

Department/Unit: Women’s Center

Year: 2017-2019

Contact

Name:

Nicole

Carter

Contact

Title:

Director,

Women’s

Center

Unit

2017-2018	Approximate Number of Students Served	Approximate Number of Students/Staff Served	Approximate Number of Community Members Served
Lactation Rooms	278	24	2
Hannah’s Treasure Chest/Giving Angels	60	4	N/A
Personal Care Pantry	40	N/A	N/A
Total	378	28	2

Overview/Mission/Purpose

The Women’s Center provides a centralized location where the concerns of women can be voiced, dealt with directly, and/or referred to other resources within the university and local community. It is our mission to create an inclusive, safe environment for women, gender-queer, and gender-fluid individuals that is supportive, challenging, encouraging, and connective. The Women’s Center primarily serves women who are part of the Wright State community as well as their families; however, we are open to assist all students, staff, and faculty as well as partner with community members.

Staffing

	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
# Full Time Staff	2	2	2	2
# Student Employee FTE	1.0 (three student; one at .50 and two at .25)	.75 (two students; one at .50 and one at .25)	.75 (two students; one at .50 and one at .25)	1.25 (four students; one at .50, one at .25, and another at .25)

Success Outcome 1:

Increasing academic and social persistence and belongingness among marginalized women (student-parents, women of color and women in the STEMM fields) on Wright State University’s campus.

KPI 1.1

Data: Facility and resource usage by students from 2017-2018 using lactation room logs, Hannah’s Treasure Chest and Giving Angels applications, and Personal Care Pantry applications.

Result:

Response/Action Plan: Our Centers serves the University community in a variety of ways. The use of the resource spaces within or managed by the Center is one those ways. Each year, the number of student-parents increases. Since its inception, the number of students who use the Personal Care Pantry increase. Particularly, the spring and summer semesters is a time when many students utilize these services. The staff of the Women’s Center would like to increase the use of these opportunities, and would like to collaborate with multiple units on campus such as Orientation, Student Success, Student Affairs, and Advising to enhance communication (oral and written) about the services that we provide. This will provide opportunities to serve the University community in a more comprehensive manner.

KPI 1.2

Data: Financial Assistance provided to student-parents, women of color, and other marginalized students on Wright State University’s campus.

Result:

2017-2019	Scholarship Amount Awarded
Ehrenfried Scholarship for Women and Children	\$3000
Saxon Jo Angela Freeman Scholarship	\$2665
Goldenberg Endowed Scholarship	\$1150
Lillie P. Howard Need Based Grant	\$2740
Pepsi Women’s Empowerment Scholarship	\$19880
Total	\$29,435

Response/Action Plan: Our Center assists students, the majority being women, through financial assistance. Each of our scholarships require varying grade point averages, financial need, or other statuses that reflect systemic marginalization. Research demonstrates that financial assistance can increase the persistence and retention of students. Our staff plans to continue providing students with opportunities to fund their college education.

Success Outcome 2:

Increasing awareness of gender-based inequities through cohort programs, workshops, and presentations.

KPI 2.1

Data: Number of participants in and satisfaction with the Women of Color Student Leadership Cohort, workshops, and presentations from 2017-2018.

Result:

Since its inception in fall 2017, the Women of Color Student Leadership cohort has provided 24 women with opportunities for leadership development, self-reflection and awareness, and community building. Each member was selected using an application process, and has received a \$500 scholarship using the Pepsi Women's Empowerment Scholarship. The first cohort, a group of 14 women, indicated that the program connected them with mentorship/femtorship opportunities as well as leadership skills that they had not obtained prior to the program.

The Women's Center implemented a set of 15 different workshops and/or presentations about our services, power-based/gender-based violence, healthy relationships, self-care, feminism 101, body positivity, and parenting on campus. We have presented 27 times between 2017-December 2018. The number of participants ranged from 15-30 students, staff, and/or faculty.

Response/Action Plan:

The staff of the Women's Center would like to increase the use of these opportunities, and would like to collaborate with multiple units on campus such as Orientation, Student Success, Student Affairs, and Advising to enhance communication (oral, written, and visual) about the services that we provide. This will provide opportunities to serve the University community in a more comprehensive manner. Likewise, we plan to collaborate with other units across campus to prevent redundancy.

Concluding Remarks:

The Women's Center staff are dedicated to increasing the persistence and retention of students on Wright State University's campus. We plan to do this despite budgetary and supervisory changes. We have existed on Wright State's campus since 1993, and we plan to exist for years to come to advocate and educate students about women's empowerment and gender equity. These are only a few of the ways we have managed to remain successful.

Work Cited

Olbrecht, A. M., Romano, C., & Teigen, J. (2016). How money helps keep students in college:

The relationship between family finances, merit-based aid, and retention in higher education. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 46(1), 2.

