

Sept. – Nov. 2016

Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center



CKEOC Outstanding Participant: Carlene Israel

Carlene Israel has been selected as one of this quarter’s featured participants. After moving to Fort Riley in 2014 when her husband, Mark, enlisted in the Army, Carlene decided to continue her education on a full time basis. She enrolled at Barton Community College and was referred to CKEOC Coordinator, Ray Kruse to obtain assistance with financial aid. It was at this time that Carlene became aware of all of the services that CKEOC offers. Now that Carlene has earned her Associates of Arts Degree, she spoke with us about her time at BCC and the help she received from CKEOC.



Carlene and Mark Israel

“Ray helped me fill out my FAFSA application 2 years in a row and assisted with additional paperwork requested by the college. He gave me advice on all the schools available to me based on the degree I was interested in and gave me perspective on possible colleges and programs available after receiving my A.A. degree” She goes on to say, “Ray is very knowledgeable and resourceful. He’s patient and takes the time to explain important details. I never feel rushed, and he goes above and beyond to answer any questions I have. If he doesn’t know the answer, he does the necessary research or contacts the source until my questions are answered.”

When asked about her time at BCC Carlene explained “I must say my experience was positive because the classes were smaller than the traditional classes in a public setting. I was unemployed at the time so I had ample time to study and stay focused on maintaining a high GPA while gaining knowledge.”

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CKEOC Outstanding Participant: Carlene Israel (cont.)

Now that Carlene has closed the book on her Associates Degree, she has set her sights on the next chapter of her education. She is currently working on a final prerequisite class for nursing school, and once that is completed will seek admissions to the BSN program at Washburn University. When asked what has motivated her to pursue nursing as a vocation, she responded by saying "I love working in the medical atmosphere and serving others." Understandably, Carlene is excited about moving her education forward and realizing her dream of having a career in nursing.



While she is waiting to begin the BSN program, Carlene is seeking part-time work, and spends about 20 hours a week volunteering at the House of Hope in Junction City to serve families in need of food, clothing, furniture and other necessities. In her spare time she enjoys reading, running, riding trails on her bike, Zumba, yoga, volleyball and weekly socials with the ladies at her bible study group.

Carlene is a very dedicated wife and mother. She explains, "I've been blessed with a beautiful family. I'm so grateful God sent me my husband Mark and our two angels (most of the time) Joshua (13) and Ethan (8)."

In conclusion, Carlene stated "Through prayers, devotion, emotional spousal support, financial support from the army/financial aid, dedication and hard work, I was able to obtain my AA degree and for this I am forever grateful. I'm halfway there and there's no stopping me now."

Stay tuned for an upcoming feature on Carlene's husband, Mark, who is a dedicated student, husband, father, and soldier and has his own inspiring story.



Outstanding Participants: Justin & Nicole Tracy



Justin and Nicole Tracy, a husband and wife team, have been selected as CKEOC Participants of the Quarter. It has been exciting to watch each of them meet their educational goals and rewarding to have played a part in helping them complete their programs of study and secure a job in their chosen field.

Justin and Nicole both graduated from Great Bend High School. They were married in 2009 and were blessed with their adorable energetic twin boys, Jack and Logan in 2010. In June of this year, they welcomed a new addition to their family - a beautiful baby girl, Ella. Discerning the needs of their family and thinking of their future, they both had the ultimate goal of getting a college education to create a better life for their family.

KansasWORKS, one of our partner agencies in Great Bend, referred Nicole to CKEOC. CKEOC Advisor, Liz Klima, assisted her with choosing a program that would be a good fit for her. Initially she was interested in Business and Early Childhood Education, but eventually decided on the Medical Assistant program at Barton Community College. After seeing how CKEOC assisted his wife, Justin decided to seek the assistance of Liz, "for her helpful advice and financial aid assistance." When asked about what one thing they could say about CKEOC, Justin stated, "CKEOC staff is knowledgeable, very helpful, and polite." Nicole added, "CKEOC will take you step by step through the process of getting enrolled and to set up financial assistance."

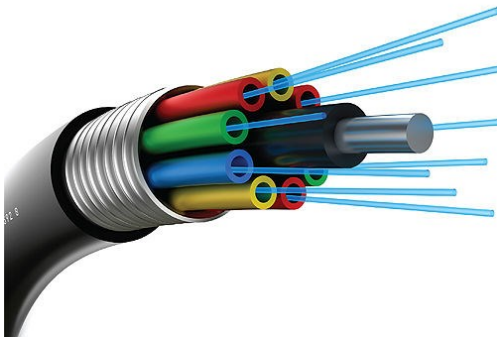


Nicole graduated from Barton Community College in December of 2015 with an Associates of Applied Science in the Medical Assistant program. Justin graduated from Hutchinson Community College in May of 2016 with an Associates of Applied Science in the Automation Engineer Technology program. Nicole is employed as a Medical Assistant at Clara Barton Clinic in Hoisington, and Justin is employed as an Electronic Technician at Superior Essex in Hoisington. Justin and Nicole commented on their college experience, "It was challenging while raising a family and working full time." Justin also mentioned "I had to drive back and forth to Hutchinson for college."

Nicole added the experience "was positive as well to achieve my goals of a career."

In addition to their twin boys Jack & Logan, and a newborn daughter, Ella, they also have a beloved pet - a Yorkie named Milo. They both said, when not working, they like spending time with family. Justin also enjoys spending time on his remodeling project for their new home and Nicole added that she enjoys swimming and watching movies in her spare time.

Justin's final comment was, "I'm grateful to have a loving family, great career, and a solid education."



Words of Support from Partners, Colleagues and Friends

Congratulations to you and your team! I believe it is not by luck but by hard work that programs get renewed!

Congratulations! You all work very hard and many MANY people benefit from it, this is great news for you all, but most of all for the students you have helped, are helping and will help.

CKEOC
has been
approved for
funding through
August 31, 2022.

In addition, we are pleased to announce that our application received a perfect score in the most recent competition for funding and was only 1 of 143 out of 376 eligible applications recommended for funding.

CKEOC is proud to have bettered the lives of thousands by helping them achieve their educational goals since 1998. We would like to thank our host institution – Barton Community College as well as our partners, participants and friends for their support in our continued success throughout the years and into the future.

*THIS IS JUST SO IMPRESSIVE!!!
EXCELLENT WORK!*

Congrats and this is good news for all of us.

That is great news! I know how many hours all of you put into this, congratulations! Great day for Trio and Fort Riley!

*Wonderful!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
It is great for us and for Fort Riley! Thank you for your support.*

100% FUNDED!
THANK YOU EVERYONE!

Hays KANSASWORKS

In western Kansas, **KANSASWORKS** is operated by the Kansas Department of Commerce under the direction and oversight of Kansas WorkforceONE, the Local Workforce Development Board. **KANSASWORKS** assists individuals in realizing educational and career goals, as well as offering a wide variety of services to employers.

Hays workforce center, one of six offices located in Western Kansas, provides easy one-stop access to job searching (**KANSASWORKS.com**), veterans' employment assistance, resume writing, local career fair information, mock interviews, Job Search Workshops and assessment testing including the nationally recognized **WORKReady!** Certificate.



Back row - L to R: Julia Brown, Conor Nicholl, Phyllis LaShell, Abigail Crandall
Front row - Kim Coveney, Linda Koci, Aaron Younger

In addition to these services, **KANSASWORKS** co-locates and partners with a coalition of agencies. One such partner is WIOA (Workforce Investment Opportunity Act) staff, who serve youth, unskilled adults, persons with felony convictions, employees who have been laid off or anyone facing serious employment barriers. WIOA's services are designed to provide entry level training for qualified individuals in an effort to facilitate access to jobs. **KANSASWORKS** also partners with Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center (CKEOC) to provide assistance in the areas of training and education choices, financial aid, career planning, and financial literacy.

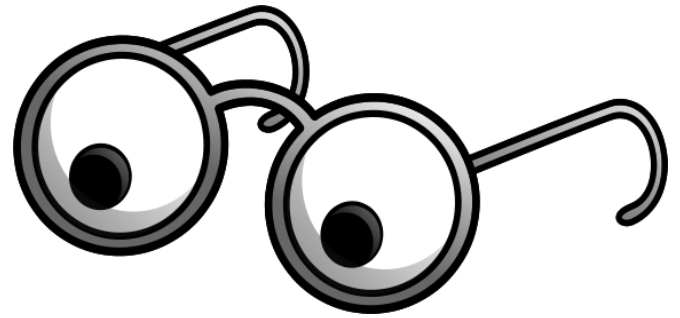
The **KANSASWORKS** Mobile Center – a workforce center on wheels with 11 computer work stations - is also based in Hays. It serves rural communities by offering internet access, job fairs, assessments, skills training, and job search assistance.



Workforce Center staff has up-to-date contact information on local help organizations and provides referrals to them. Services provided by such organizations include but are not limited to vocational rehabilitation, obtaining interview appropriate attire, and computer training. Please do not hesitate to stop by the Hays Workforce Center and meet the staff.

Changes To FAFSA

There are upcoming changes to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that will affect the 2017-18 school year. Potential college students and parents need to be aware of these changes. There are two major changes:



- **Students will be able to submit a FAFSA earlier.** Students will be able to file a 2017-18 FAFSA as early as Oct. 1, 2016, rather than beginning on Jan. 1, 2017. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit a FAFSA as early as October 1 every year. (There is NO CHANGE to the 2016-17 FAFSA schedule made available January 1st as in previous years.)
- **Students will use earlier income information.** Beginning with the 2017-18 FAFSA, students will be required to report income information from two years prior. For example, on the 2017-18 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2015 income information, rather than their 2016 income information.

Benefits from these changes include:

- Previous tax process will have been completed
- The IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT) will be available for use
- You will have availability to meet scholarship application deadlines
- Earlier access to award estimates for financial planning



Each individual may be affected differently by this change. If you feel the new process is confusing or think this will negatively impact you, please contact CKEOC staff so we can review your situation and discuss your options.





MAIN CAMPUS PLANNING CALENDAR

Online Classes

Fall Session 3 (9 Weeks)
Oct 15—Dec 11

Winter Session 4 (4Weeks)
Dec 12—Jan 8



Nov 1: Spring 2017 Registration Begins
Nov 4: Last Day To Drop with "W"
Nov 21: Faculty Work Day (No Classes)
Nov 22: Jack Kilby Science Day (No Classes)
Nov 23 - 25: Thanksgiving Break (No Classes)
Dec 7 - 12: Final Exams
Dec 13: Close of Fall Semester
Dec: 12-16: No Classes/Offices Open
Dec 19 - Jan 1: Winter Break (No Classes)

FORT RILEY CAMPUS PLANNING CALENDAR

LSEC CYCLE 7 SEPTEMBER 16—OCTOBER 28
LSEC CYCLE 1 NOVEMBER 1—DECEMBER 16

Check with CKEOC for Forthcoming Enrollment Start Date
1st Day of Class—Last Day to Enroll (All)

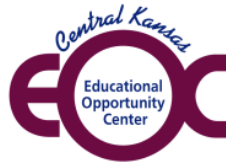
COLLEGE PROGRAM CYCLE 1 OCTOBER 12—DECEMBER 6

Check with EOC Staff for Forthcoming Enrollment Start Date
October 14 (1st Day of Class)—Last Day to Enroll (All)

CKEOC STAFF AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU WITH QUESTIONS & EOC SERVICES

Liz Klima—Academic Advisor/DS

Mary Dino—Academic Advisor



Ray Kruse—Coordinator and
Academic Advisor

**CENTRAL KANSAS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER IS PROUD TO BE A PART OF
BARTON COUMMUNITY COLLEGE WHO SUPPORTS OUR PROGRAM AND SERVES AS
OUR HOST INSTITUTION**

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE:

Barton Community College is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
Visit equal.bartonccc.edu for more information.

ACT Test Dates

If you or someone you know are planning to attend a post-secondary college in the fall of 2016, it is time to mark your calendar for the following dates for the ACT test.

The following ACT test centers will provide the ACT:

Abilene – Abilene High School	Sept 10	Oct 22	Dec 10
Clay Center – Clay Center Community High School		Oct 22	Dec 10
Concordia – Cloud County Community College	Sept 10	Oct 22	Dec 10
Great Bend – Barton Community College	Sept 10	Oct 22	Dec 10
Hays – Fort Hays State University	Sept 10	Oct 22	Dec 10
Hays High School	Sept 10	Oct. 22	Dec 10
Hoisington – Hoisington High School		Oct 22	Dec 10
Junction City – Junction City High School		Oct 22	Dec 10
Manhattan – Kansas State University	Sept 10	Oct 22	Dec 10
Manhattan High School	Sept 10	Oct 22	
Marysville – Marysville High School		Oct 22	
Pratt – Pratt Community College		Oct 22	Dec 10
Russell – Russell High School		Oct 22	Dec 10
Salina – Kansas Wesleyan University	Sept 10	Oct 22	Dec 10
Salina Lakewood Middle School	Sept 10	Oct 22	Dec 10
Wamego – Wamego High School	Sept 10	Oct 22	Dec 10

You may register online or by mail. The online address is www.actstudent.org and you can request a registration packet from ACT.



GED CLASS ORIENTATION

Contact Information for GED class orientation:

BCC/Great Bend	Oct 10 – 13	620-793-5794
Cloud CCC – Geary County Campus	Oct 11 & 12	785-238-8010
Hays – FHSU Rarick Hall 328	Oct 3 Jan 9	785-460-5486
Manhattan	Sept 7 – 9 Sept 14 – 16 Oct 17 – 20 Nov 2 – 4 Nov 14 – 16	785-539-9009
Salina	Oct 24 – 26 Jan 9 – 11	785-309-4660



CKEOC Staff and Locations

Great Bend
1025 Main St
620-793-8164
Academic Advisor
Mary Dino
Academic Advisor/Data Specialist
Liz Klima

Project Director
Susie Burt

Junction City
1012 A West Sixth
785-238-5200
Coordinator/Academic Advisor
Ray Kruse
Secretary/ Data Specialist
Mary Shane



1025 Main Street
Great Bend, KS 67530

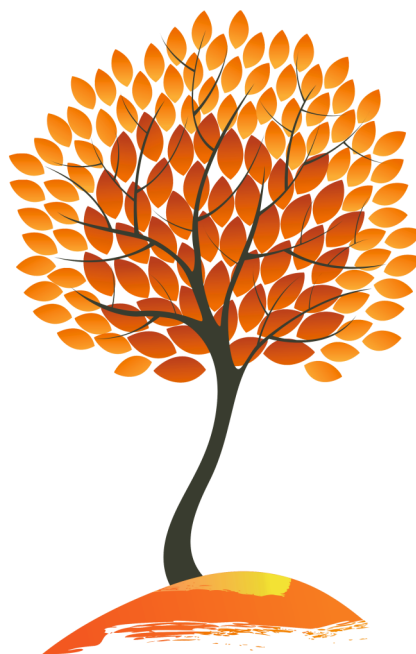
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About CKEOC

The Educational Opportunity Center is 100% funded by the U.S. Department of Education and is one of the TRiO programs. TRiO began with Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, in response to the administration's War on Poverty.

TRiO programs include eight outreach and support programs targeted to help disadvantaged students progress from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs.



33 Counties Served by CKEOC

Barton	Mitchell	Rice
Clay	Morris	Riley
Cloud	Ness	Rooks
Dickerson	Norton	Rush
Ellis	Osborne	Russell
Ellsworth	Ottawa	Saline
Geary	Pawnee	Smith
Graham	Phillips	Stafford
Jewell	Pottawatomie	Trego
Lincoln	Pratt	Wabaunsee
Marshall	Republic	Washington