

FALL 2023



Director's Note

Kristopher Hatcher, Ed.D.

*Happy Holidays
colleagues!*



I hope everyone's fall semester is winding down smoothly and that you have relaxing plans for the upcoming break. As for TRiO, we are proud of the work we've accomplished of over the last few months. While our Upward Bound, Student Support Services, and Educational Opportunity Center grants will update you on their projects, I'd like to mention something I thought about after the First-Generation Day Celebration we held on November 8th.

Some of you might not know, but I am a First-Generation college student—meaning that neither of my parents earned a Bachelor's degree. In fact, I was the first person to receive a four-year degree in my biological family going as far back as we have records. Like more than 30% of GCSC's students, too, I received the Pell Grant during my Junior year. So, although I was not a TRiO participant back in the day, I certainly would have qualified for services if I'd have known about TRiO's existence. I am convinced now that TRiO could have helped me progress academically and navigate higher education's bureaucracy. So, if you encounter any students who could possibly benefit from the services TRiO provides, please do not hesitate to connect them with someone on our team. The networking you foster now could make the difference between someone crossing the finish line and ultimately improving their family's situation through the power of education!



Educational Opportunity Center

Among the many services our Educational Opportunity Center offers, one is helping individuals pursue their General Educational Development (GED) test. We are honored to be part of the postsecondary journey for all students, but it is especially meaningful to help those who missed out on the opportunity to graduate from high school.

Often, GED-seekers are new to our college, area, or country. They are also juggling the responsibilities of work, adulthood, and family. To assist them with achieving a secondary completion status, our EOC partners with the Goodwill Career Center and Tom C. Haney Technical School by delivering tutoring services, providing study materials, and paying for test fees. In addition, GCSC can now proctor GED tests at the Panama City campus's Testing Center, so please do not hesitate to refer anyone in need of GED assistance to an EOC team member!

[Read more on our website](#)

—Lisa



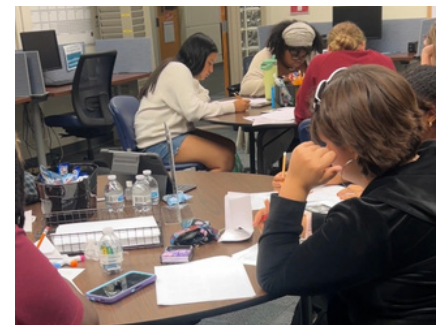
Student Support Services

Fall is an exciting time in Student Support Services! This semester, we traveled to Tallahassee and explored Florida State University's campus, spoke with institutional representatives, and gained cultural exposure by attending a musical theatre production.

SSS college tours immerse disadvantaged students in campus life, geographic options, and bachelor degrees they might not otherwise realize are available. Our students then leverage these trips to assess their academic and personal goal compatibility with various institutions. If you have a student struggling to transfer, please send them to TRiO Student Support Services for help!

[Read more on our website](#)

—Kendra



Upward Bound

This semester, Upward Bound dedicated its efforts to preparing our high school students for the exciting journey into higher education. In our pursuit of college readiness, we recently embarked on a tour of the University of West Florida. During this visit, our students had the valuable opportunity to tour UWF's campus. They also engaged in insightful question and answer sessions with the dedicated professionals from UWF's TRiO department and recruiting staff.

Our commitment to ensuring success extends to all high school grade levels, but we particularly emphasize helping our seniors meet their ACT, SAT, and Classic Learning Test (CLT) testing requirements. To address this, we provide expert-level tutoring services on weeknights to empower our students and equip them with the knowledge they need to excel.

[Read more on our website](#)

—Danielle

Tutoring Lab

This Fall, TRiO's Tutoring Lab has shown exceptional demand and growth. Excitingly, we've recently expanded our team with three student assistants and a part-time tutor specializing in GED subjects to ensure academic assistance for all of our programs' participants. Don't hesitate to stop by the lab in SUW 82, we are here for you!

[Read more on our website](#)

—June

Hours of Operations:

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m

TRiO Tutoring Lab Extended Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 11:00 a.m - 7:00 p.m

Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday: 8:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m

We accept student referrals!

WE ARE TRIO

For more information about TRiO Services



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