



e-Blast, October 2019

Woodland Job Corps Center was recently visited by Dr. Francis S. Cole - Regional Director for the United States Department of Labor – Office of Job Corps, along with Kenisha Davis and Leon Simmons, all from the Philadelphia Regional Office.

Dr. Cole also visited the Advanced Culinary students at Anne Arundel Community College where the students shared information about where they transferred from and their future aspirations. The Advanced Culinary students were excited to learn that Dr. Cole has an extensive culinary background, which prompted many questions that were answered while enjoying tasty treats.



A group of Gulfport Job Corps Center students and staff experienced attending the fifth annual *SUCCESS Women's Conference* on September 19th in Biloxi, Mississippi. This conference has been named one of the top conferences for professional women in the United States, and the largest women's conference in Mississippi. The event gave these students a unique experience designed to inspire, empower, connect, and recharge women.



The conference featured nationally recognized speakers and panelist, including renowned Iyanla Vanzant as one of the Keynote Speakers. Female students enjoyed the Youth Summit that focused on Self-Discovery, Self-Healing, and Self-Awareness. They also had the opportunity to attend break-out sessions and participate in discussions and mentoring sessions. Male students volunteered in areas such as greeting guest, lending a helping hand, and enjoying many of over one hundred informational vendor booths.

Shreveport Job Corps Center is proud to announce that Carpentry student Zackary Salyer has earned Platinum Gold Card status in the behavioral rankings. His exceptional conduct throughout his enrollment has earned Salyer seven Gold Cards in a row to reach Platinum status, and only one Silver Card which he received upon arrival. He stated that he is proud to hold the Platinum Gold card status and hopes that he continues to model what it looks like to be #SJCCProud.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP:



Woodland Job Corps Center Student Government Association (SGA) Executive Board members were sworn into office on September 23, 2019. The Keynote Speaker for the inauguration was The Honorable Craig A. Moe, Mayor of Laurel, Maryland. His insightful comments to the executive board launched their leadership team building training where they will embark on a journey to develop a cohesive team to face the challenges of leadership and project management. The Woodland Job Corps student body is excited about their change in student leadership. The Executive Board is shown (l-r) taking their oath of



office: Bryan Sturghill, Deja Brown, Jeremiah Hawkins, Jarelle Jones, Ta'Nia Childers, and Isiah Robinson. Mayor Moe is shown (right) as he spoke wisdom to the students.



Gulfport Job Corps Center hosted its monthly Leadership III Luncheon on September 18, 2019 in the Trojan Cafeteria. The Student Government Association (SGA) and staff worked collaboratively to make the event a success. The guest speaker was Gulfport Job Corps staff member Ronald Guy. He engaged students and the faculty with his speech that was geared towards leadership and what it means to be a leader. He urged students to understand that in order to lead others, they must first learn to lead themselves. He gave points to remember on how to govern themselves when they are on a job as well as in everyday life. Guy spoke to the students about how having a positive attitude and surrounding themselves with others who have positive attitudes can help to accomplish goals never thought possible. To end the banquet, attending student leaders received certificates of completion for Leadership III. Guy also gave several students copies of his recently written book *The Calling*.

The **Shreveport Job Corps Center** Student Government Association (SGA) held *Jag Fest* September 16th through 20th. *Jag Fest* was jammed packed with events such as a *Rip the Runway Style Show* to strut their



stuff, the Turn Up Tuesday Talent Show where students were able to show off their talents, Winning Wednesday summer cool down with Twisted Scoops Ice Cream, a Walking Taco Bar served by the SGA Executive Board, and a Pep Rally to end the excitement. Fashion show model Tyler Cole (pictured on right) stated that she was excited to walk in the fashion show and wants to become a model in New York after gaining more confidence from the Style Show. Tramario Hall, SGA Coordinator, indicated that



he is very pleased with his SGA Executive Committee, students and staff who supported *Jag Fest* and have begun planning ahead for next year!

STUDENT CAREER SUCCESS:



Congratulations to **Denison Job Corps Center** student Jowell Logan (left), who accepted a job offer from Maxim Healthcare Services in Des Moines, Iowa. Logan completed Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) training in early August 2019 and immediately began full-time employment. Prior to employment, Logan utilized and further developed her skills and increased her workplace exposure as a CMA at Crawford County Memorial Clinic/Lab, a non-paid Work-Based Learning (WBL) partner. She plans to work full-time and continue her education by studying to become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN).

Congratulations to former **Denison Job Corps Center** student Von Ro Thang, who completed the program in March 2019 as a graduate from the Pre-Apprentice United Brotherhood of Carpenters (UBC) program. He Carpentery Instructor, Jeff Shupe arranged for him to meet with Local 106 Carpenters Union in Des Moines, Iowa to apply for an apprenticeship prior to his separation from Denison Job Corps. At the same time, he became employed by a union signatory contractor in the Des Moines, but inclement weather conditions hampered apprentice opportunities with union contractors. In the meantime, Thang remained committed to his Carpentry training and worked for a general contractor while patiently waiting for union contractor employment opportunities to become available. By June of this year, Thang's patience paid off and he was hired by Core Contracting Associates, Inc. based in Des Moines. As a registered apprentice, he began employment at \$18.03 an hour.



Woodland Job Corps Center alumni Ricardo Samuels (right) returned to the center to speak with the Hotel & Lodging Trade class about his life after Job Corps. Samuels currently works as a Medical Assistant at a dentist office near his home. He has also been recently hired to teach sign language to elementary school children in Silver Spring, Maryland. Samuels' future is bright, and he attributes his success to training, certifications and the investment that Job Corps personnel made in him during his time as a student.



Shreveport Job Corps Center partners with Our City Link to involve a group of students in unique weekly projects that enhance their writing and communication skills. OurCityLink.com

is a web-based company created and operated by youth in the Shreveport and Bossier area. The organization brings together resources of the adult community to instill good citizenship skills in the next generation. The program is offered at no cost to mentors and students. Raye Phillips, Education Consultant from Our City Link, conducted training with ten Shreveport Job Corps Office Administration students to create and edit their personal

websites. The purpose of the project is to gather and present material that will inspire teenagers and the community to have productive discussions about current events and academic challenges. Training is conducted weekly for one hour and concludes in October with these students presenting at Louisiana State University at Shreveport. Student Eric Courtney, pictured above with Phillips, indicated that he has learned so much with Ms. Phillips and is excited to present on a college campus. These additional skills can be added to the student's Training Achievement Records.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:



Denison Job Corps Center recently hosted an American Red Cross blood drive where twenty-eight students donated enough blood to save approximately eighty-four lives. The blood drive was a great way to bring people together in a spirit of teamwork and promote a cause that saves lives. The initiative also generated goodwill by supporting the American Red Cross, the local community, and beyond. It provided positive visibility for Denison Job Corps and demonstrated a commitment to service and health. Student James Jones is shown (left) donating.

Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks Job Corps Center participated in the *Mark Walden Memorial Sickle Cell 5K Walk* to benefit the Sickle Cell Foundation of Tennessee. September is Sickle Cell Awareness Month and this annual event helps to raise awareness in the Mid-South area. Hooks Job Corps students did an

overall outstanding job representing Job Corps. They helped with event set-up, participant registration, and distribution of t-shirts and water for the race. Hooks Job Corps student Shaquivalin Wright, and Computer System Analyst Ileana Bowles also participated in the race; both placed first in their age groups. The 2019 race was a huge success for Sickle Cell with over 500 participants. Afterward, the students assisted with event clean-up and break-down, and made a great impression on those involved as they networked. Pictured (l-r) are students Elysia Boone, Demarcus Wesson, Shaquivalin Wright, and Jeshua Ringold; Career Preparation Period Instructor Sandy Williams, student Alexa Morrison, the Center Mental Health Consultant Dr. Therera Okumabua, student Corey Smith, and Dr. J. Okumabua with the University of Memphis.





Shreveport Job Corps Center Painting student, Christopher Brown (pictured left) and his fellow classmates visited Queensborough Elementary School and painted to prepare the school for its new game room. Principal Marco French stated that he loves the updates to the school and the game room is now his favorite place because of the vibrant colors applied by the Painting students.

Denison Job Corps Center Pharmacy Technician Instructor Melissa Houston and her students have volunteered to assist with Market in the Park

every other Saturday morning since early August. Market in the Park is a new venue for the City of Denison that features farm produce, baked goods such as breads, pies, chocolates and cookies as well as textiles, arts and crafts. The goal is to create a farmer’s market that is more than a couple of small businesses selling produce. The venue is not just a place of commerce; it is also a great way of bringing diverse people together, and creating an active public place where people want to spend time together, while growing and connecting urban and rural communities. Pictured (right) are students Marley Foster and Roxana Perna at Market in the Park.



PROMOTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES and POSITIVITY:



In recognition of National Recovery Day, the **Shreveport Job Corps Center** Wellness Department, along with Certified Nursing Assistant students hosted a H.E.A.L.S. (Healthy Eating Active LifeStyle) Activity Day Health Fair in the gymnasium on September 24th. Dental Assistant KaNollie Johnson, Trainee Employee Assistance Program Specialist Esther Lewis, and Certified Nursing Assistant students Jamina Morris and Janilya Jamison were all smiles at the Drug Free information table and said they really enjoyed promoting health to Shreveport Job Corps students and staff.

Shreveport Job Corps Center is proud to announce the newest Jaguar Cheer Team lineup. Cheerleader Captain, Kyras Osteen (Culinary Arts) sets the tone with cheers and chants along with squad members Tyler Cole (Culinary Arts), Jasmine Bailey (Culinary Arts), and Anaisa Garner (Culinary). They recently brought the riveting rhythms, bold beats, and ear-grabbing energy to the Shreveport Job Corps crowd that gathered for a Pep Rally during Jag Fest . Osteen stated that she is so glad to represent the Jaguars and have a chance to cheer again.



Comments or concerns regarding the content of this publication should be addressed to Jbeasley@minact.com.