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# Celebrate Autism Awareness Month With Us!









## STARS is...

## **Celebrating Autism Awareness Month!**

Our College STARS program has been working and playing hard this school year...let's catch you up on what we have been up to!



## Join Us & Let's Have Some Fun!

April is Autism Awareness Month! Come join STARS on Saturday, April 22nd at 10am as we celebrate our incredible students with our Milky Way 1K.

- Run or walk, let's just get our fit on and have fun
- Saturday, April 22nd @10am
- CBU-LLC Courtyard rain or shine
- · Prizes, ice cream and fun events planned
- · All proceeds go directly to our CBU STARS program

To register, or donate to our event, please click on the button below. From here, click on the "Donate Online Via Paypal" button and select "Other" to submit your event registration fee. Or, you can register by sending in your donation via Venmo to: @STARS-Inc.

**Register for Milky Way 1K** 

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### STARS Alumnus joins our Board of Directors!

Mr. Connor Hagen graduated Cum Laude from Christian Brothers University (CBU) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. While at CBU, beginning in his freshman year, Connor was a prominent member of STARS. By his junior year, he was a driving force of the STARS Leadership Team by serving as the Vice President for two terms. Connor's dedication to STARS was evident when he helped STARS' members navigate through the pandemic by implementing the change from in-person to online social events. Thanks to Connor, STARS students could still feel a sense of community even though the university was shut down or had strict regulations regarding social gatherings. Connor has truly made a difference in the lives of many students on campus. He had been on the Dean's list most semesters and has served the university community as a math tutor. Connor currently works as a Technical Services Engineer at Epic Systems Corporation in Verona, Wisconsin.



## Meet our new Student Leadership Team for 2023-2024!

This amazing team plans and guides our social events to make this organization truly shine!

**Left row, top to bottom:** Carlos Molina, Vice President; Sharon Urrutia, Student Ambassador; Lizbeth Cisneros, Public Relations Chair.

**Right row, top to bottom:** Nathan Li, President; Amber Fonville, Student Ambassador; Ciridany Genchi, Student Ambassador; Kaitlyn McKinnis, Historian.



#### **Have You Heard?**

**NEW! STARS Connects** - Our mission with STARS Connects is to ensure that our students are prepared for the workforce, as well as, providing them ongoing support services. In addition, we assist companies in creating their own neurodiverse hiring initiatives by educating staff and providing continued resources of support. A HUGE Thank You to FedEx Cares Grant sponsorship for helping us fund this incredibly important initiative!

To learn more, please click on the link below!

**Learn more about STARS Connects** 



Autistic students are some of the most genuine, honest and hardworking people many will come across; the type of qualities that many employers are desperately seeking. However, it's not always an easy road for those with autism, sometimes it's a road filled with people who simply can't relate because they do not yet understand autism. This video provides a point of view from an autistic job candidate and how confusing and overwhelming the traditional interview process can be. It is out duty to ensure our students are aware, comfortable and prepared for their employment journey so they are confident during their onboarding process and lead successful careers.



Our STARS program would not be possible without the generous support of our donors. From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU for your support! Our

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iust getting started on our journey. Your ongoing partnership and donation

are incredibly appreciated, thank you for being an important part of our organization.

STARS Donations







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