Volunteers behind Phuture Phoenix success

GREEN BAY — Getting all kids to college — what a huge challenge!

The Phuture Phoenix program at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay started early to plant the seed — over 1,400 fifth-grade students from 10 school districts in Brown County came to campus in October to spend a day in college. That doesn’t happen without the help of hundreds of generous volunteers.

Ninety UW-Green Bay faculty members welcomed the fifth-graders into their classes. Twenty-five dedicated community members gave generously of their time to help organize. Almost 300 college students were role models for the day and helped get fifth-graders excited about college.

A person with a college degree increases lifelong earning potential, has reduced risk of being unemployed during difficult economic times, increases average life expectancy, and has better access to health care, among countless other benefits. An educated citizenry increases the economic, social, and cultural well-being of the community.

For 11 years, the Phuture Phoenix program has been the gateway to higher education in every form — not just at UW-GB. Increased percentages of students from Brown County who participated in the Phuture Phoenix program now attend post-secondary institutions.

Thanks to all the generous volunteers who inspire Brown County youth!

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