semester. It can be both challenging and incredibly fulfilling to walk alongside these young people as they navigate their unique paths through higher education. We couldn’t provide the tangible things that motivate students toward program participation without the support of you who see the value of these students and continue to stand in the gap for them. THANK YOU!

Bria Zolmán, Program Manager

Thanksgiving & Winter Break Events

Right before Thanksgiving we held our 2nd Annual Thanksgiving Grab & Go event. Students can participate by enjoying a meal and festive activities at the party and/or by swinging in to pick up to-go servings of food so that they have a homecooked, delicious meal to enjoy over the holiday break! We had about 15 students attend this event.

Our efforts for planning the Winter Break Bash/Boxes started on October 1st and resulted in over 90 donors/groups contributing just over $10,000 in in-kind gifts towards 40 Winter Break Boxes for students in the Guardian Scholars and Independent Cardinals programs. As always our students were overwhelmed by the generosity shown to them, and many words of thanks were requested to be passed on to donors. For students who may have felt “unseen” in their own families, this expression of support has a lasting impact and immediate effect on their wellness.

Hometown Hero & Flags of Honor Recipient

We were so grateful to WLBC 104.1 and the Exchange Club of Muncie for their support of the Guardian Scholars this winter. The program was recognized as the Hometown Hero of the Month for the month of November on WLBC 104.1 and received radio advertising valued at over $10,000 throughout the month. Additionally, the program was the recipient of proceeds from the Flags of Honor fundraiser sponsored by the Exchange Club for the second consecutive year. The program manager had the honor of speaking at the Exchange Club in December, and a presentation was also given to the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and League of Women Voters.

Fall Happenings

bsu.edu/guardianscholars