Within Our REACH

FAREWELL, MARTHA!

Martha Holland departed the OSU-Oklahoma City campus on Tuesday, September 30, 2014 to pursue her life dreams. A graduate of the REACH program Ms. Holland had served as the REACH4Work Job Coach for approximately eight years.

Before serving in the REACH4Work program, Ms. Holland earned an Associate Degree in Public Service from OSU-OKC and worked several years in the campus Learning Center. Martha will be remembered fondly and missed by many.

“This is your life. You are responsible for it. You will not live forever. Don’t wait.”
– Natalie Goldberg, Author
July 1 – Oct 1 REACH classroom accomplishments:

**104 REACH individual training course certifications issued**

**REACH program training completers:**
Brittany German – Medical Office Assistant / Administrative Specialist
Karaan Shaw – Legal Office Assistant
Camille Wallace – Administrative Specialist
Sherree Moore – Administrative Specialist
Meghan Roper – Accounting Specialist
Lori Jobe – Administrative Specialist
Angela Aunquoe – Medical Office Assistant

**OSU-OKC College Summer classes:**
Lori Jobe received an "A" in Intro to Sociology and passed OSU-OKC's ED2Go course in Integrated Mental Health training

**New training materials:**
Microsoft Office 2007 is being updated to Microsoft Office 2010
Corel WordPerfect has been added to the Legal Office Pathway as per Advisory Board recommendation
REACH computers, monitors, and HD projector have been upgraded by OSU-OKC
In August 2014, REACH students toured a local nonprofit organization that is making a difference in the lives of children. Positive Tomorrows is a private, tuition-free elementary school meeting the educational and social service needs of homeless children and their families. The school is the only institution of its kind in the state of Oklahoma. On this day students had the opportunity to visit with Monique Scraper, Manager of Administration, to learn about the school and the difference it is making in the community.

At any given time in Oklahoma City alone, 2,000 children are homeless. Presently, Positive Tomorrows serves homeless children up through the 5th grade. Each classroom has a teacher and teacher’s aide. Teachers at the school are required to have a Bachelor’s degree and a teaching certification. The lesson plans are individualized based on grade level to ensure students are receiving the same instruction. This aids in preventing students from falling behind, and helps to make a smoother transition when they are ready to return to public school.

REACH students interested in employment with a nonprofit are encouraged to volunteer and get acquainted with the organization, the employees, and the people they serve. Ms. Scraper advised that non-profit leadership often will look internally for suitable candidates to fill vacancies. She shared that for those who love giving back and want to help others succeed, nonprofits are a great way to combine both of those interests.
Sherree Moore
Success At REACH

If you feel like you will never amount to anything in life, well think again because the REACH program is the answer to your prayers! All you have to do is put your mind to it and focus on your goals and there will be nothing or no one that can stand in your way.

My most recent accomplishment is graduating the REACH program and being able to get an exceptional job doing what I’ve been certified to do. I went into the program four years ago and was able to obtain most of my certifications. Towards the end of the studies, an illness that my son was suddenly stricken with caused me to be eliminated from the program because of circumstances.

Thanks to God I was able to return to REACH and start fresh with a new attitude and a different outlook on life. I came to class and just put everything I had into it. With a lot of hard work and dedication, I have been able to complete my courses with the help of my instructors. I was offered an internship, but just when I was about to start, I was offered a position with a company that I believe is a good fit for my occupation.

Thanks to all the staff involved in my education, I’m on the road to success!

REACH4Work Student Spotlight

Congratulations to Bridget Baysinger on her employment opportunity!

Bridget entered the REACH4Work program with a strong focus on her goals, confidence in her abilities, and a determination to overcome. She made maximum use of the resources available to her both in and out of the classroom.

Within two weeks, she landed a full-time position in her field near her home with minimal daily commuting distance and time. Go, Bridget!!
UNSCRAMBLE

Unscramble the list of people's names to find out their profession. The first one is done for you.

Anna C. Cottu  accountant
Ray Creets
Tim Niser
Roy Tenat
Art Rein
Chet Incani
Leon Roucs
Nat Joir
Sami C. Thin
Reggie Nen
Lela A. Prag
Vic E. Teedt
Bee W. Smart

Words To Choose From:
Minister  Engineer  Janitor  Trainer
Teacher  Detective  Secretary  Webmaster
Machinist  Technician  Counselor  Paralegal
Attorney

Adapted from Iowa Workforce Development's Building Career Awareness in The Elementary Classroom.
The REACH and REACH4Work programs collaborate with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services to enhance employment and training opportunities for unemployed adults.

REACH provides educational and short-term career skills training in various areas that qualify students to enter the workforce in professional positions. REACH orientations are held Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

REACH4Work students are empowered to gain employment and exhibit life skills necessary to compete in the labor market. REACH4Work holds orientation each Monday at 8:30 a.m.

Program participants are accepted through a referral-based system only. Contact program staff for more information.

http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/tanf

REACH and REACH4Work are located on the 2nd floor of the Learning Resource Center on the OSU-Oklahoma City campus. The campus is west of the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds and is easily accessible from I-44. The Oklahoma City Metro Transit has a bus stop across the street from campus.

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