



Show Me the Students – and the Money \$\$\$!



- Nationwide **drop in Basic Skills enrollment** starting January 2014 with GED test change & **increased testing fees**
- Inspired us to explore options in our community that could help refer students to our program and help with retention and completion, including testing fees
- We knew there was a continuing need for our services, but we needed to get the word out to more adults in need of our program

2015-2017

- Added **Hi-SET official testing** for a second High School Equivalency option
- Received **grant funding** in the amount of \$217,200 (\$94,700 in 2015-2016 and \$122,500 in 2016-2017)
- Launched an internal effort focused on attendance and retention – **EFL gain and attendance certificates**
- Became the **fastest growing community college adult literacy program in the state** – up 13% in 2015 over 2014!



ACR FTE & Graduates

- 2014 285.44 FTE 87 graduates
- 2015 322 FTE (up 13%) 136 graduates (up 56%)
- 2016 205 FTE **to date** (up 4%) 147 graduates (to date)



Leading in Adult Literacy

the appropriate law enforcement agencies after their cooperation with federal officers on cases resulting in the seizure of cash and property. A portion of the total amount seized is returned to state and local police departments to purchase equipment and other

to departments was reduced by \$740 million after the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, and then deferred altogether in December after the Consolidated Appropriations Act was signed into law, bringing the total reduction of asset forfeiture program funds to \$1.2 billion.

ANET."

The Alamance Narcotics Enforcement Team includes drug investigators from law enforcement agencies throughout the county.

Local agencies are eligible for the DOJ's asset forfeiture program when working with federal

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ALAMANCE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Leader in literacy learning



Teacher Ashley Howington, left, leads students in the adult basic literacy education class at the Dillingham Center of Alamance Community College in Burlington Monday, March 28, 2016. SAM ROBERTS/TIMES-NEWS

ACC leads state as others show decline

By Isaac Groves
Times-News

Alamance Community College had the highest enrollment growth in literacy and GED classes among North Carolina's 58 community colleges last year after a national decline.

"We can walk around and see that our classes are more full," said Claire Ricci, director of academic and career readiness at ACC.

A report from the N.C. Community College System

showed ACC's went from 285 students in academic and career readiness classes in 2013-2014 to 323 in 2014-2015, said Gary Saunders, vice president of workforce development at ACC. That's a 13 percent increase, where many colleges saw declines.

Academic and career readiness includes English as a second language, basic skills, and high school equivalency classes, Saunders said.

There was a national, and local, decline in people taking GED tests when the fees

and classes off campus helped get more people interested, Ricci said.

"What's helped locally is we were able to get some funding from United Way and SunTrust (Bank)," Ricci said. "We're trying our best to reach people where they are."

The college is teaching ESL classes at Blessed Sacrament School, and high school equivalency classes at Burlington Housing Authority's Crump Village and May Memorial and the Mebane Public libraries, Ricci said, as

Academic & Career Readiness

- **ABLE- Adult Basic Literacy Education**

Students with intellectual and developmental disabilities

- **ABE -Adult Basic Education**

Basic literacy and foundational skills

- **ESL -English as a Second Language**

Beginning to Advanced levels

- **HSE - High School Equivalency**

GED, Hi-SET, AHS -Adult High School

- **College Transitions**

Placement Test Prep, Bridge to College Success, Career College

- **Basic Skills Plus**

College credit + HSE tuition-free

Our Students

- Academic & Career Readiness serves approximately **2,000 adult students** each year.
- **90%** of our students are **Alamance County residents** between ages 19 – 65.
- **33%** are enrolled in **English as a Second Language**.
- **Only 23%** score at the **9th – 12th grade reading levels** on intake assessments.
- Most have the **goal** of earning a **high school equivalency** and qualifying for better jobs.



Alamance County Community Assessment 2015

- 17% of adults in Alamance County (population 155,000) lack a high school diploma.
 - These adults have a 10% unemployment rate.
 - Their median annual earnings are \$17,931.
 - The median annual earnings of adults with a high school diploma are \$26,386 – a 47% increase!



Working with Strategic Partner Agencies



Alamance County
Public Libraries



United Way of
Alamance County



ALAMANCE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S
OFFICE



DAVIS STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



!impactAlamance
healthier • smarter • stronger



BLESSED
SACRAMENT
SCHOOL
EST. 1935



UNCG

United Way Worldwide

- United Way advances the common good by creating opportunities for all. Their focus is on **education**, income, and health—the building blocks for a good quality of life and a strong community.
- Education is a cornerstone for success in school, work and life. It also benefits the whole community: **high school graduates** have higher earning potential, contribute more to their local economies, are more engaged in their communities, and are more likely to raise kids who also graduate on time. (www.unitedway.org)



Partnership with United Way of Alamance County

- Several ACR staff participate in **Community Council**, a monthly gathering of local nonprofits and other partners
- In 2014-2015, after GED test fees increased significantly, ACC received **\$9,000** in funding to support GED test fee scholarships, transportation and distress funds, and our annual Student Resource Fair.
- 2015-2016, ACC received **\$15,000** in funding to support GED and HiSET test fee scholarships, transportation and distress funds, teacher training, and our annual Resource Fair.



Our 2016-2017 United Way Grant

\$38,000

- GED and HiSET testing **scholarship vouchers**
- **Assistance** with student transportation needs, instructional supplies, distress funds (including Basic Skills Plus students)
- Annual **Student Resource Fair** expenses – food, supplies
- **Instructor Training** – able to send part-time instructors to ABSPD
- Part-time **Adult Literacy Resource Specialist** previously funded by our EZ Literacy and Lifelong Learning grant in partnership with the Alamance County Public Libraries.



Student Response

Dear United Way of Alamance County,

"I would like to thank you for the scholarship that enabled me to get my GED. I am so grateful to get this opportunity. Not only will I now continue my education so I can get a career that will allow me to take better care of my family, but also I am able to show my kids how important an education is and that it is NEVER too late to better yourself. I can't begin to express how this makes me feel. So, again thank you so much for the opportunity you have given not only me but my family."

Sincerely,

Heather Jones

2016 Resource Fair

27 agencies attended



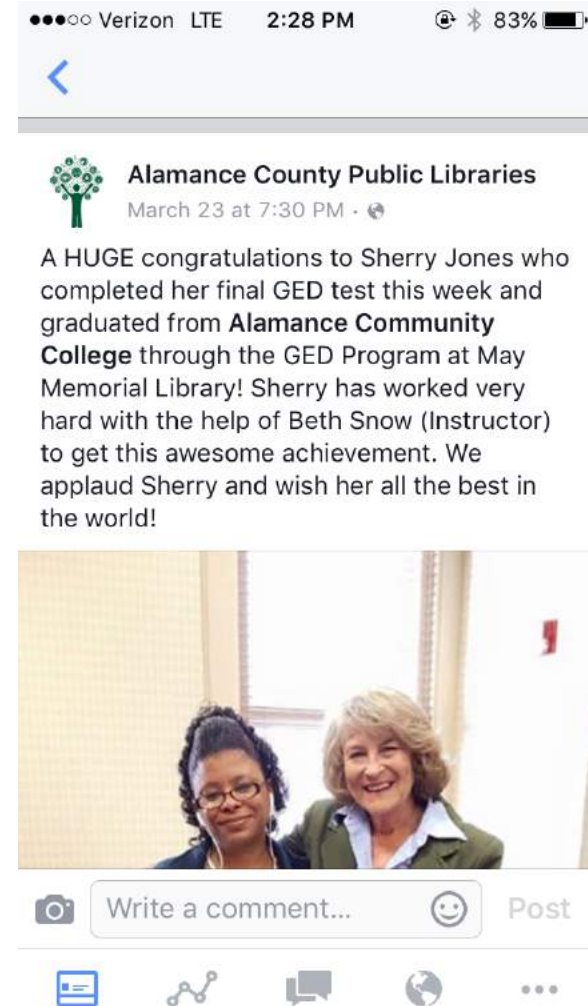
Partnership with Alamance County Public Libraries

- ABE/HSE classes at 3 local branches; \$50,000 one time EZ Literacy & Lifelong Learning Grant from State Library of NC 2015-2016 (<http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ld/grants/lsta/2016-2017Grants.htm>)
- Adult Literacy Resource Specialist onsite to recruit, advise, teach and support students



Alamance County
Public Libraries

Facebook & social media





!impactAlamance

healthier • smarter • stronger

Impact Alamance

- \$9,000 grant to fund ABLE Healthy & Active Living Program
- Purchased Wiis and Wii Fit games for classrooms
- Cooking stations with convection ovens
- Students created a Coffee Cart “business” project that is sustainable to be able to purchase consumable ingredients for cooking lessons
- Classes produced a cookbook of student-written healthy recipes
- **Students’ math TABE scores increased 44%**



Self-Supporting Class at Detention Center



Local WIOA Partners

- ACR is convening meetings each semester to share new programming opportunities, hear updates from partners, and brainstorm ways to collaborate.

NCWorks
career center



Partnership with local churches

- Davis Street United Methodist
- Blessed Sacrament Church & School
- Offering off campus ESL locations with childcare options for students



New/future partnerships

- Elon University – LINCS Service Learning site and Elon Village Project (\$75,000 5 year grant to offer ESL classes with childcare)
- Salvation Army & other local food banks – recruiting for all ACR programs
- Front Street United Methodist Church – possible new ESL class
- Advertising in local kiosks
- Earn & Learn program with Adecco Temporary Agency
- IEL/CE grant to create ESL pathway in Digital Literacy
- ALL (Alamance Literacy Links) with other literacy providers
- **Churches, libraries, higher education, United Way branches and other partner organizations exist in almost every community – leverage those resources to better reach and serve students!**

Making a Difference

- Support from United Way and other local community partners over the past three program years helped us become the **fastest growing community college adult literacy** program in the state.
- Our partners are helping remove the financial, logistical, and other barriers that our adult students face in their efforts to improve their literacy skills and their lives!



Thank you!

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