Reginald Tarr received the Undergraduate Student Civic Engagement Award. Tarr, a social work major, was cited as an effective leader, educating members of the Grand Forks community about refugee resettlement.

Reginald Tarr, Global Friends Coalition Board Member and leader of the Organizing Committee for People of Liberian Origin in Grand Forks will speak to his personal experience as a refugee and new American. Reginald Tarr was born in Liberia, West Africa. At age seventeen he fled the Liberian civil war to Ivory Coast, a neighboring country. He spent thirteen years seeking refuge in the Ivory Coast where he learned to speak French. After graduation from high school, he learned rural building construction in a technical school and taught as assistant instructor. He also worked as assistant pastor of a church and a social worker with a local community based organization called WISTFA. In this role, he helped implement family tracing and reunification efforts for Save the Children UK. When civil war erupted in the Ivory Coast, he moved to United States. He is now a US citizen and leader of the Organizing Committee for people of Liberian origin in Grand Forks, North Dakota. He is currently pursuing a Social Work degree from UND and is a participant in the Student Support Services Program.
A message from the director

To all UND TRIO Alumni and Friends,

What a great fall it has been! All five UND TRIO Programs are now coming to the end of a busy first semester, working with students from middle school age through adults to provide services which assist in their educational success. Two of our programs, Talent Search and Educational Opportunity Center, received funding for the next five year grant cycle, which, in this time of tightening budgets was cause for celebration, as we again can focus on continuing provision of services to students to further their educational progress!

Nationally, there is a movement to organize TRIO Alumni, so any of you who are former participants in UND TRIO Programs, if you have not yet done so, please check into this website [www.trioalumni.us](http://www.trioalumni.us) and the Facebook page [facebook.com/TheNTAA](https://www.facebook.com/TheNTAA) to see what opportunities may be available there for you, as TRIO alumni.

If you ever get to campus please feel free to drop by third floor McCannel, to our main TRIO offices and say “hello”. We enjoy hearing from former participants from all our programs- we are always glad to hear how you are doing and cheer on your successful educational and career successes!

Sincerely,
Elaine Metcalfe, Director
UND TRIO Programs

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EOC to join with Grand Forks Adult Learning Center for GED Grad reunion

EOC will be partnering with the Grand Forks Adult Learning Center to offer a reunion opportunity for recent GED graduates. This event will reach out to students who attended the Adult Learning Center, and are in the Grand Forks area still. The event will give GED (and EOC) alumni the chance to catch up with what their fellow classmates have accomplished in the past year. Students will be able to share their success in employment and college enrollment with peers and educators. Alumni will also be presented with information on college exploration, admissions, and financial aid. EOC staff will be on hand to answer any questions students have as well. Food and beverage will be provided, details on dates and time will be available soon. We look forward to seeing everyone!
Talent Search Summer Program aided by an Upward Bound Alum

By Dawn Eckhardt
Assistant Director, TRIO Talent Search

As the 2010-2011 school year came to a close, ten middle school students were accepted to participate in an educational adventure to start their summers. Students from Solen High School in North Dakota, and Fertile-Beltrami, Goodridge, and Red Lake County Central in Minnesota had their applications accepted to participate in this annual week-long program hosted by the TRIO Talent Search program at UND. We started the week with on the UND campus where they took biology and writing classes, toured several departments around campus, and hunted for "treasure" at Turtle River State Park with a geocaching activity. After our days at UND, we headed out for multiple destination locations in the Black Hills and Hot Springs areas of South Dakota. The Black Hills Mining Museum, Mount Rushmore, and Reptile Gardens were among the many exciting locations the students toured and took advantage of hands-on learning activities in and around Rapid City, SD.

One day of the trip was spent in Hot Springs, SD, where we were delighted to explore Wind Cave National Park, the Wild Horse Sanctuary, and the Mammoth Site. Perhaps not surprising one of the events planned for that day that was greatly anticipated was swimming at Evans Plunge. The excitement prior to that portion of the day was palpable. It was not a disappointment... until it was. As the signal was given for the students to depart the pool to get ready to leave, most students took one last slide to finish their time. For Kayla, this last trip down a tube slide landed her in the emergency room after getting twisted and tumbled inside the tube in an odd manner. Definitely not the bright side of the coin point of view, our emergency room detour did give all the students a first-hand look at several possible health careers. Perhaps one of the students on this year’s trip will someday be a medical colleague of Dr. Larson’s.

One of the students who currently works with students in the TRIO Talent Search program is Jay Martin. The students love it when Jay is at lunch and shares his experiences as a TRIO Alum. He recently visited with the Solen HS students about his college life while he was in high school, and what he is currently working on in addition to playing basketball. Jay is currently working on his general education requirements and plays for the basketball team.

UND Talent Search Alumni update

By Mary Jo Dailey, Talent Search Advisor

Mary Jo serves the Solen and Standing Rock districts on the Standing Rock Reservation

I have recently had several wonderful experiences while going about the community in which I live and work. I have run into several past students which always makes me happy. These program alumni were anxious to tell me “Hey guess what? I’m in college!” They usually follow up that up with “Thanks for encouraging me” or “Thanks for coming to our school ... what you do matters.” Yes! What Talent Search provides does matter to our participants and their families. Most recently I ran into Jay Martin from Cannon Ball, ND, while chaperoning seniors from Solen High School at Tribal Nations Explore College Day. I had the pleasure of working with Jay through the Talent Search program since he was in 6th grade, and was proud to hear from him that he is now a freshman at United Tribes Technical College. Jay visited with the Solen HS students at lunch and shared that he loves college. In his words, “it’s so not high school.” Of course he heard this multiple times from me while he was in high school, but sometimes they have to experience it. Jay is currently working on his general education requirements and plays for the basketball team.
Upward Bound news...

Upward Bound has had another busy fall. Juniors and seniors attended a campus tours trip at the end of October and the seniors will be in Grand Forks the beginning of December for presentations on financial aid and expectations of college professors. Staff have been busy with reports, school visits and recruiting.

We are at the end of our funding cycle which will run out the end of May. We are currently writing for new funding to start the beginning of June.

In alumni news I have had the opportunity to hear from a couple of alumni in the last couple of months! Kathy White (Four Winds High School) is attending United Tribes in Bismarck. She will graduate this spring and go on to get her teaching degree. Zach Kroll (East Grand Forks) works for Delta Airlines. Holly Morin (TMCHS) is attending Turtle Mountain Community College.

Please keep us informed of where you are and what you are doing it is always fun to hear from you!

Upward Bound, Assistant Director, Lori Larson

Notes from Neil

Hello to all UND TRIO Program Alumni! The UND TRIO Alumni Committee met this fall to plan for alumni activities in the upcoming year. The newest idea is for our alumni to join with TRIO Alumni from other ND TRIO programs in a state-wide reunion. This event is being planned at Lake Region College in Devils Lake and we will be disseminating more information on that as it comes forward.

Also, at our TRIO Day celebration on campus in February, UND TRIO Alumni will be invited to come and talk to current TRIO students about the importance of educational success.

Nationally, Upward Bound funding is being proposed at levels which puts programs at risk. If you are interested in supporting the program by supporting advocacy efforts please give me a call (701) 772-1769 or e-mail me at neilreuter@gfwireless.com, thank you.

Neil Reuter, UND TRIO Alumni Committee

Check us out online
und.edu/student-life/trio
**McNair Program alumni updates**

**Jeri Ann Azure**, earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology on August 5, 2011 and completed her internship at Indian Health Care Resource Center (IHCRC) in Tulsa, Oklahoma on August 31, 2011.

While at IHCRC, Dr. Azure had the opportunity to provide individual, group, and family therapy. She also conducted psychological assessments, developed and ran an adult psycho-ed depression group, was involved with the Systems of Care, participated in weekly didactic seminars, observed providers in an interdisciplinary setting, and helped develop and organize the Northeastern Oklahoma Psychological Internship Program’s (NOPIP) annual ethics workshop. Dr. Azure completed her dissertation project, Depressed Native Americans and Suicidal Ideation Contagion earlier this summer. Since completing her internship, she has moved back home to Belcourt, ND and has recently signed a contract with the Turtle Mountain Community Vocational Rehabilitation Project and will be assessing college students for learning disabilities. Dr. Azure has always strived to provide quality mental health services to the Native American community and continues to do so now as a professional.

**David Cookman**, (graduated in December 2009) started a M.S. program at North Dakota State University in Plant Sciences/Horticulture.

**Trevor Ghylin** started a Ph.D. program in Civil and Environmental Engineering at UW-Madison this semester. He previously completed his M.S. there and has been working as an engineer for the past 5 years.

**Kyle Gustafson** completed his M.S. in Biology at UND and has begun a Ph.D. program in Zoology at Oklahoma State University.

**Jonna (Korpi) Kalar** graduated from the University of Washington Tacoma in June with a Masters Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. Her focus was on Environmental Studies and Environmental Policy. She is currently living in Ellensburg, WA; working as an AmeriCorps member for HopeSource, a non-profit organization that focuses on helping people reach greater self-sufficiency in their lives. Specifically, she is the Weatherization Outreach Coordinator and working to develop applications from target populations in the community who can benefit from home weatherization, conservation education, and a home energy audit to help them gain control over their utility bills and live more comfortably as well. After her AmeriCorps service in July 2012, she hopes to pursue a career working in the same area, helping to increase awareness about being more environmentally conscious, saving energy and money, and helping people live more comfortably and within their means.

**Melanie (Mutnansky) Markuson** was accepted into Old Dominion University’s Family Nurse Practitioner program and plans on graduating in December 2012.

**B.J. Rainbow** was the recipient of the The Paul V. Boswell Public Scholar Award is being presented by the Center for Community Engagement, the UND Era Bell Thompson Multicultural Center, and the UND Indian Studies Department in memory of Paul Boswell, who served as director of the Native Media Center before his death in 2006. B.J. Rainbow receives this award recognition of his selfless outreach efforts to engage others in learning about the traditions and history of his community. Rainbow is a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and is affiliated with the Spirit Lake and Standing Rock communities through his grandmother and grandfather. BJ is a graduate of UND. He is part of the River’s Edge Drumming Group and former president of the UND Indian Association.

**Hankerson graduates from UND**

Enoch Hankerson (McNair Scholar and former Student Support Services alum) graduated in August with a major in Interdisciplinary Studies (concentrating on Multi-cultural Studies, Social Justice, & Peace Studies) and a minor in Geography. Working with his mentor, Dr. Sagini Keenwe, he conducted research on faculty diversity in higher education throughout the summer.

Enoch was accepted into the UND Masters in Education/General Studies program. He will be receiving the graduate McNair tuition waiver and is in the process of working on a grant for funding from the USDA.

Hankerson was also the recipient of the Graduate Civic Engagement Award at the Stone Soup awards luncheon.