



e-Blast, September 15, 2017

**Shreveport Job Corps Center** Student Government Association (SGA) members welcomed 9 students, and 3 staff from Carville Job Corps Center who came to Shreveport for safe shelter from Hurricane Harvey, which threatened flash flooding in the Carville area. As good neighbors, Shreveport SGA leaders invited their Carville guests to join them for the new student Pizza Party where they enjoyed pizza, beverages, and sunshine cupcakes. One student guest was a Carville SGA officer, which led to conversations with Shreveport SGA leaders where they compared notes on how to enhance their respective centers through student leadership. During their stay, Carville students enjoyed visits to the SCI-Port Discovery Center Science Museum, the Altitude Trampoline Park, a variety of stores and eateries on the LA Boardwalk near Red River, and a dinner/movie outing. A Shreveport and Carville group photo from the pizza gathering is shown.



**Milwaukee Job Corps Center** is proud to announce that student Daquon Rich was recently sworn into the United States Army. The swearing in ceremony took place at the Milwaukee Military Entrance Processing Center. Rich earned his High School Diploma and completed the Cement Masonry trade while enrolled in Milwaukee Job Corps. He reported to Fort Jackson Army Base in Columbia, South Carolina this week, where he will be participating in training associated with the Military Transportation Unit and also earn a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). Obtaining his CDL will only add to multiple certifications Rich earned while in Job Corps. Rich is shown being sworn in, and with Staff Sargent Caleb Pratt who mentored him through the enlistment process.



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**Gulfport Job Corps Center** graduate Tomas Newman, a Brookhaven, Mississippi native, completed the Medical Administrative Assistant (MAA) trade while enrolled, but his true passion has always been sports. Newman was a dual sport star in football and basketball. During the football season, his hard work and dedication was truly on display as he worked out on weekends while other students were sleeping. Every day, as Recreation Supervisor Coach Gregory Ben arrived at the Security check point for work, he was met by Newman asking for a football, cones and agility ladder to start his workout. His hard work paid off when he was named the Most Valuable Player of the season as well as the best player in the conference. Newman became the main attraction when the ball was in his hands and wherever the team traveled. In the championship game with only 6 players, Newman never gave up; he scored 3 touchdowns and threw for another in his first game playing as quarterback. Coach Ben is quoted saying, "For me it's been a pleasure coaching a player who works hard in practice as well as games; even being the most talented person, he was always hungry to get better." Running an impressive 4.42 in the 40 yard dash during tryouts, Newman was offered and accepted a scholarship to Virginia University of Lynchburg to play football and earn a Bachelor degree in Business Administration. Although he did not take the conventional route, Newman saw Job Corps as an option and now he is a college freshman. His hard work and dedication to stay the course and complete Job Corps with a goal in mind, has given additional inspiration to others to NEVER GIVE UP!!!



**Denison Job Corps Center** is an essential part of the soccer tradition in Harlan, Iowa. Determined to continue the tradition, Pete Sotelo, Denison Job Corps Instructor for the International Masonry Institute Tile Setting Program, in partnership with the American Youth Soccer Organization, takes his students to prepare and ensure the soccer fields are game ready each week. Throughout the soccer season, these students will measure and precisely mark the fields in preparation for Saturday games which begin early, last all day, and attract the community. The measurements and precision required to prepare the fields are related to skills required to measure and set tile. These students also learn to work as a team to ensure fields are measured and precisely marked so that the job comes together. Everyone stays busy; each having an area of expertise on the project and performing a vital part of the job before the soccer goals are set. Soccer fans report that the fields have never looked so nice. Pictured (L-R): Instructor Peter Sotelo and students



George Ashby, Isaiah Luke, Adam Pearson, Juan Valbuena, and Albert Hernandez-Bubka.

**Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks Job Corps Center** Carpentry trade students are always busy with projects on-center and in the community. Their last community service project involved making the set for a Memphis community play entitled *Make Be Leave*. The students constructed the jury box, witness stand, and judge's bench for the play. This project required practicing many Carpentry trade training achievement requirements, using layout and measuring tools, multiple power tools, routers, table and power miter saws, an impact driver, levels, and power drills. They received hands-on practice with measuring, leveling and fastening techniques, while also being introduced to safe handling and safety data sheet information for stains and polyurethane. Instructor Joe Kerley coached and supervised the students through training requirement items including finish trim, blueprint reading, and trade show construction. The students were engaged and excited to see the projects taking shape. These projects will prepare the students for work opportunities in the entertainment industry as carpenters, set construction, and transportation. Instructor Kerley (blue shirt) is shown with Carpentry students and props under construction.



A group of **Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center** students participated in The Family Outreach Center of Grand Rapids Annual Picnic. These students are members of the *Seeking Safety* group, which is a male group sponsored by The Family Outreach Center to focus on how to deal with violence and other issues faced by today's youth. This event is designed for the community to come out and engage in fellowship and conversation with each other concerning topics such as unity, community awareness, the importance of taking pride and ownership in neighborhoods, and the importance of healthy families. The students enjoyed participating in this event which also allowed

them to interact with community members and discuss their short-term and long-term goals, and receive valuable feedback. Many positive relationships, that have current and future value, were established through this picnic. Students Kentrial Nattee, Kyron Lowman, Kavon Steiner, QuJuan Brummitt, and Keshawn Crawford are pictured (right) with Kirby Killingham, *Seeking Safety* Program Coordinator.



The **Excelsior Springs Job Corps Center** Outreach and Admissions team partnered with the Kansas City Police Department (KCPD) Central Patrol to organize and sponsor the *Rise Above 3on3 Basketball Tournament and Community Resource Fair* that took place on a beautiful Saturday, September 9, 2017. The event was open to the public and held at the Southeast Community Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Local community partners were invited to participate to ensure the event was memorable and informational; and the target audience was youth ages 17 to 21 years who are struggling to find a productive path in life. A total of seven teams and fifteen community resource partners participated, and numerous volunteers helped with the event. The basketball tournament was the calling card, but many resources were present in order for youth to network with employers and gather information about Excelsior Springs Job Corps and other educational opportunities, healthcare, and other services the city offers to alleviate barriers to success. Pictured below at the Excelsior Springs Job Corps resource table are staff members Billie Connor and Cynthia Parker- Koudou with a volunteer. Youth are shown visiting with representatives from J.E. Dunn Construction, an Excelsior Springs Job Corps referral, Work-Based Learning, and employment partner. Four KCPD Officers are shown with KCPD Social Worker Gina English (pink shirt), the event organizer who worked closely with dedicated Job Corps staff members Tammy Harrelson and Kevin Orange. The Excelsior Springs Job Corps basketball team won second place and received gift cards and medals. A similarly organized soccer event is in the works for early spring.



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Comments or concerns regarding the content of this publication should be addressed to [jbeasley@minact.com](mailto:jbeasley@minact.com).