

DATE: November 16, 2006

SUBJECT: GEAR-UP Status Report

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Information

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Tennessee GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) implementation is ongoing. Direct services and sub-grant implementation for nine selected counties (Campbell, Cocke, Grundy, Hardeman, Johnson, Lake, Meigs, Union, and Wayne) are underway.

GEAR UP Tennessee (GEAR UP TN) has now approved the first Tennessee Bridge Incentive Awards (formerly Bridge Scholarship) to qualifying students in the partnering counties to be utilized at any public or private institution in Tennessee that can also accept lottery funds.

Staff will provide updates on several aspects of GEAR UP TN, including CollegeforTN.org, direct services, sub-grant implementation, and the Bridge Incentive Award.