

Katie L. Dixon Women & Girls Leadership Endowed Fund

Accomplishments and Objectives

November 2008



Dianne Cunningham and refugee students at East High School discuss options for furthering education.



What does the media want us to believe is beautiful? Eighth graders at Kearns St. Ann School share their observations!



Seventh graders at Hillcrest Junior High learn about successfully navigating high school from Murray High School students.

- In 2007-2008, College of Social Work program faculty and staff, along with University of Utah Bennion Center volunteers, conducted forums at:
 - Anna Smith Elementary—Wendover, Utah
 - East High School—Utah Federation for Youth
 - Girl Scouts of America
 - Hillcrest Junior High
 - Judge Memorial High School
 - Kearns St. Ann School
 - Murray High School
 - Odyssey Charter School
 - Riverview Junior High School
 - Salt Lake Arts Academy
- As in the previous year, the number of forums held at each school varied from one to four. In all, 293 new and returning young women attended 24 forums during the 2007-2008 academic year. Students strengthened their individual communication skills, increased their self-confidence through mentoring opportunities, and collaborated on community projects that benefited people locally and abroad. Visit our newly-developed website for more details: www.socwk.utah.edu/dixon.
- Research supports our anecdotal evidence that the forums fill a need in the community. A recently submitted paper reports the following findings:
 - Improved relationships with other girls
 - Increased leadership skills
 - Increased desire to further education
 - Increased understanding of what girls can do
- In 2008-2009, the Dixon Girls Forums will return to the above schools and visit three new schools—St. Francis-Xavier, Wendover High School, and the McGillis School. While the number of schools will remain nearly the same, more forums will be conducted at each school, in part as a result of a collaboration between the College and Cornerstone Counseling Center.
- In order to expand the Dixon Fund which supports this programming, a Dixon Advisory Board was formed in Spring 2008. Members of this group include several staff and faculty at the College as well as the following community members:

Penny Atkinson	Stormy Simon
Tina Bagley	Chuck Warren
Kristy Coleman Jensen	
Paula Green Johnson	<i>ExOfficio:</i>
Karen Klc	Jerry Dixon
Tricia McGarry	Lou Jean Flint
Elly Muth	Marcia Price