Foster Care Awareness Month

Join Us for Events All Month!

Did you know that May is Foster Care Awareness Month? The WMU Center for Fostering Success has an amazing line-up of events designed to raise awareness about the lived experience of foster care. We invite you to join us in any of these events that pique your interest!

Highlighted below are two upcoming events in Kalamazoo that you may be interested in attending. A full list of events taking place throughout the state, which are sponsored by the Center for Fostering Success, is available online.

Film Screening at the Alamo Drafthouse

Join us for a FREE
Coach Training Level I

May 25: Memorial Day Holiday (WMU offices closed, no classes)

May 22: Fostering Success Michigan 4th Annual Statewide Summit (9AM-4PM, James B. Henry Center, Lansing)

Registration is currently closed.

May 28: Foster Care Awareness Month Dine Outs (locations vary, 4:30-8PM)

June 2015
June 27: Commencement

July 2015
July 6: Summer II classes begin
July 7: Final grades for summer I due
July 12-17: Summer Early Transition (SET) Week (Career Mentor dinner, date TBD)

August 2015
August 25: Final grades for summer II due
August 31: Seita Scholars early move in (Welcome Week kick-off and welcome pack distribution)

July Mentor Dinner

Invitation Forthcoming!

The Seita Scholars Summer Early Transition (SET) Week is almost upon us! That means that we will be hosting a mentor/mentee match dinner the week of July 12, 2015.

Many of our current mentors have been awaiting news of the exact date screening and panel discussion of The Blind Side on Wednesday, May 13 at 6PM. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Dine Out: Join a Conversation On...
On Thursday, May 28 at 4:30PM we invite you to dine out, discuss and learn more about working to support students and youth have experienced foster care. Each site will have a unique topic, and hosts. Food and beverages can be purchased at each venue.

...Community Engagement
Engaging the larger Kalamazoo community to raise awareness and encourage engagement for student support.
Hosted by: The Seita Scholars Program
Location: Central City Tap House

...Network Engagement
Leveraging resources with professionals who support students who have experienced foster care in the education to career pipeline.
Hosted by: Fostering Success Michigan
Location: The Wine Loft (Downstairs)

...Policy Engagement
Understand current policy and develop recommendations to promote success for students who have experienced foster care.
Hosted by: The Seita Scholars Program, WMU Government Affairs & University Relations
Location: Epic Bistro
and time for that dinner - please watch your email the week of May 18, 2015! The Seita Scholars Program will be sending out an invitation to join us for the SET Week Mentor/Mentee Match event by the end of that week.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Maria Newhouse.

Welcome Packs

Watch for sales!

Donations for the annual welcome pack initiative will be collected throughout the months of July and August this year - that means that now is the time to watch for those sales!

The annual welcome pack distribution is one that Seita Scholars across cohorts cite as a meaningful moment in their transition to college life. Our goal is to provide each incoming Seita Scholar with this moment, and we need your assistance to make this possible!

A full list of needed items is available online, and more information about drop-off dates and times will be available by June 2015. Thank you in advance for your support!

If you have any questions, please email Maria Newhouse.

Donor's Corner

Item Donations for the Seita Scholars Program

As we gear up for the welcome pack initiative, we still have current students in need of supplies. Items that are most needed include:

- Toilet paper (4 pack rolls or larger)
- Deodorant
- Non-perishable, individually wrapped snacks for the student lounge

Monetary Donations

The Seita Scholars Program is sustained through ongoing Western Michigan University support, grants, and individual donations. Please consider how you might help current and future Seita scholars through providing financial support on a one-time or repeating-gift basis.

You may make a tax-deductible donation using your credit card or make your check payable to WMU Foundation. In the memo line enter Seita Scholars Emergency Fund, and mail it to:

WMU Foundation
Western Michigan University
1903 W Michigan Ave
Kalamazoo MI 49008-5403 USA

If you are interested in planned giving, please contact the Development and Alumni Relations office at (269) 387-8700.

Outreach Opportunities: May 2015 Edition
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