



AATYC-The Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) recognized Dr. Ed Franklin, Executive Director of Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges, for his outstanding support and service to the initiative. Dr. Franklin received the recognition at the CPI luncheon at the annual AATYC meeting. Dr. Karon Rosa presented the award and acknowledged other initiators who made a significant contribution, see picture (Dr. Barry Ballard, Dr. Larry Williams and Dr. Linda Beene-Ballard).



Alliance for Quality Career Pathways

a project of CLASP



IDEAS for ACTION
AWARD

Career Pathways Recognitions

In addition to being identified as 1 of 10 most Promising Pathways programs in the nation, CPI was recently:

SELECTED as member of *Career Pathways Alliance (CP Alliance)*, a two-year national-level Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP). CLASP is partnering with ten leading edge career pathway states to develop a national voluntary consensus framework of quality benchmarks and performance metrics.

CHOSEN as one of two Innovative Ideas with \$10,000 awarded by Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington. The **Ideas for Action Award** is a competition to develop new thinking to reduce poverty by shining a light on practical policy shifts that help low-income people build their futures.

IDENTIFIED by Office of Family Assistance (OFA) as Model Employment Programs for Economic Self-Sufficiency Site Visits. A technical assistance team and film crew, on behalf of OFA, interviewed the ADHE/CPI team and visited ASUN and NPCC. Career Services staff were interviewed and employers and working students were filmed.



Certificates of Recognition for institutional performance from the prior year are awarded at the annual AATYC CPI luncheon. Institutional performance is recognized with Performance Based Student Support funds that are added to each campus Grant Award. Pictured above with Harold Criswell, ADHE Interim Deputy Director, is Sherri Bennett, VP of Advancement, representing the top performing CPI site at ANC. Rounding out the top ten are ASUN, ASUB, UACCH, PTC, NPCC, BRTC, SEAC, UACCB and EACC.

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Career Pathways Initiative
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www.adhe.edu



The Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) is making progress toward meeting TANF Goal Number Two: "To end the dependency of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation and work."

The initiative provides funding for **two-year colleges** to develop career pathways programs that assist TANF-eligible adults to earn a marketable **educational credential** for immediate entry into a **high-demand occupation**. The Career Pathways Initiative emphasizes such program components as job readiness skills, basic academic skills preparation, fast-track remediation, and **post-secondary credentials** tied to high wage, high demand occupations.

Intensive student services with direct student support for tuition, transportation, childcare, textbooks, loaner lap tops and other ancillary materials are provided for students in the program.

CPI fosters strong connections among two-year colleges, students, community-based organizations, state agencies, and employers.

Program Update

ADHE/CPI and CPI Campuses Provide Many Program Activities & Strategies for Students and CPI Staff



ATUO Convocation Day

Convocation Day proved to be a special treat for all students. Arkansas native and motivational speaker Toby Daughtery made us laugh and cry by sharing his journey from street life to a college graduate. Daughtery's dedication to better himself through education and his mission to lower the number of people going to prison while increasing the number of people going to college is an inspiration for everyone.



East Arkansas Community College
Serving the Arkansas Delta Since 1974

A very interactive workshop was held on August 31, 2012 for CPI students entitled "Balancing, School, Work, and Family." Balancing school, work, and family life can be a challenge. The workshop provided suggestions for maintaining good relationships with those they love while studying. The following tips were given to the students in attendance:

1. Set ground rules
 2. Don't forget play time!
 3. Be an example
 4. Involve your family in your learning
 5. Plan
- Every student in attendance received a yearly planner to assist in their efforts to stay organized.





Tony Knupps (right side of photo) works with students to verify the proper paperwork needed for CPI childcare assistance. The CPI staff also work with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to obtain applications for childcare vouchers and help students complete their applications in a timely manner.



Math Tutor - National Park Community College increased its admission standards this year causing students who scored under a 15 on the ACT to enroll in developmental courses. After expressing concern about the success rate of our students, the Career Pathways staff worked with Mrs. Maggie Picking, NPCC Vice President of Student Services, to hire a retired NPCC math instructor as a tutor for our participants. **Mr. Everett** (left) not only teaches GED basic math through College Algebra, he builds our students' self-confidence in their math skills. Students are singing his praises for the individualized attention, his patience and the success that they are experiencing in the classroom.



CPI student, Kindra Pate, (center) was the brainchild of this semester's community project, "Oodles Noodles". COTO staff and faculty, along with all CPI students, collected over 900 items to be given to local food banks in Hot Springs and Montgomery Counties.



CPI STUDENT SUCCESS

July, August, September 2012

IN THE WORKPLACE

Vol. 2 Issue 1

Black River TECHNICAL COLLEGE



Dallas is a student on the BRTC Pocahontas campus and is pursuing an Associate of Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice. She is a dedicated student and plans on graduating with her degree in the spring, 2013. On her own, Dallas is raising her four year old daughter, Karley while attending college full time and working part time at the Randolph County Jail. It is easy to tell that Dallas loves what she is doing and is eager to complete her degree and obtain full time employment in her chosen field.

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY-BEEBE

Beebe • Heber Springs • Little Rock Air Force Base • Searcy
"Transforming Lives Through Quality Learning Experiences"



UACCB University of Arkansas Community College *Fort Smith*

**UACCB Nursing
Student, EMT-B
graduate -**

James Clayton

"If it had not been for Career Pathways here at UACCB, I could not and would not have been able to attend let alone complete a degree. Danna Magness helped me set reachable goals that helped me tremendously. I talk to other students all of the time and tell them if they can, get into Career Pathways so that the most caring and concerned people on campus will do anything they can to help them succeed. I would have never thought I could become an RN at 48 years old; but believe none of this dream would have come true if it were not for this group of people."



Amanda Wyman and Carolyn Hendrix are two of our female welding students that graduated in May and started a business together, Fireflies Metal Art in Searcy. Recently they were commissioned to create a sculpture for the ASU Searcy campus which is now proudly displayed at the front of the campus.

Arkansas State University-Mountain Home



Jamie Kunath

Employed: Twin
Lakes Therapy and
Living Center

My advice to
future students:

**“Study, work
hard, try not
to stress, and
try to still
make time for
family.”**

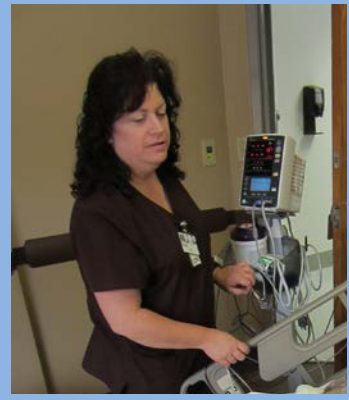
I did it! I made it! I pushed through!

I'm 25 years old, married and mother of two beautiful boys all while attending nursing school. A month before graduation and during finals I gave birth to my baby daughter and now I AM WORKING AS AN LPN, MAKING \$14 PER HOUR! I am happy to announce that as a family, my husband and I are able to provide for our family comfortably.

Nothing was going to stop me ... not even my pregnancy! It was a struggle going to school. Having to balance family, work and school was extremely challenging. I am thankful to my husband and family for the support that they gave me while I was in nursing school. While it was frustrating not being able to spend quality time with them for the past year... it was worth it. I also had the support my instructors who understood and supportive, in fact I was able to bring my newborn infant with me to my final exam. She slept through the entire exam! There was no way I was going to miss my final. I could not have done this without my husband picking up the slack for me with the kids.

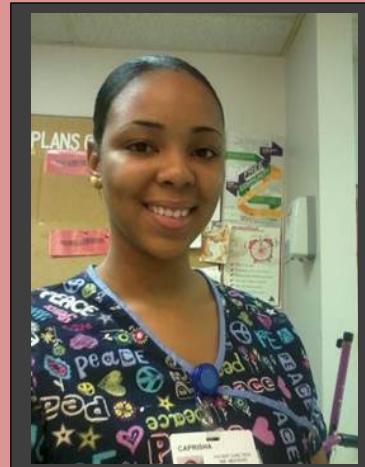
Throughout this entire process I have learned how to manage my time. I am ready to be successful with my new career and more importantly I am role model for my children.

Career Pathways was great. They have helped me with everything from books to supplies and information on how to get started in our new careers. I also have to mention WIA for all the tuition assistance. The pressure of how to pay for summer classes was completely eliminated!



Rich Mountain
Community College

Sara Short is CP's Completer of the Quarter. Sara completed the LPN program at RMCC in July 2012. She is now employed at Mena Regional Health System in the Med/Surgical department. Regarding Sara's job performance, her supervisor submitted the following statement: "Sara is a very efficient professional. She takes pride in what she does. We are very glad to have her on board and have been encouraging her to continue her education and become an RN. She practices great patient care. Not only does she demonstrate a caring spirit, but the patients also respond to her personality and great sense of humor. She is definitely an asset to MRHS."



A perfect example of someone who is on working on breaking her own cycle of welfare is Caprisha Hancock. She began her journey as a TEA student. She earned a Silver Career Readiness Certificate on July 7, 2011 and then enrolled in college courses and earned her Certified Nursing Assistant certificate. She obtained employment at JPMC as a Patient Care Technician on August 31, 2012 and her TEA case was closed due to employment. She now is transitioning to the Work Pays program and is continuing her education in the field of Nursing at SEARK.

Program Goals and Objectives

The goal of Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative is to improve educational and employment outcomes for TANF-eligible adults. Among the key objectives, listed in the MOA, for TANF-eligible adult participants are the following:

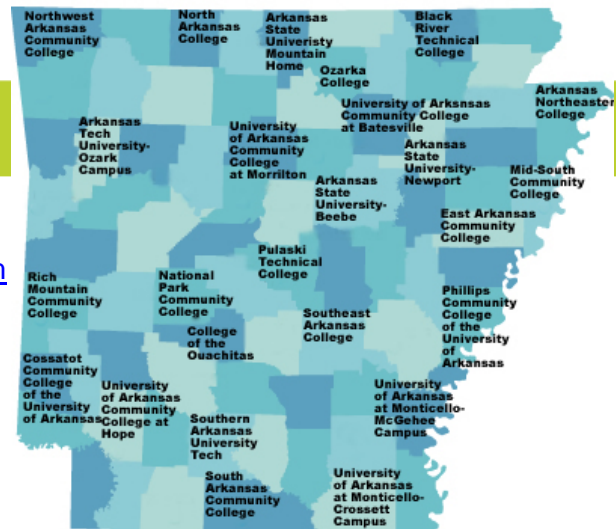
- Improved work participation rates
- Enhanced basic skills
- Increased attainment of college-level certificates and associates degrees
- Improved job retention, advancement and wage progression
- Reduced welfare recidivism
- Increase self-sufficiency
- Wage/Employability

Driven by two-state agencies, Arkansas Department of Higher Education and Department of Workforce Services, Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) is a partnership between community colleges, workforce development agencies, employers, and social service providers. Arkansas CPI is aimed at providing marketable educational skills through higher education credentials to low-income individuals for immediate entry into targeted occupations. Arkansas CPI improves working relationships between public systems and pre-established programs and services in order to assist low-income individuals in acquiring workplace skills that ultimately lead to economic self-sufficiency.

The primary purpose of the initiative is to address the “education gap” as a vehicle through which the “economic gap” can be closed.

Arkansas
Career PATHWAYS

www.arpathways.com



ANC – Arkansas Northeastern College, Blytheville
 ASUMH – Arkansas State University, Mountain Home
 ATUO – Arkansas Tech University, Ozark
 CCCUA – Cossatot Community College U of A, DeQueen
 EACC – East Arkansas Community College, Forrest City
 NAC – North Arkansas College, Harrison
 NWACC – Northwest Arkansas Community College, Bentonville
 PCCUA – Phillips Community College of the U of A, Helena
 RMCC – Rich Mountain Community College, Mena
 SAUT – Southern Arkansas University Tech, Camden
 UACCB – University of Arkansas Community College, Batesville
 UACCM – University of Arkansas Community College, Morrilton
 UAMM – UAM College of Technology- McGehee

ASUB – Arkansas State University, Searcy
 ASUN – Arkansas State University, Newport
 BRTC – Black River Technical College, Pocahontas
 COTO – College of the Ouachitas, Malvern
 MSCC – Mid-South Community College, West Memphis
 NPCC – National Park Community College, Hot Springs
 OZC – Ozarka College, Melbourne
 PTC – Pulaski Technical College, North Little Rock
 SACC – South Arkansas Community College, El Dorado
 SEAC – Southeast Arkansas College, Pine Bluff
 UACCH – University of Arkansas Community College, Hope
 UAMC – UAM College of Technology-Crossett