



CHECK US OUT ONLINE!

The Adult Education Program has launched a new website. Current information on topics including:

- Program Schedules
- Calendar of Events
- Registration Information
- Student Support Services
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Location Information
- Success Stories
- And much more!

...is just a click away.

Visit www.centralgatech.edu/general/adultlearn today and stay connected!

GEORGIA WORK READY

With unemployment numbers reaching record levels, job seekers in Georgia can obtain an advantage in the job market and become more marketable to employers by obtaining Georgia Work Ready certification. A Georgia Work Ready Certificate is nationally recognized documentation that certifies proficiency in the real world skills that employers believe are critical for job success: reading for information, math, and locating information.

The WorkKeys assessment system was developed by ACT, an independent organization that helps people achieve education and workplace success. The WorkKeys system is designed to provide practice for the Georgia Work Ready certification and utilizes KeyTrain, a computer-based, self-tutorial. Students at CGTC's adult learning centers are given access to the computer-based program at Orientation and Assessment. From there, they can begin to work toward earning their certifications and meeting their educational goals. Statistically, 93% of students who go through KeyTrain pass the General Educational Development (GED) test on the first try; therefore, accessing the program could help students move toward future degrees.

Work Ready certificates are awarded based on scores earned in three assessment areas. Once a person achieves a certificate, he or she may then apply for an incentive at www.beworkready.org.

(continued on page 4)

IN THIS ISSUE

Awards (Institutional)	6
CLCP	2
Community Outreach	5
Dean's Message	8
EAGLE Award	6
Georgia Work Ready	1,4
Graduation	2,5
Men Inspiring Men (MIM)	3
Monroe County	6
Student Spotlight	1,4
Volunteer Spotlight	7
WISH	3

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: CYNTHIA RAMLOCHAN

Cynthia Ramlochan is a 2010 graduate of CGTC's Adult Education Program (AEP). Born in Trinidad, she has been living in America with her family for 19 years. Ramlochan moved to Middle Georgia from New York, a transition made more difficult by the fact that she is a single mother of two children. She understands, however, that the greatest proven predictor of a child's success is the mother's educational level. Because of this, she knew that she had to earn her General Educational Development (GED) diploma so that she could then achieve her goal of obtaining a degree in business. Ramlochan is also working toward earning her American citizenship at the Adult Learning Center (ALC).

Pursuing a higher education has been a positive influence to her children. Her 11-year-old son

(continued on page 4)

CLCP HIGHLIGHTS

Baldwin County

Sandy Baxter

Communities in Schools

- Applied for CLCP status
- Partnered with CGTC and Milledgeville Housing Authority to open GED class at Graham Homes
- Partnered with CIS-MBG Family Education Initiative as grant from Governor's Office for Children and Families

Monroe County

Sonja Evans

Director, MCACE

478-994-5174

- Received \$2,800 Round Up Grant
- Secured dictionaries for third-graders
- Supported ELP (English as a Second Language) class at First Baptist Church in Forsyth

Twiggs County

Celeste Orr

Director, Twiggs County

Family Connections

478-308-0262

- Applied for CLCP status
- Formed Project Teach Board
- Received \$2,000 Grant
- Recruited volunteers for GED classes

Additional CLCP information is available online at <http://www.centralgatch.edu/general/adultlearn/community/clcp.cfm>.

"The economic return to investment in adult education is immediate."

Thomas Sticht

CERTIFIED LITERATE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS (CLCP)

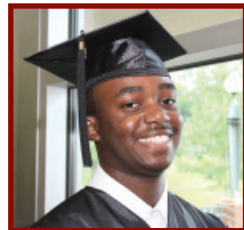
Statistically, one-third of high school students in America will drop out of school. Certified Literate Community Programs (CLCP) have been formed to address this epidemic, and Middle Georgia is fortunate to have several CLCP's that are actively working on this issue.

Travis Blackwell, Director of the Community Partnership in Macon, is the moderator for Macon's CLCP efforts. The DREAM Team, an acronym for Dedicated to Reading and Educational Advancement in Macon, is an initiative using a two-pronged approach to dealing with illiteracy: 1) hosting stay-in-school initiatives to prevent dropouts, and 2) providing resources for those who have dropped out and want to "drop in" again. One of the DREAM Team's initial efforts includes participation in Read for the Record, which aims to break the record for the number of children who are read to in October.

Sharon Cloud, Director of the Special Projects Team with CGTC's Adult Education Program (AEP), expects positive economic improvements by increasing the literacy levels in Bibb County, improvements that will also be reflected in the viability of this area for growth in business. This is especially important as Macon strives to become a Certified Work Ready Community in the next few months upon reaching its goal of Georgia Work Ready Certificate holders.

If you would like to join the efforts of the DREAM Team, please contact Travis Blackwell at 478-787-7542 or Sharon Cloud at 478-757-2674.

STUDENTS PART OF LARGEST GRADUATING CLASS ON RECORD



Brandon Fuller

Over eighty General Educational Development (GED) diploma recipients recently became a part of the largest class of participants taking part in the formal graduation ceremony. Each graduate earned a GED diploma by successfully passing all five parts of the GED test: reading, math, writing, social studies, and science. Successfully passing the test means the person achieved a minimum score of 2,250 points for the total of all sections with a minimum score of not less than 410 in any section.

A graduation ceremony was held for the graduates on June 17 at CGTC's Macon Campus. Charles Richardson, Editorial Page Editor for the *Telegraph*, was the keynote speaker at the event. Richardson encouraged the graduates to set high goals for themselves, remember to take care of the small things as well as the big things in life, and to continue to challenge and be challenged in whatever they choose to do with their lives.

CGTC's president, Dr. Michael Moye, welcomed the graduates and their supporters who gathered to celebrate the success of the graduates. Rebekah Gibson, 2010 recipient of CGTC's Exceptional Adult Georgian in Literacy Education (EAGLE) Award, encouraged her fellow graduates to continue in their quest for their educational dreams and to never give up in achieving those dreams (more on Gibson on page 6).

Lisa Dennis, an Adult Education Program Instructor, worked with sixteen of the graduates during the past year. She states, "Persistence and commitment—it's not an easy journey, but if you come with those two things, you can make it and pass those tests."



GED Graduates at Graduation Ceremony

WOMEN INSPIRING STRENGTH AND HOPE (WISH) LUNCHEON

On June 8, past and present members of WISH were honored at a luncheon sponsored by Career Women's Network and Pilot Club of Macon. At this luncheon, complete with tablescapes of flowers, fine china, crystal, and silver sponsored by members of Career Women's Network, WISH members received a message of empowerment and were encouraged to realize their own self-worth.

Dr. Juanita Johnson-Bailey, Director of the University of Georgia's Institute for Women's Studies, spoke at the event and cited several women who have been critical in the development of many of the successes of Western culture and invention. Johnson-Bailey spoke of the woman who had taught Socrates, thereby influencing Plato and Aristotle, and Mozart's sister, who taught him how to play musical instruments and wrote several parts of his musical compositions. "Women do hold up this world," she said.

Johnson-Bailey also shared the story of her great-grandmother, who had been born into slavery but had lived to see her family freed from another type of slavery through education and hard work. On a trip to Africa, Johnson-Bailey wept as she watched tribal women tell their stories by sweeping the dirt into intricate patterns – patterns similar to those of her great-grandmother, who had long ago forgotten what they meant.

As Johnson-Bailey shared her own struggle in deciding what to do with her life, she encouraged the WISH members to pursue their dreams, no matter how insignificant they might be to others or how hard they might be to obtain. In the words of her own mother, Johnson-Bailey quoted, "You will just be older without trying, or you can try to fulfill your dreams."



Carrie Howard and Patricia Reed



The Women of WISH

Linda Clark, one of the original members of WISH and a soon-to-be CGTC graduate, was especially inspired by Johnson-Bailey's speech. Clark will be receiving her degree in childcare and is in the process of starting her own business where she can "teach children values and discipline." Cynthia Ramlochan, a June graduate of the Adult Education Program, said she felt "special and honored" by the event and will try to remember the speaker's words as she pursues her own college dreams.

MEN INSPIRING MEN (MIM)

MIM is the male counterpart to the WISH organization. According to James Smith, an original member of the organization, MIM helps members with "anything that could affect their achieving their goals. The most important part is helping to encourage men to see the importance of education and getting their degrees, whether that's a GED diploma or a higher degree. So many people just don't have anyone to encourage them at home at all."

MIM meets once per month and the meetings will resume with summer quarter. Current leaders are Kenneth Brown, Adult Education Program (AEP) Instructional Coordinator, and E.O. Peace, AEP Instructor. Mark Jones, Stevie Jackson, and Davone Jackson, former AEP students, also assist with leading the group. Look for more news in future editions of the newsletter.

WOMEN INSPIRING STRENGTH AND HOPE

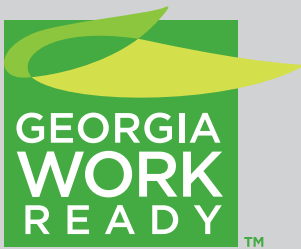


The WISH program was initiated at the Adult Learning Center (ALC) to create a safe place for women to share their feelings, to examine what it means to be a woman free from the burden of past expectations and failures, and to learn how to succeed as women who have "strength and hope" for the future.

Linda Uriah, a native of Africa, is one of the inspirational women who have shared their stories with the WISH members. Uriah came to America more or less as a slave to the family of the man who rescued her as a three-year-old off the streets of her village.

Uriah shared how she was not allowed to go to school or learn to read and that the family children threw away their books after using her to practice their homework on. She states, "God allowed me to learn to read and gave me the desire to learn more." Currently, she is a student at CGTC's ALC.

WISH meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month in room 119 of Building K at CGTC's Macon Campus. Meetings begin at 12:00 p.m. A catered meal is served after the program, which often features a guest speaker who has overcome many obstacles in life.



BENEFITS

Georgia Work Ready offers many benefits for Georgia workers, current and potential employers in the state, and all Georgia communities:

For Workers

- Ability to demonstrate skills to current and potential employers
- Valuable job training opportunities
- Opportunities for career change and advancement

For Employers

- Assurance that employees have the right skill sets
- Improved hiring procedures
- Reduced turnover and training costs
- Increased productivity
- Higher employee morale

For Georgia Communities

- Tools to attract new businesses to an area
- Proof of a talented workforce to fill current and future jobs
- Economic growth opportunities

Visit www.gaworkready.org for more information about Georgia Work Ready.

GEORGIA WORK READY (CONTINUED FROM COVER)

The incentives offered are \$100 for scoring at Bronze, Silver, or Gold levels; \$200 for scoring at Platinum level; and \$200 for advancing a level after working on KeyTrain for at least 30 days.

Becky Lee, the Regional Representative for Georgia Work Ready and Central Georgia Technical College's Vice-President of Economic Development, states, "This workforce development initiative assesses the skills of Georgia's workers, provides valuable job training opportunities and assures companies a long-term, qualified labor supply. *And it's free!* To date, 129,365 Georgians have been Work Ready certified, and 183 Georgia employers require or prefer Work Ready Certificates for new and existing employees."

"Georgia Work Ready is the best thing I have seen to help Georgians with obtaining jobs."

Ann Taylor, an AmeriCorps Volunteers in Ser-

vice to America (VISTA) volunteer stationed at the Department of Labor, registers people for KeyTrain. She is an ardent supporter of the program, stating, "Georgia Work Ready is the best thing I have seen to help Georgians with obtaining jobs. I am passionate about letting people know how it can help them. Even some 'temp' agencies won't talk to you without a certificate. We sign up 20 to 40 people each week for KeyTrain, and they have done so well."

Testing for Georgia Work Ready certification is conducted every Thursday at CGTC's Building J at 8 a.m. Appointments can also be made for other times. Lines have been long and interested people are advised to arrive early for assessment. To schedule an appointment, please call 478-757-3550. To register for KeyTrain, see Ann Taylor at the Department of Labor or call 478-751-6393.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT (CONTINUED FROM COVER)



Cynthia Ramlochan

recently said, "You're going to college. I'll be right behind you. If Mommy's going, I'm going, too." Her 13-year-old daughter initially helped her with reading and math problems; however, Ramlochan has progressed so far that her daughter now tells her, "You can do it on your own now. I don't have to help you anymore."

Ramlochan speaks very favorably of her experience at the AEP and with the instructors that have helped guide her along the way. She has worked with AEP instructors Lisa Dennis and E.O. Peace, who have encouraged and motivated her throughout her journey. She remembers Dennis's encouragement to keep working towards her dreams – to do it for herself and for her children. Ramlochan describes her experience as "very good... Going back to school was

a good idea—you think you know everything, but when you come back to school, there's so much to learn. But it makes it a lot easier by being here. You can even help your kids with their homework now. You can understand everything better."

Now part of her journey is over. As a graduate of the AEP, Ramlochan says, "I waited a long time for this [GED Graduation]. I feel so good, and it's a real good feeling. If I can do it, anybody can. I used to kneel down and pray when I thought about giving up, but there's always something there at the end for you. You'll always reap your own blessings at the end. That makes me stronger when I go through things. Then, I remember what I have done."

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - VISTA



Pam Smith with Student

AmeriCorps Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) was founded in 1965 and is the national service program designed specifically to fight poverty. CGTC's Adult Education Program (AEP) currently oversees a grant through AmeriCorps that allows up to eighteen VISTA members to serve in Macon and Milledgeville. As part of the grant, computer labs have been established to help prepare residents for college. The labs are located in community areas that coincide with the Mayor's Shalom Zone initiative: Southside Community Church, Greater Allen Chapel, Community Church of God, Union Baptist Church, and Centenary Methodist Church. The location of the labs will eliminate one of the key problems in pursuing further education or training: lack of transportation.

In addition to college preparation, the computer labs will also be used to help residents prepare for the KeyTrain program, the "gap training" for the Georgia Work Ready Certificate. These VISTAs, one of which is assigned to the Department of Labor, have recruited more than 1,500 people for the KeyTrain Program. About a third of those still remain active on KeyTrain to improve their skills. Of that third, over 100 have reported achieving a Georgia Work Ready Certificate and almost as many have become CGTC students.

Carolyn Glover, VISTA Leader and retired Macon Police Commander and Captain, credits Sharon Cloud, AEP Special Projects Coordinator, and Phyllis Dorn, AEP VISTA Grant Supervisor, for spreading the benefits of the VISTA program to the community: "Thank you, Sharon Cloud and Phyllis Dorn, for your leadership and your tenacity in making sure that the citizens of Macon are aware of this program and how it can benefit them in improving their skills to obtain their GED diploma and/or obtain their Georgia Work Ready certificate. Not only that, people who had no hope can now envision themselves enrolling in higher education such as [CGTC] or any four-year institution of their choice. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to pay it forward."

CAROLYN GLOVER: A CHAMPION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Carolyn Glover is a champion of the VISTA program. A predominantly male workplace instilled in her a need to pursue advanced training and degrees in order to be competitive. This constant pursuit left Glover feeling unfilled and it was then that she discovered the CGTC Adult Education Program and found a new calling.

According to Glover, "It was not until I began to serve as a volunteer and began meeting new people and making new friends that I began to see that I had left one important component out of my life, and that was to help someone who had fallen through the cracks in obtaining their education." Glover has seen many success stories during her tenure as a volunteer. One particularly



Carolyn Glover

touching story came during a Neighborhood Watch meeting, when an elderly man, battling cancer and taking chemotherapy treatments, made the decision to obtain his GED.

Says Glover, "This man has always wanted his GED, but was ashamed that he did not have it and did not know where to go or [how] to obtain it. He continues on the program and is still excited that he is working toward bettering himself."

Glover is retiring as a VISTA Leader but will continue her community service as Director of the Crimestoppers Youth Program. The Adult Education Program appreciates the time and energy she has given to helping her community and wishes her the best in her new endeavors.

GRADUATION PHOTOS



GRADUATION AWARDS

**Changing Station
Ministries Scholarship**
Dekota McNeeley

Francis Adams Scholarship
Lisa Williams
Steven Zimmer

**Harmon and Harmon
Realtors Scholarship**
John Bohannon
Jennifer Boudreau

**Jones County Rotary
Club Scholarship**
David Dozer

**State Bank of Gray
Scholarship**
Lieran Brantley

2010 EXCEPTIONAL ADULT GEORGIAN IN LITERACY EDUCATION (EAGLE) AWARD



Rebekah Gibson

Rebekah Gibson was selected as CGTC's 2010 EAGLE Ambassador. Gibson graduated from the GED diploma program in June and was nominated by Felicia Phelps, an Adult Education Program Instructor.

For the next year, Gibson will serve as a local ambassador for literacy education in CGTC's seven-county service delivery area. In February, she attended the state EAGLE Leadership Institute in Atlanta. The institute provides workshops on building strong leadership and character skills among each student participant.

The EAGLE Program recognizes and honors learners who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in statewide adult literacy classes. The program is designed to create a greater awareness of the educational opportunities that are available in local communities across the state and to foster involvement in lifelong learning pursuits.

MONROE COUNTY ADULT EDUCATION CLASS: 2009-2010 YEAR

The 2009-2010 school year was very busy for the Monroe County Adult Education Program. The program has experienced an increase in student enrollment and class sizes have been impressive. The Monroe County Adult Learning Center was relocated to the Monroe Center for Education, former home of Monroe Academy, where CGTC is now offering college courses. This will now serve as the new central location for the Adult Education Program in Monroe County.

In May, ten students from the program participated in a tour of CGTC's Macon Campus. During the tour, the group was given the opportunity to explore what the college has to offer students after they obtain a high school or GED diploma. Student response to the tour was very favorable. Calvin Ralls, one of the students who took the tour of CGTC, stated, "My experience when taking the tour around campus was exciting, looking at the classes and the students who are really focused on their future really inspired me to strive and work hard to get my GED and become a Computer Technician and attend CGTC."

The program has been actively participating in the Georgia Work Ready Initiative with many students having already taken and passed the test. These students have the option to retake the test and increase their certificate level and many have accomplished this goal.



*Photo from the Monroe County GED
Graduation Luncheon*

During the school year, at least ten students have graduated the GED program and most students enrolled in the program are Level Completers. A GED reception, hosted by the Monroe Adult and Community Education (ACE) program, was held in January and included speeches from community leaders; Sallie Devero, Dean of the Adult Education Program; and students. A similar reception and an end-of-the-year celebration were held in June for all students to celebrate their success.

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM WINS STATE AWARD

CGTC's Adult Education Program (AEP) was selected as the recipient of the Literacy Awareness Campaign for Service Delivery Areas (SDA) Award for fiscal year 2009 by the Technical College System of Georgia's (TCSG) Office of Adult Education. The award recognizes the SDA that has amassed the most points for activities that have raised community awareness of the successful efforts of the centers to encourage and improve literacy.

The campaign encourages teambuilding, collaboration, and cooperation through mutually-developed events or activities. These activities are held by the AEPs in collaboration with the Certified Literate Community Program (CLCP) and GED diploma testing centers throughout Georgia.

A winner for fiscal year 2010 will be announced in the fall. You can help by contacting CGTC's Adult Learning Center and requesting that a representative speak to your church or civic group to share the message of how the AEP is changing lives and our community.



CGTC's AEP Staff Proudly Displaying Award

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

One of the greatest opportunities at CGTC's Adult Learning Center (ALC) is to serve as a volunteer for one or more of the over 2,000 students who attend the adult learning centers each year.

According to Gina Fry, Volunteer Coordinator, "Many students cannot function without the assistance of a tutor or someone to help them along the way. We have multiple opportunities for individuals and tailor them to the student's needs and to the individual who volunteers in reading, math, and/or language."

A good tutor, according to Fry, is someone who is "flexible, understanding of our students' issues and backgrounds, and dedicated." There are many volunteer opportunities available for tutors. The Barton Reading Program, directed by Gina Fry, is designed to help those who require more assistance in progressing through the levels toward their educational goals. Thirty people are currently waiting for Barton tutors. Anyone interested in becoming a Barton tutor should call 478-757-2677.

Another volunteer opportunity is with the English as a Second Language Program (ELP),

supervised by Yumi Kim. According to Kim, the ELP "serves as a...door for foreign-born adults to eliminate the barriers of language and social inequities in an environment that strengthens awareness of educational and social opportunities." The ELP serves an average of 250 students from 38 countries every year.

In addition to volunteers, the Adult Education Program (AEP) also utilizes the services of an AmeriCorps program. Currently, three Foster Grandparents in the AmeriCorps Program assist students four days per week.

"We need good tutors...who are flexible, understanding of our students' issues and backgrounds, and dedicated."

Joan Knighten, an ELP instructor, sums up the need for volunteers in all of the AEP programs: "There are many students who need one-on-one assistance for an extended period of time. Our volunteers are greatly appreciated, needed, and extremely beneficial to our program. If you choose to become a volunteer for [any] program at CGTC, you will be blessed every day by this truly unique group of students, and they will be blessed by you. Take a chance and come be a part of our international [and AEP] family. You'll be glad you did!"

THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERS

Rosa Lobato de Hubbard, an instructor for the Adult Education Program, feels strongly that volunteers are a vital component of the English as a Second Language Program (ELP). According to de Hubbard, "We appreciate the kindness of our volunteers. Their help is priceless and, with their contributions, we are able to serve our students and make a considerable impact in our community."

With the individual attention given to students by volunteers, students are able to learn how to communicate and overcome daily challenges. In the ELP, volunteers help students acquire English language skills as rapidly as possible so that they may navigate in the American mainstream culture. Volunteers work with students as conversation partners and also help them with new vocabulary and pronunciation. The ELP appreciates the collaboration of people in the community who unselfishly volunteer their time, talents, and knowledge. As David Thomas said, "Unselfish and noble actions are the most radiant pages in the biography of souls."



Gail Bina and ELP Students

THE REWARDS OF VOLUNTEERING

"[Tutoring students at CGTC] is most rewarding, especially when you can see them progress in their ability to communicate. Most work long and strenuous hours during the day and yet come to evening classes [or daytime], knowing that their future depends on their ability to master fundamental English."

Dick George, ALC Volunteer

"Working with great teachers and meeting people from so many countries has really enriched my retirement. They have become like another family to me."

Jackie Andrews, ELP Volunteer

"It would be easy for me to express how valuable and beneficial our volunteers have been. They have been an asset to our program because they fill the needs of people who require individual help."

Yumi Kim, ELP Supervisor

For more information regarding volunteer opportunities at CGTC's Adult Education Center, please visit us online at <http://www.centralgatech.edu/general/adultlearn/volunteer/opportunities.cfm>.



3300 Macon Tech Dr.
Macon, GA 31206



**Sallie Devero, Dean
Adult Education Program**

THE TIME IS NOW: A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Step back. Look around. Are you where you want to be, doing what you want to do, going where you want to go? Do you have the tools required to help you go where you want to go or do what you want to do? The time is now for discovering the answers to these questions. The time is now to identify the tools needed to set and reach goals required for personal and professional growth. Education is the primary tool! Post secondary education – college – is the key. To be competitive in today's workplace, it is necessary for adult learners to get more than a GED diploma; they must seek credentials of higher education in programs that offer flexibility and proximity to labor market opportunities. CGTC is an excellent choice to satisfy that need. As part of an accredited institution with more than 190 technical certificates of credit, diplomas and associate degree programs, our career counselors can assist interested persons in making dreams realities.

The time is now! Students, focus! Be consistent with attendance, persistent with hard work and steadfast with an attitude of "can do" – reaching your career goals is closer than it used to be. Teachers, volunteers and agency partners, with our dedication and various forms of support, we can help students realize their lifelong dreams. The time is now!

"To be competitive in today's workplace, it is necessary for adult learners to get more than a GED diploma."