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GEAR UP Maine Welcomes College Transition Coordinator

READFIELD, ME – April 11, 2016 – [GEAR UP Maine](#) has appointed Dori Fellman to the position of College Transition Coordinator. Fellman joins GEAR UP Maine with a broad background college access and education. Most recently, she served as Cornerstone TRIO Student Support Services Director at University of Maine at Augusta (UMA).

In addition to her more recent work, Fellman was the College Access Counselor and Director of UMF Partnerships for Success (GEAR UP, MELMAC and Nellie Mae grants). “We are lucky to have someone with such a breadth of knowledge in the area of college transition. It’s important for students to know what types of supports are on their campuses. This position will be helping to bridge some of those gaps that exist,” said Mary Callan, GEAR UP Maine program director.

In the past, Fellman served as both the president and secretary of Maine Educational Opportunity Association (MEEAO) and is currently the Vice President of New England Educational Opportunity Association (NEOA). Other College Access activities include MaineCAN steering committee and state liaison to NEOA. Fellman holds a Bachelor of Arts from University of Maine at Farmington and a Master of Education from the University of Southern Maine.

Fellman will be working closely with the GEAR UP Maine Regional Facilitators, GEAR UP Maine high school counselors, and Maine postsecondary institutions. She has two grown children; a daughter who is also an educator and a son who is a Harley technician. She lives in Starks with her husband Carl and many wild critters in the woods.

Maine’s GEAR UP program is helping to create a sustainable college-going culture in schools. The focus of GEAR UP Maine is to assist students in grades 7 through 12 and their families who are economically disadvantaged to aspire to, prepare for, enroll in, and successfully complete postsecondary programs. GEAR UP Maine works in collaboration with 63 schools in 26 districts and a wide range of college access partners to serve more than 9,000 students from Northern, Central, Western, and Downeast Maine. GEAR UP Maine is funded by the US Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education until 2021. The grant was awarded to The University of Maine at Farmington (UMF) in September 2014. UMF serves as the award’s fiscal agent, while Syntiro, a non-profit based in Readfield, provides the administration.

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