

Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center

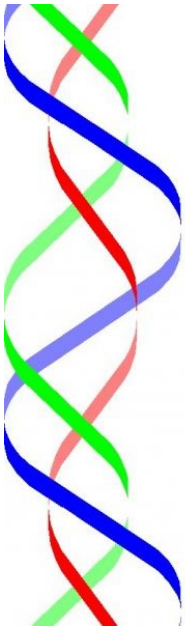


CKEOC Academic Advisor Mary Dino Announces Retirement

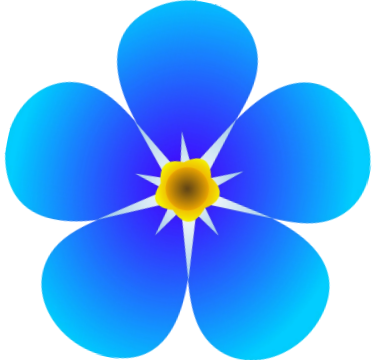
March – May 2017

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Mary Dino, Academic Advisor, plans to retire May 1, 2017. Mary has been employed with CKEOC since 2007 serving the Great Bend, Hays, Ellsworth, Larned and Salina areas. She has been a positive and passionate advocate for the CKEOC program, our participants, and partners. Please join CKEOC staff in wishing Mary happiness, success and good health as she begins her new adventure...



CKEOC Outstanding Participant: Jared Keenan



We recently caught up with Jared Keenan, one of this quarter's outstanding participants, to discuss his educational journey. In 2006, Sister Charlotte, Jared's GED teacher, introduced him to CKEOC while he was attending classes at Barton Community College Center for Adult Education. Upon completion of his GED, he worked at various jobs and eventually found work as a motor hand in the oil fields where he sustained an injury. It was then that he had to evaluate how he was going to provide for his family. He was always interested in becoming a professional barber and enjoyed cutting his family members' hair. This, among other influences, helped him make the decision to attend barber college.

CKEOC assisted Jared in looking at several different options for his career choice. Jared stated that "Liz helped me with filing my FAFSA and all the paperwork that was needed." He also added that "CKEOC is a very inviting and helpful environment where you will be made to feel like you matter."

When asked about his experience in college, he stated, "It was definitely a positive experience and a challenge not only in my ability to perform as a barber, but also in my knowledge of chemistry, human anatomy and several other subjects. Consequently, I found out I really did not know everything necessary to cut hair."

Jared graduated from Old Town Barber College in Wichita, Kansas on September 13, 2016. He is currently employed at Shortstop Barber Shop located in Great Bend, Kansas. His goal is to build a strong clientele and to provide a service that his clients will love.

Jared is married to his best friend, Alicia. They have four children: Aubrey, Ayla, Jace and Jayln. He loves spending time with his family either swimming, playing, camping or just hanging out at home.

In conclusion, Jared stated, "I believe if you set goals, stay determined, and do the foot work, you can do anything you put your mind to. This is what helped me to accomplish my goal of becoming a barber, especially since I drove 2 hours one way to attend college Monday through Friday for a year."



Outstanding Participant: Sandra Jones

Sandra Jones earned distinction as one of this month's outstanding participants through her hard work and perseverance in the pursuit of obtaining her LPN. Sandra, a 1991 graduate of Clay Center Community High School, definitely had challenges in front of her when she started her path in healthcare. She explains "I went through a divorce and in the midst of all of that I lost my job, and of course it was during winter time." It was at this time she took the advice of her sister to look into becoming a Certified Nurse Aide and made her way to the Junction City Workforce Center. There she came in contact with people and programs that helped her remove obstacles and set her course for the education and career she now has.



Sandra insists that CKEOC was instrumental in getting her to where she is now.

"Here I was a single mom raising two children, and trying to figure out my career path. CKEOC was not only there to assist me with my education, but they were also there to help me search for classes I needed, get signed up for the classes, complete the FAFSA for funding, and help find LPN programs. CKEOC was not only interested in helping me continue my education, but was also a big factor in helping me succeed. I don't think I would have been able to accomplish what I have without their support and encouragement."



Of course CKEOC was not the only one contributing to Sandra's success. She had plenty of help along the way. "My daughter, Haley (19) was a big help while I was going through nursing school. I would have class in the evenings and clinicals on Saturdays, and she showed support by helping out with her little brother, Dalton (14)." Sandra also received much encouragement from Dalton as well her significant other, Dallas and his two daughters Riley (13) and Karley (17).

Overall, it was Sandra, herself that contributed the most to her success, allowing her to graduate from the Hutchinson Community College LPN program at Fort Riley in July 2016 at the age of 43. Reflecting on her college experience, Sandra conveys, "My experience was positive. At my age, it was difficult, but with hard work and determination and with the help of the CKEOC program, I was able to fulfill this dream. I actually surprised myself with my grades while going through school. I applied myself more and received better grades than I did in High School."



Outstanding Participant: Sandra Jones (Cont.)

After achieving her LPN certificate, Sandra was hired by Comcare Clinic in Salina, but she still has her sights set on furthering her education. When asked about her goals she stated, "My next step is to start on finishing up the few pre-requisites I need for RN school. Then I would like to apply to an RN program and receive my RN." In the meantime, she indicates she has been catching up on things at home that were put on the back-burner when she was in school. She also enjoys attending her daughter's track meets and her son's basketball games.



As we concluded our talk, Sandra wanted to add words of encouragement to anyone wanting to pursue their dreams: "I would like to say that no matter your situation or no matter how old you are that you can fulfill your dreams and continue your education. I was scared to death going back to school. I thought to myself, how can I afford to go back to school and support myself and children at my age. CKEOC gave me this opportunity and was able to help remove a lot of obstacles. That right there gave me hope that I can do this and no matter what, somehow, someday everything will work out in the end. Yes there are sacrifices and a lot of hard work along the way. In the end, when you walk across that stage you can look back and say 'Wow I did it!' Then you can cry your eyes out and be so proud of yourself, and your family is right there by your side."

Fort Riley CKEOC Office Move

CKEOC's office at the Fort Riley Army Education Center has recently moved. Ray Kruse, Coordinator and Academic Advisor, now can be found on the first floor in Wainwright Hall, Building 211, in room 105. Office hours are typically from 8am to Noon on Monday, 8am to Noon and 1pm to 5pm on Wednesday. Additional hours may be posted to accommodate appointments on Resiliency Days and other times when the Education Services building is closed. Please contact our Junction City Office at (785) 238-5200 or drop by the Army Education Center to make an appointment!



Amber Cline Receives Phlebotomy Certification



We would like to congratulate CKEOC participant Amber Cline on passing her Phlebotomy exam and receiving her credentials from the ASCP Board of Certification recognizing her as a Certified Phlebotomy Technician. Amber, a 2006 graduate of

Barton Community College’s GED program, concluded her training at BCC in Spring of 2016. She then completed her clinicals, which were comprised of 100 sticks and 100 hours, to qualify for the examination. By passing the certification examination, Amber has demonstrated her competency in carrying out her responsibilities in this profession. Amber is currently employed as a in-home caregiver by ElderCare and hopes to use her new certification to advance her career.

*The ASCP Board of Certification was established in 1928 and has become the gold standard for certification of medical laboratory personnel. It is the oldest, largest and leading certification agency for medical laboratory professionals. Since it was founded it has certified more than 500,000 individuals in various clinical laboratory practices.

Phlebotomist
Amber, ASCP



Salina KANSASWORKS

KANSASWORKS Salina provides easy one-stop access to job searching (**KANSASWORKS.com**), veterans' employment assistance, resume writing, local job fair information, mock interviews, Job Search Workshops, and assessment testing – including the nationally recognized **WORKReady!** certificate. In addition to these services, **KANSASWORKS** co-locates and partners with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) staff. Through this collaboration, people facing serious employment barriers including: youth and unskilled adults, persons with felony convictions, and employees who have been laid off are provided access to programs that can facilitate entry level workforce training. **KANSASWORKS** also partners with Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center (CKEOC) to provide assistance in the areas of training and educational choices, financial aid, career planning, and financial literacy.

WIOA recently partnered with the Kansas Department of Families and Children (DCF) to participate in the End Dependence Kansas (EDK) initiative which aims to work with Kansans who have employment barriers. This cooperative effort will empower Kansans to better utilize community partners and decrease the reliance on the public benefit system to improve the employment outcomes for all enrolled.



From Left To Right:: Russ Sharff, John Meyer, Shara McMichael, Tammy Kempisty, Shelly Thompson, Jill Zimmerman, and Bobby Lawson, Latron North.

Workforce Center staff are also up-to-date on the latest information from local organizations and provide referrals to DCF, interview clothing, computer training, and much more. Not only does **KANSASWORKS**, a division of the Kansas Department of Commerce, assist job seekers, but provides valuable services to area employers as well. Services include posting job orders, providing labor market information on area wages, recruiting assistance, and job fairs. If you feel like any of these services would be useful to you, please do not hesitate to stop by the Salina office and visit with **KANSASWORKS** staff.





MAIN CAMPUS PLANNING CALENDAR

Online Classes

Spring Session 3 (9 Weeks)
Mar 13—May 14

Spring Intersession (4 Weeks)
Apr 24—May 21

Summer Session (8 Weeks)
May 31—Jul 31



March 20-24: Spring Break
Apr 10: Registration for Fall Begins
April 14: Good Friday (no classes)
April 17: Easter Monday (no classes)
May 8-11: Finals Week
May 12: End of Spring Semester
May 12: Commencement
May 25: Registration for Summer Ends
May 29: Memorial day (no classes)
June 5: Summer Classes Begin

FORT RILEY CAMPUS PLANNING CALENDAR

LSEC CYCLE 4 APRIL 7—May 19
LSEC CYCLE 5 MAY 23—JULY 10

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

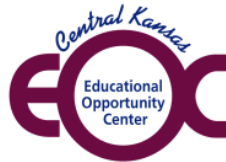
COLLEGE PROGRAM CYCLE 3 MARCH 22—MAY 16
COLLEGE PROGRAM CYCLE 4 MAY 31—JULY 25

Check with EOC Staff for Forthcoming Enrollment Start Date
(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 COMMUNITY COLLEGE WHO SUPPORTS OUR PROGRAM AND SERVES AS
OUR HOST INSTITUTION**

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE:

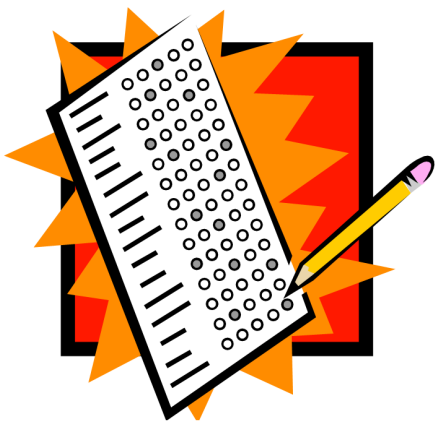
Barton Community College is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Visit equal.bartonccc.edu for more information.

ACT Test Dates & Sites

If you or someone you know are planning to attend a post-secondary college in the spring of 2017, it is time to mark your calendars for the following dates for the ACT test. You may register by mail or online at www.actstudent.org and you can request a registration packet from ACT.

Abilene – Abilene High School	April 8	June 10
Clay Center – Clay Center Community High School	April 8	None
Concordia – Cloud County Community College	April 8	June 10
Great Bend – Barton Community College	April 8	None
Hays – Fort Hays State University	April 8	None
Hays High School	April 8	June 10
Hoisington – Hoisington High School	April 8	None
Junction City – Junction City High School	April 8	June 10
Manhattan – Kansas State University	April 8	June 10
Manhattan High School	April 8	None
Marysville – Marysville High School	April 8	None
Pratt – Pratt Community College	April 8	June 10
Russell – Russell High School	April 8	June 10
Salina – Kansas Wesleyan University	April 8	June 10
Salina Lakewood Middle School	April 8	June 10
Wamego – Wamego High School	April 8	June 10



Testing
Please do
not disturb.
Thank you!

GED CLASS ORIENTATION

Contact Information for GED class orientation:

BCC/Great Bend	March 20 – 22 May 30, 31 & June 1	620-793-5794
Cloud CCC – Geary County Campus	March 28 & 29	785-238-8010
Hays – FHSU Rarick Hall 328	April 3	785-460-5486
Manhattan	March 6 – 8 April 24 – 26 June 1 & 2	785-539-9009
Salina	March 29 – 29 May 15 – 17	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

