FGCU’s Wings of Hope program provides unique learning experiences for children within the Southwest Florida community.
Since opening in 1997, Florida Gulf Coast University has grown to include five colleges offering 51 undergraduate, 28 master's and two doctoral degree programs. With an annual budget in excess of $215 million, FGCU educates more than 14,000 students and employs more than 1,200 faculty and staff.

We are not only educational and research leaders; FGCU also significantly contributes to the region’s vitality in the arts, athletics, community engagement and environmental sustainability. FGCU’s growth and development will continue into the future as we meet the higher educational needs and aspirations of Southwest Florida – and serve as the region’s catalyst for an even greater quality of life intellectually, culturally, scientifically, socially, economically and civically.

Investments made in FGCU are valuable to our region’s future. Each gift enhances Florida Gulf Coast University’s ability to deliver on its mission for students and the community, enabling regional opportunities.

Ensure Long-Term Funding for Public Radio and Television in Southwest Florida

For more than 30 years, WGCU has served to educate, enlighten and entertain our community with insightful and engaging local, national and international programs. With more choices for radio and television programming than ever, WGCU must remain relevant to the community it serves. With new funding, WGCU is positioned to expand its services and programs, while maintaining its already successful, award-winning initiatives.

Engage Students in the Community

FGCU’s Service-Learning program helps students partner with businesses and organizations throughout Southwest Florida. The program matches personal interests and academic training with the needs in the community. As of 2014, students amassed more than 1.5 million hours of service – 192,000 of those hours during the 2013-14 academic year. Through service learning, students put their talents to work in businesses and community organizations, gaining real-world experience while helping the organizations achieve their goals.
CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES – COMMUNITY & REGIONAL IMPACT

Investment in service learning will expand the resources available to our students, while building an ever-growing network of partnerships throughout the community.

Educate Local K-12 Students

FGCU’s Wings of Hope and Kleist Health Education Center programs provide unique learning experiences for children within the Southwest Florida community. Highly skilled instructors bring teaching theaters to life using dynamic models, exciting displays, various multimedia presentations and hands-on activities, creating a positive, rich student-centered learning environment. Students emerge from the programs with a strong understanding of how to lead healthy and environmentally conscious lives. Support of programs like these will enable local schools to participate while ensuring the sustainability of these resources for the community.

"Every month, more than 800,000 viewers and listeners, from Sarasota to The Big Cypress and Sanibel to Clewiston, depend on WGCU Public Media for compelling, educational, insightful and entertaining programming that helps them make sense of the world and challenges the minds of lifelong learners of every age."

— Rick Johnson, general manager, WGCU Public Media

Invest in Lifelong Learning

FGCU embraces lifelong learning through our quality, year-round programs. The Renaissance Academy comprises more than 600 courses, discussion groups, lectures, educational travel excursions, day trips and film series. With donor support, innovative new programs can emerge, industry leaders can be engaged to speak on thought-provoking issues, and program resources can be sustained and improved.

Last year, thousands of adults of all ages participated in programs sponsored by the Renaissance Academy in venues throughout Southwest Florida.

Invest in Cultural and Intellectual Opportunities

FGCU offers an array of cultural opportunities to the community that promote innovative thinking. The exhibits, performances and lectures
often highlight our exceptionally talented students, alumni and faculty – or attract prominent visiting performers, lecturers and speakers.

Through our FGCU Speakers Bureau, faculty engage civic organizations, schools, not-for-profits and businesses, bringing their expertise and perspective to bear on issues and topics central to life in Southwest Florida.

Your support will transform FGCU into a renowned cultural and entertainment resource for Southwest Florida.

**Invest in Emergent Technologies**

FGCU plans to build the FGCU Emergent Technologies Institute at the Renewable Energy Park, a fully integrated scale-size demonstration site highlighting best practices and current technology associated with energy production, storage, usage and transfer.

The project is part of a public-private partnership designed to attract both public and private research efforts as well as commercial enterprises.

This facility will blend educational opportunities with research programs as a means to partner with renewable energy industries, utility companies, and local and state governments to develop technologies and provide a trained workforce for the next generation of clean energy production in Florida and the U.S. Combining research and education with public outreach and a state-of-the-art energy park will make the FGCU Emergent Technologies Institute a magnet and hub for developments in renewable energy throughout the region as well as attracting companies, venture capital, research laboratories and industries from across the U.S. the world.

**Support Economic Development in Southwest Florida**

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provides a wealth of resources as businesses start up and expand. Last year, the SBDC devoted more than 7,450 hours to 1,270 clients. In the process, the center helped create 91 new businesses, and created or retained 620 jobs. Research indicates that businesses that seek assistance from SBDC experts grow at a faster pace than those that do not. An investment in the SBDC will enable more resources to become available, and more seminars and advisory sessions to be held within the five-county area.