



Transforming Lives



The David Gotaas Rotary/NEIU Social Work Scholarship Challenge

“Making a Difference” is Rotary’s 2017-2018 theme. *Will your gift to the world be a lasting one?*

Consider donating to the *Masters of Social Work David Gotaas Rotary Endowed Scholarship* at Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) that will provide financial assistance to a NEIU student each year in perpetuity. NEIU social work students tackle some of the most difficult social problems we face in our communities, our country, and internationally. This program prepares tomorrow’s clinical social workers, generalist social workers and the social policy-makers. Scholarship selection guidelines will be developed by the funding Rotary Clubs and the Northeastern Illinois University Foundation.

An anonymous Rotarian will match the first \$10,000 donated *dollar for dollar*.

As of June 24 2017, \$9,094 of \$10,000 initial goal has been raised (NEIUF Acct #4329).

NEIU is currently the **only state institution in Northern Illinois offering a B.A. in Social Work (BASW) program accredited for Northern Illinois region** and one of only three in the state. All other BASW programs are with private universities and UIC only has Master of Social Work program. **NEIU offered a new Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) program** in the Fall of 2016 with concentrations in

1. **Social Work Practice with Vulnerable Populations** (at-risk children and families) and
2. **Leadership and Change** (advocacy & policy).

The program's mission at both the undergraduate and graduate levels is to educate students for culturally relevant and ethically sound social work practice within a changing global context. Sensitivity to the personal, social, economic and political needs of *vulnerable, high-risk populations* is emphasized in a personal and environmental context.



These senior social work students were placed at Girls in the Game to complete the required 512 hour practicum as part of our accredited BSW program at NEIU. Students are placed in agencies such as Girls in the Game to provide hands on, strength based services. Girls in the Game provides and promotes sports and fitness opportunities, nutrition and health education, and leadership development to enhance the overall health and well-being of girls.

Why is NEIU a “Best Investment”?

- Most ethnically-diverse public university in the Midwest (*U.S. News & World Report*) for the 16th year in a row; Most Diverse University in the Midwest (*Wall Street Journal*)
- Top-100 school for graduating students of diverse ethnic backgrounds (*Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*);
- Nationally recognized as having lowest percentage of graduates who incurred student loan debt among all regional universities, and lowest total debt among Midwestern regional universities (*U. S. News & World Report*);
- The Sixth “Best Investment” among universities in the U.S. (*Newsweek*).

Graduates practice in accordance with **social work values and ethics**, in a culturally affirming manner that promotes human rights and social and economic justice with diverse populations as expressed through age, class, culture, disability, ethnicity, family structure, gender, relational status, national origin, race, religion, and sexual orientation. A degree in Social Work is one of the most dynamic degrees a student can earn, preparing them to practice effectively in a wide variety of clinical, community or policy settings.

To Donate By Mail: Make your check to NEIU Foundation, designate "Dave Gotaas Scholarship" and mail to: NEIU Foundation 5500 N. St. Louis Ave, Chicago, IL 60625 | **Online:** 1) Visit neiu.edu/give, 2) choose a donation amount, 3) Designation: select "Other" and type "David Gotaas Scholarship," and 4) complete the form as prompted.

Investing in Northeastern ensures that generations of NEIU graduates will be equipped to transform their own lives and the communities in which they live and work.