



April 6, 2010

Media Advisory

Federally funded TRIO program participants to paint the homes of two Boynton Beach families

What: Participants of four federally-funded programs at Palm Beach State College designed to help get low-income, potential first generation college students on the path to higher education are coming together over two days this week to help raise awareness of the programs and to give back to the community.

Palm Beach State is celebrating National TRIO Day April 9. During the event, current and former participants will share stories of how the programs have helped them fulfill their educational and career goals. Dan Liftman, an assistant to U.S Rep. Alcee Hastings, is expected to be in attendance.

The next day, TRIO program participants and Palm Beach State President Dennis Gallon will paint the homes of two Boynton Beach families (a family of five and a disabled single mother) as part of a day of community service. National TRIO Day typically is held in late February, although institutions can hold their own events at various times. This is a particularly crucial time for the TRIO programs with President Obama's fiscal year 2011 proposed education budget calling for level funding for all TRIO programs and, subsequently, the elimination of about 200 Upward Bound programs around the country.

Palm Beach State first received funding in 1999 to launch Upward Bound, one of the original three educational opportunity programs created by Congress under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Although they are still called TRIO, there are now seven such programs, including Talent Search, Upward Bound Math/Science, Veterans Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers and the Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program.

In addition to Upward Bound, which provides tutoring, college visits, instruction in key college subjects and other services to 50 high school students, Palm Beach State also operates three other TRIO programs. They are: Student

Support Services, which offers tutoring, mentoring, social and cultural engagement; Talent Search, which provides an early college experience for middle and high school students and Educational Opportunity Center, which provides counseling and information on college admissions to qualified adults who want to enter or continue a program of postsecondary education.

When: **11 a.m.- April 9, 2010** (National TRIO Day)
8 a.m. - April 10, 2010 (Paint Your Heart Out)

Where: Palm Beach State College (**National TRIO Day**)
Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza (formerly Fountain Courtyard)
4200 Congress Ave., Lake Worth

Editor's note: Please contact the Office of College Relations and Marketing for the address of homes being painted April 10 as part of **Paint Your Heart Out**.

Media: Tabatha B. McDonald
Contact: College Relations and Marketing Specialist
(561) 868-3127