FISCAL YEAR 2022
Impact of Philanthropy (July 1 - June 2022)

Throughout FY22, NIU Donors demonstrated an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of our students and empowering their full potential.

The generosity of our donors is helping transform the world and has proven again that, together, we are Thousands Strong.

NOTABLE NUMBERS MADE POSSIBLE BY REMARKABLE DONORS IN FY22

More than 90%
NIU Foundation scholarship recipients graduate.

Almost 90%
of NIU undergraduates receive financial aid through federal, state, NIU and/or other programs.

New Giving: $23.3M
Total Number of Donors: 11,143
Scholarship Dollars Awarded: $2.76M
Total Scholarships Awarded: 2,049
Total Raised For Thousand Strong: $1.98M
Thousand Strong Gifts Count: 2,699
Total Raised For Huskies United: $1.1M
Huskies United Gifts Count: 1,324
Total Number of Gifts*: 13,721
Total NIU Foundation Scholarships Awarded in the Past 10 Years: $26.79M
For Genesis Miranda, Education has always been a passion. From early on, Miranda loved playing school with her younger siblings and cousins and insisted on being the teacher. Miranda found herself choosing roles that allowed her to guide others through their learning, whether that was through tutoring or volunteering at her church. As a junior in high school, she was introduced to a new student with visual impairments on her track and field team, and her career path in special education was solidified.

Miranda explained, “My friend did not allow her physical impairment to limit her. It was her resilience and passion that inspired me to choose this career path. I hope to influence and support determined students like her for a living!”

NIU was an easy choice for Miranda. “NIU has a thriving special education program that will teach me a great deal. It was the only school I applied to because I knew it would be the best school for me,” she shared.

Scholarships play an important role in Miranda’s ability to reach her dream. “While my parents work hard to make ends meet, they still are not able to help with the cost of my education. Unfortunately, my earnings alone are not enough to cover my tuition and fees,” she said.

Miranda is grateful for the support of NIU donors. “I am very blessed to be able to further my studies and be the first in my family to attend college. The scholarships provided by generous donors help me tremendously,” she said.

After she graduates, Miranda hopes to return to NIU to get her master’s degree as a certified orientation and mobility specialist. She hopes to provide students with visual impairments the same excellent and influential education that she has received.

“Knowing that students are learning and growing fills my soul with fulfillment and gratification,” Miranda shared.

“I truly believe education was my calling, and I am enthusiastic about what the future holds,” she said.

“Receiving a scholarship helped me motivate others by showing them you don’t have to stop in one place. I want to show people who think it’s impossible that the sky is the limit to what they can accomplish.”

— Di’Quan Ishmon, ’22