Sisterhood Winner-International Student Teaching

VFTH

11/3/11

What happens when a group of women dedicated to WKU pool their financial resources toward a worthy cause? Lives are changed, that’s what. Amy Bingham explains in this week’s View from the Hill.

For the second year in a row, the WKU Sisterhood has screened proposals from across the university to decide how best to spend the one thousand dollars collected from each of its members. As a result, WKU’s International Student Teacher program is forty-thousand dollars richer!

 “We have kids going all across the world as a result of the sisterhood grant.”

When Dr. Fred Carter appeared before the WKU Sisterhood to ask for grant money it wasn’t his first time.

 “Last year I basically told ‘em what we were trying to do and it was probably pretty dry even though it was a good cause, this year it was more personal by bringing two students with me.”

One of those students explained all the ways she raised money in order to student teach in Spain last year.

We’ve had some interesting fundraising ideas from picking up cans and selling scrap metals to having church bazaars and bake sales.”

The personal touch worked. After debating the merits of five proposals, that had been whittled down from more than twenty submitted….the Sisterhood presented a 40-thousand dollar check to International Student Teaching.

 “When I was able to go to these student teachers and say here’s 500 dollars toward your three thousand dollar cost, suddenly it seemed reachable to them.”

Carter says 43 students are receiving 500 dollars toward their expenses for their four week international student teaching stint in the spring of 2012. Thirty seven more students will benefit in the fall.

All thanks to a group of women devoted to WKU.

 “What a wonderful idea to donate a thousand dollars to the university that you love and two, to take time to come in and read proposals and listen to stories and figure out how you can get more bang for your buck.”

The international student teaching program at WKU continues to grow….four years ago only two students were student teaching in Mexico. Next spring, they will go to six different countries including England, Equador and South Korea.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

####