



North Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE

Quarterly Report

October 3, 2009

President: Derek Sporbert

Board Members: Lori Larson
Theresa Leiphon

Treasurer
Secretary

State News:

(Instructions: Examples include new initiatives, ongoing activities and meetings, changes in membership, partnerships, fundraising, and professional development.)

- ND ASPIRE launched our state website, www.ndaspire.org as a result of the COE State Initiative Grant
- ND ASPIRE has been selected as a stake holder, and committee member for the North Dakota College Access Challenge Grant Steering Committee
- ND ASPIRE has moved our address to a PO Box within the state as part of our efforts to be a stand-alone entity within the state
- Several staff representing nine programs within the state attended the national COE conference in San Antonio, TX
- ND ASPIRE President and Membership Chair headed up the “10 for 10” campaign in the state
- Mary Fredricks, State Initiative Chair, continues to spearhead legislative efforts in the state of North Dakota
- ND ASPIRE (UND Upward Bound) hosted the 2009 Upward Bound Olympics. Over 400 Upward Bound participants from South Dakota and North Dakota attended. Thank you to everyone who made this event a success!
- Cankdeska Cikana Community College Talent Search hosted a Leadership Conference and Senior Banquet at Spirit Lake Casino.

State Activities/Accomplishments related to ASPIRE’s Strategic Plan:

(Instructions: Please report on the activities/accomplishments of the state chapter since the last report.)

Strategic Goal # 1: Advocate for programs and activities that ensure the continued existence of TRiO and other educational opportunity programs, such as GEAR-UP.

Activities/Accomplishments:

- Three ND TRIO programs, UND, LRSC, and NDSU have hosted TRIO Day events at their respective schools. These events have included state legislator, national congressional representation, community, and school leaders.
- Several ND ASPIRE members worked with North Dakota’s legislative team to garner support for program increases. All three ND Congressmen supported these increases.
- The State Initiative Committee has launched a legislative action center to alert TRIO personnel around the state when there are bills being considered that affect our students. This action center is available through the ND ASPIRE website.



Strategic Goal # 2: Strengthen the financial position of ASPIRE.

Activities/Accomplishments:

- ND ASPIRE has achieved more than 100% of COE Fairshare for 2008-09. The 2009/2010 campaign is underway
- ND ASPIRE has also achieved 100% Institutional Membership for 2008-09
- ND ASPIRE members responded well to the “10 for 10” membership fundraiser. While the campaign has not ended, we expect to meet COE’s challenge number.

Strategic Goal # 3: Provide professional development opportunities to the members of ASPIRE.

Activities/Accomplishments:

- Several ND ASPIRE professionals will be presenting at the regional ASPIRE conference in Spearfish, SD
- The ND State Meeting in Spearfish will include learning sections on legislative action and COE’s Fair Share presented by ND ASPIRE members
- Planning has begun for the Co-State meeting between North Dakota and South Dakota next spring in Bismarck, ND

Strategic Goal # 4: Continue to strengthen governmental relations work at the national, regional, state, and local levels.

Activities/Accomplishments:

- State Initiative Committee continues to advocate, and work with state legislators to develop legislation and opportunities for TRIO eligible students in the state
- ND ASPIRE President is a sitting member on the steering committee for the ND CACG
- Worked with national legislative offices to ensure proper support for TRIO

Strategic Goal # 5: Further develop and utilize communication capabilities and networking opportunities.

Activities/Accomplishments:

- TRIO programs in the state continue to strengthen our relationship with the North Dakota University System. This includes working with NDUS, to gather information regarding first generation students on the standard college application form.
- TRIO personnel have worked with UND and the ND Department of Adult Education to develop research which will create an admissions standard for GED students.
- ND ASPIRE members continue to work with the College Access Challenge Grant program within the state
- State Initiative committee members are working with state legislators to access TRIO eligibility information on college applications, so that we may better serve our target population
- University of Mary will award each SSS student a \$100 book grant this year



- LRSC SSS and the Community College Foundation have established a Special Needs Support Fund to respond to emergencies and unexpected costs that may occur that might prevent a SSS student from continuing their education

Strategic Goal # 6: Assist program participants and alumni to advocate for TRIO.

Activities/Accomplishments:

- UND TRIO offices held an alumni reunion in New Town, ND in May 2009. The event was well attended by staff, former staff, and TRIO Alumni
- UND, LRSC, and NDSU have included alumni and alumni recognition in their TRIO Day celebrations
- ND ASPIRE developed a ND state fact book for use when advocating for our students
- UND TRIO programs developed a fact book, including alumni stories and notes

Strategic Goal # 7: Strengthen relationships with state associations.

Activities/Accomplishments:

- UND TRIO personnel are working with Adult Education Programs, to partner and develop services for participants
- The ND State Initiative Committee continues to work to guide legislators on issues affecting TRIO students
- TMCC attended the American Indian Higher Education Consortium in Montana this year.

Committee Activities related to COE Board Initiatives:

(Instructions: Please report on activities related to initiatives that the COE Chair or Board have highlighted for the year. Examples include Get 3 for TRIO and incorporating a service component into TRIO Day activities.)