

The Learning Cornerstone  
Community Advisory Committee Meeting  
February 14, 2007

Attending:

Lana Ahn – Assistant to the Secretary of Developmental Services, Winslow  
Sonja Banyacya – NAU – Education Opportunity Center  
June Curtis – NDWD – Navajo Dept. of Workforce Development  
Geneva Durkee- Navajo County Library District Holbrook  
Heidi Fulcher – Dean – Developmental Services NPC Winslow  
Angela Gettler - NN Program for Self Reliance, Ft Defiance Agency  
Rose John – Navajo County Library District  
Gail Sadler – WIA Navajo County  
Ina Sommers – Student - Northland Pioneer College Winslow  
Ronald D Squire – Carl Perkins Manager

NPC Report:

Heidi Fulcher – Dean, Division of Developmental Services, Winslow:

Award received from the Arizona Department of Education – *Reframing the GED. Reframing the GED* is a pilot project with the purpose of reinvigorating the adult secondary education level and to get adults into the GED program. Our proposal: two Transition Specialists to visit students and instructors to talk over realistic life goals, beyond the GED test. After a student goes through the GED classes and takes the test, the student is offered a \$200 test scholarship and tuition for 6 credits the following semester toward their degree. If the student does well the first term, they can continue on for a second term and receive 6 more credits as well as another \$200 toward textbooks. Program set to start by April 2007.

TLC Program Review –Institutional Research Director has left NPC. This has caused a holdup on the review due to financial data not coming in; another avenue to get data but position not filled yet.

P.A.R.T. Report - Good news regarding funding from the “Thursday Notes”. This federal report previously criticized Adult Education Programs; it now gives kudos concerning the effectiveness of Adult Education Programs.

NPC Early Registration – Summer I, Summer II, and Fall 2007 schedules available by March. Students can register for summer and fall semester on March 12, 2007. TLC classes also available for the summer on the various campuses and centers. As always, ABE scholarships are processed the week before class starts. but students are encouraged to go in and sign up early on a wait-list for scholarships.

Arizona Adult Literacy Week: February 18-24 – Campuses will be holding a book exchange for the community; supplies/prizes from the state (buttons, water bottles, bookmarks, t-shirts) will be sent to the various campuses. There will be a Read-A-Thon for TLC students during the week for most time spent reading and most pages read. LCC will hold a book exchange on Saturday, February 24, 2007 from 10:00 – 1:00pm. PDC, SCC, WMC will hold their exchange Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday February 20-22, 2007.

Budget Summary: spent half of the federal grants and more than half on the state side, which includes salaries. Spent \$19,000 on student ABE scholarships in the fall. There is a request for

more ESL classes but state has new ruling (Proposition 300) that all students must show proper identification and proof of citizenship. In order to be eligible for ABE scholarship, must qualify for in-state tuition. This may decrease the number of eligible ESL students 131 students are utilizing the ABE scholarships for Spring 2007.

### Navajo County WIA Report

#### Gail Sadler – Navajo/Apache Counties Work Force Partnership Winslow:

Navajo and Apache County are almost fully enrolled for the current GED class; will recruit for a June GED+ class but will not run in Winslow. Show Low and Springerville are the summer '07 class locations. Will be coordinating the summer program with NPC. Two Case Managers positions are now open in Winslow and Show Low. Working on different custom training with Zachary Construction for location certification and to get heavy equipment and safety certification. Half a dozen people are currently enrolled in the class.

Employment statistics in Navajo and Apache County: unemployment rates for age 18+ (off reservation) Apache County -4.2% (2006); Navajo County 4.1% (2006) – very comparable to levels in Phoenix. (Including reservation unemployment rates: 10.5% for Apache County and 7.9% for Navajo County). Qualified applicants in Navajo and Apache County can find jobs. Population boom expected in the White Mountains area – 10% each year for the next 10 years. Rest of the county will be about 5-6%. Every county will see influx of more people, more money, and more employers coming in. New industrial companies will be coming into Holbrook and Winslow – these companies will be looking for computer and CAD students but these students will need a GED. WIA will be pushing GED plus vocational/employability training. WIA will not be the provider of training but will coordinate with other high-tech, GED, and vocational companies/programs.

### Member Reports

#### Sonja Banyacya – NAU Ed. Opportunity Center Holbrook:

There is an increase of students taking the GED in Whiteriver. The total cost of the GED is \$75.00 but if the student goes through the GED prepping program they can pay \$15.00 for the test and WI will cover a certain amount depending on the situation of the student.

#### June Curtis – NDWD – Navajo Dept. of Workforce Development Ganado:

Still recruiting; there are funds available to help students. There is a job placement struggle due to a lack of employers on the reservation. Adults usually find jobs in Phoenix and Albuquerque.

#### Geneva Durkee- Navajo County Library District Holbrook

Recommended TLC students come in during the Adult Literary Week to see the Adult Education collection. There are great resources and books that can be utilized to teach those that are illiterate. The state library has purchased statewide subscriptions to Databases. The links are available through the public library homepage. The databases are extensive and very useful for academic researchers. In Navajo County a library card is not needed, students can go onto the homepage and can access the databases after the computer asks for a zip code. There is also a section for keyboard tutorials (typing activities), practice GED tests, real estate broker exams, EMT's, firefighters, police officer exams, etc. The state library has also purchased Rosetta Stone Language programs. Languages include mostly European languages – French, Spanish, German, Italian, Russian, and English. The link is on the homepage but a library card is needed as well as Macromedia Shockwave (on your PC) to access the Rosetta Stone. 18 different Rosetta Stone language programs are also available in the Navajo County Library. The state library will be looking at the usage statistics of the databases and programs for the county.

Angela Gettler – NN Program for Self Reliance Ft Defiance Agency St Michaels:

Formally known as TANF, now changed to Chinle NNPSR (Navajo Nation Program for Self Reliance). Will be holding a College Fair on March 22 and March 23, 2007 from 9:00 –5:00pm. There will be over 100 schools represented in the College Fair. Next project after the College Fair will be a Career Fair. WIA, NPC, and the city of Holbrook will be hosting a Job Fair on Wednesday, April 25, 2007 at Butterfield Steak House.

Rose John – Navajo County Library District Holbrook:

No report

Ina Sommers – Student Northland Pioneer College Winslow:

Regarding college: Summer I, Summer II, Fall schedules will be available on March 12, 2007. Along with that is also a deferred payment program for all levels. Tuition will increase for Fall 2007 to \$44.00/credit, which will put the range of 3-7.5 credits to \$132.00. Even with the increase in tuition, NPC has the best tuition in all of Arizona. FTSE is down 4% of enrollment from last year. Dual-students (high school and college) must now qualify to take classes at NPC.

Ronald Squire – Carl Perkins Manager Heber:

Vocational needs and services: trying to focus on one or two significant projects or programs to help focus the efforts and monetary funds to impact those projects. Grants are due at the end of June. There are two sides to the academic component of the Carl Perkins: writing and math (basic math curriculum).

Next Meeting Date and Location:

April 10, 2007  
11:30-1:00 MST  
CEC Holbrook