DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT:
Cal State Fullerton's Guardian Scholars program is committed to supporting ambitious, college-bound students exiting the foster care system. We provide a comprehensive program that contributes to the quality and depth of the student's university experience. We serve as a resource for young adults by assisting in their development and equipping them with the educational and interpersonal skills necessary to become self-supporting, community leaders, role models, and competent professionals in their selected fields.

PROGRAM/SERVICE OVERVIEW:
Guardian Scholars 1st Annual Student Retreat
Theme: Who Moved My Cheese
The Guardian Scholars 1st Annual Student Retreat was developed to provide an opportunity for students and staff to connect and enhance the GS community through a variety of workshops and activities focused on addressing the recent program transitions.

Student Learning Outcomes: At the conclusion of the GS Retreat participants are expected to:
- Be able to identify the Casey Family Programs “It’s My Life”: Seven Life Domains
- Increase their sense of belonging & community

TYPE OF ASSESSMENT:
(To check mark any box below, please double click on the square and select “checked”.)
☐ External Reports
☐ Needs Assessment
☒ Program Evaluation
☒ Student Learning Outcomes
☐ Student Satisfaction Assessment
☐ Student Success
☐ Utilization Data

PROJECT SAMPLE:
Retreat Attendees: 32 Guardian Scholars

DATA COLLECTION TIMEFRAME:
August 2013

DATA COLLECTION METHODS:
Pre / Post Assessment & Program Evaluation Survey

LIMITATIONS:
1. Not all students showed up on time or stayed for the entire retreat due to prior commitments.
2. Campus space availability did not allow additional space to incorporate different/additional interactive activities.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS:
The Guardian Scholars 1st Annual Retreat was successful in increasing the sense of belonging and community connection for program participants and new staff. It encouraged all participants to engage, interact and connect with scholars whom they had never actively engaged with. It provided students an opportunity to process the various program and personnel transitions that had occurred over the past year through the “Who Moved My Cheese” theme. The retreat also provided a foundational starting point for the new staff to build its cohesiveness with the students as the program prepared to evolve over the upcoming academic year.
**KEY FINDINGS:**
N=32 Pre Assessment
N=28 Post Assessment

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
- 85% of respondents on the post-assessment indicated a mid-high level of “sense of community” within the Guardian Scholars program, as compared to only 50% on the pre-assessment.
- 57% of respondents on the post-assessment were able to identify all seven life domains.
  - A total of 79% of respondents on the post-assessment were able to identify at least 4 of the seven life domains.

As part of a new programmatic change, the staff was interested in evaluating the student’s interest in giving back and volunteering within the local community. Results indicated:
- 92% of respondents on the post-assessment indicated a mid-high level of “interest in giving back / volunteering” within our community, as compared to only 78% on the pre-assessment.

**Program Evaluation:**
- 89% of respondents on the post-assessment rated a “good” or “excellent” for the retreat theme of: *Who Moved My Cheese*.
- 82% of respondents on the post-assessment rated a “good” or “excellent” for the retreat location.

**APPLICATIONS OF FINDINGS:** (Please be as specific as possible.)
1. How will you use your data to improve or enhance your program/service?
   Guardian Scholars will utilize the data gathered to enhance the GS Student Retreat experience by incorporating many of the feedback items provided by students, such as:
   - Provide more break-time in between workshops and activities
   - Have more interactive group activities
     - Have outside activities
2. How did the data compare to data from prior years, if applicable?
   No data comparisons available. This was the 1st annual program retreat.
3. Any additional information you would like to share that demonstrates how the assessment data will inform programmatic and/or management decisions.
   The data collected, specifically the data regarding giving back and volunteering, was utilized to inform the addition of the community service component to the program during the 2013-14 year.