What is Brother2Brother?

On October 17, 1990 Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe created the first chapter of the Student African American Brotherhood/Brother2Brother on the campus of Georgia Southwestern University. Its mission was to address the challenges minority males were facing in pursuit of higher education.

Since 1990, SAAB/B2B has grown to over 200 chapters at high schools, community colleges, and universities nationwide. Specifically the SAAB/B2B program provides academic support in the form of study skills seminars, financial aid planning, academic advising, increased motivation, time management, and the development of leadership skills through a focus on community service events and campus engagement.

The SAAB/B2B mission statement encourages members to “empower ourselves and promote brotherhood by embracing the principles of accountability, proactive leadership, self-discipline and intellectual development.”

SAAB / B2B is not a social organization or fraternity. SAAB / B2B is an academic organization with the goal of providing the support necessary to help our members proceed from incoming student to college graduate. The national motto of SAAB / B2B is “I am my Brother's Keeper, and together we will rise!”

Academics

The top three priorities of SAAB/B2B is “Academics, Academics, Academics!” We strive to ensure that each SAAB/B2B member has all of the encouragement and resources to remain on track to obtain their undergraduate degree from IU Northwest and position themselves for graduate course work if that is their desire.

Members meet weekly with the SAAB/B2B Program Coordinator to identify potential challenges and report on academic progress. If challenges are identified, staff members direct students to the appropriate campus resources to ensure that all academic needs are met.

The SAAB/B2B model for academic support has proven effective for members who commit to success. For the last few years, active SAAB/B2B members have consistently outperformed their minority male counterparts on the campus of IU Northwest by maintaining a higher aggregate grade point average (GPA). This is no accident. We will provide the support that YOU need to graduate!

Leadership

SAAB/B2B members participate in a number of personal and professional development workshops designed to improve their leadership skills. Past conferences attended include the Men & Women of Color Leadership Conference, the Indiana Latino Leadership Conference, and the SAAB/B2B National conference held in April each year in Indianapolis. To develop leadership skills, SAAB/B2B members are expected to participate in at least two of six committees which plan campus events and chapter meetings. The committees include Personal Development/Self-Improvement, Academic, Membership/Public Relations, Spiritual Enrichment/Social Activities, Financial Affairs/Money Management, and Community Service.

Community Service

SAAB/B2B members give back to the community in many ways. The SAAB/B2B signature event is the annual Earth Day Clean Up which takes place each April in Gary, Indiana. SAAB/B2B members have also partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Indiana to mentor local youth and assisted local residents in cleaning their homes after the wide spread flooding that occurred in September 2008.
Summer Bridge Academy (SBA)

The Brother2Brother Summer Bridge Academy is a three-week orientation to the IU Northwest campus, and is designed to allow male college students who are incoming freshmen and incoming transfer students to become quickly acclimated to college life.

The students are exposed to a variety of speakers from the various academic departments at IU Northwest as well as presenters from the business community and community service organizations who concentrate on the betterment of Northwest Indiana residents. At the conclusion of the SBA, participants become eligible for a textbook stipend to offset their expenses for books and academic supplies during the Fall and Spring academic semesters.

The Brother2Brother (B2B) College Success Program

“I Am My Brothers’ Keeper and Together We Will Rise!”

Brother2Brother is a student retention program sponsored by the Office of Diversity Programming designed to provide academic support and leadership skill development for minority male students.

Upcoming Events:

Contact us at the information listed below

Brother2 Brother (B2B) College Success Program:
Henrietta Moore
Program Coordinator
Moraine Student Center, 109
Gary, IN 46408
Ph: 219-980-6763

Office of Diversity Programming:
James Wallace
Interim Director of Diversity Programming
Lindenwood Hall, 402
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Ph: 219-980-6596

Web Site: http://diversity.iun.edu/
[once there, click on “B2B / SAAB”]

Or try our national web site:
http://www.saabnational.org/