



A-State community raises money for Student Emergency Fund with Giving Tuesday "We are helping Red Wolves in need."

#GIVING TUESDAY

ARKANSAS STATE
1909
BACK THE PACK

Give to the Student Emergency Fund

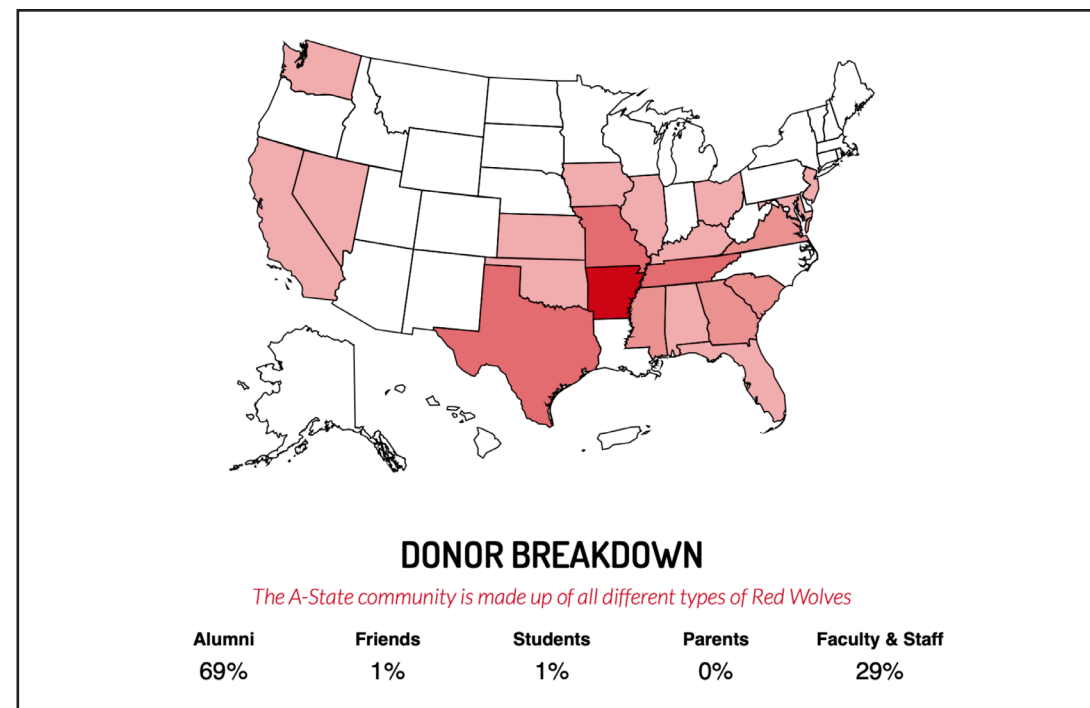
Student Emergency Funds are given once to students whose future at A-State may be in jeopardy and have demonstrated a need for temporary financial assistance outside of student tuition and fees.

Donors who give \$20 or more will receive a 'Back-the-Pack' t-shirt.

112%

\$13,455	\$12,000	0 days
RAISED	GOAL	REMAINING

GIVE TODAY



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Giving Tuesday raises money for the Student Emergency Fund, which provides financial aid to students in need. The Student Philanthropy Council worked closely with A-State Alumni Association for the event.

The red states indicate the states donations came from. The darker the red the more donations received. The event aimed to raise \$12,000 for the Student Emergency Fund. They exceeded the goal by \$1,400.

RACHEL RUDD

NEWS EDITOR

Last Tuesday was Giving Tuesday, an annual global generosity movement where people donate money in support of a cause. This year, the Arkansas State University community raised money for the Student Emergency Fund, which provides temporary financial aid to students in need. "The Student Emergency Fund is for students who are in jeopardy. So if they need \$500 or they won't graduate from

the university, then the Student Philanthropy Council votes on their application and we say 'Hey, here's how many dollars so that you'll be able to walk across that stage,'" said Tianna Matthews, a senior psychology major from West Memphis who serves as the director of public relations for the Student Philanthropy Council. The Student Philanthropy Council led the event, but they worked closely with the A-State Alumni Association. Students could donate through the A-State

Alumni Association website. "The Student Philanthropy Council has a big role in Giving Tuesday, like last year, even though it was set in place by the Cooper Alumni Center. We came up with events like the Cash Cab and we did that again this year to really try to get donations from everybody, including students," Matthews said. To raise money before Giving Tuesday began, the Student Philanthropy Council sold hot chocolate outside the Reng Student Union. In

addition, they also hosted Cash Cab, where students could pay \$5 to be driven to their classes. The event aimed to raise \$12,000 for the Student Emergency Fund. They ended up raising \$13,455, exceeding their goal by over \$1,400. There were 203 donors from all across the country. If people donated \$20 or more, they received a "Back to the Pack" T-shirt. "I gave \$25 because I wanted to help students and get another A-State T-shirt to support my beloved Red Wolves," said

Allison McElroy, an alumni who majored in radio/TV. McElroy made her gift to the School of Media and Journalism. Of those donors, 69% were alumni, 29% were faculty and staff, 1% were students and 1% were friends of A-State. "Our family donates to this fund every year on Giving Tuesday. We believe in this program and have seen firsthand how it helps students," said Jennifer Salo, director of the Emerging Scholars Program. I hope our donation helps enable more students to persist with

their studies and ultimately attain their college degree." According to the A-State Alumni Association website, the Student Emergency Fund has helped more than 330 students and awarded more than \$122,000. "It helps the A-State community because it helps A-State students," Matthews said. "The Student Philanthropy Council is students helping students, so when people donate to the student emergency fund, we are helping Red Wolves in need."

Environmental Club promotes sustainable fashion with annual clothing swap

RACHEL RUDD

NEWS EDITOR

To relieve student stress heading into finals week, Arkansas State University's Environmental Club hosted their third annual Clothing Swap. The event aims to promote sustainable fashion by encouraging students to donate clothes in exchange for new ones. "Even though there's places around town like thrift stores and things like that, it may not be accessible for all students here. So we're really trying to put our best foot forward and try and make every Red Wolf go a little bit green," said Katy Willis, a senior psychology major from Blue Springs, Missouri, who also serves as president of the Environmental Club. In previous years, the Clothing Swap has been held on Study Day. However, it was changed to the week before finals to bring in more traction, as well as encourage mental wellbeing.

"It's a really good mental health booster to get new items or at least to go shop around. We're already so drained and that's why we like to do this at the very end of the semester, because a lot of people really need that exciting event or serotonin boost to get them through finals season," Willis said. Hosted in the Mockingbird Room from 3-7 p.m. last Wednesday, the event brought in 25 students within the first thirty minutes. In the past, they've typically seen 50-100 students. In order to shop, students could either pay \$5, or get items for free if they provided clothing to donate. Thrifters were given a tote bag where they could put in as many clothes as they wanted. Erin Bird, a first-year psychology major from Pine Bluff, said she found lots of good items at the swap and it acted as a nice study break. "I can make a lot of good outfits. (This event helped

me) relax and destress about classes. Right now I can come here, buy some clothes and go back to studying," Bird said. The Environmental Club collects donations for the Clothing Swap throughout the year. At least half of the remaining items are donated to women's or homeless shelters, but some of them are saved for future swaps. The event also saw lots of donations the day of. "There have been morning-of donation pickups that I've done for faculty members and I'll run to different buildings around campus with a car and pick up trash bags of donations from faculty members," said Rose Farmer, a junior marketing major from Truman and vice president of the Environmental Club. Farmer and Willis said in addition to acting as a stress reliever, the Clothing Swap also acted as a great way for students to get clothes needed



Photo by Rachel Rudd | News Editor

From left to right: Destiny Taylor, Cassie Renfrow, Tralee Ellington, Rose Farmer and Katy Willis, volunteers from the A-State Environmental Club at the clothing drive. for professional opportunities. "We do have a lot of business attire and nice dresses and things like that, as well as khakis and men's button ups that come through here. So (it's great) for students who need that for internships or interviews or their career past graduation," Farmer said.