



**TRIO**  
EDUCATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITY CENTERS

Serving the Residents of  
Lincoln, Mason and Wayne  
Counties in West Virginia

## HEART OF APPALACHIA EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER

Summer 2014



### What can the EOC do for you?

- Help discover what career or school is best for you
- Give information on High School Equivalency classes and testing
- Assist in applying to a university, college, community college, or vocational-technical training
- Assist in completing financial aid forms AND MORE!

**Greetings!** Wow! Summer has arrived! There were times during this cold, cold winter when I had my doubts of ever being warm again!! But there is no doubt that there is no time like now to get going on furthering your education! Fall semester at most schools begins in August, so there is plenty of time to get enrolled. Look for the EOC staff out in your community. We visit the libraries and other locations on a regular basis in Lincoln, Mason and Wayne counties. Stop by and ask about the financial aid and admissions' process to get you started on your educational journey! Or call us and set up an appointment to meet!

For those of you who are not familiar with our program, the Heart of Appalachia Educational Opportunity Center is a federally funded program that helps adults further their education. EOC counselors provide information to participants about vocational or technical training, the college or university of their choice, or Adult Basic Education classes where they can obtain a high school equivalency, if needed. EOC counselors also help the participant find a suitable financial aid program.

Located on the Marshall University Huntington campus and on the Pt. Pleasant, MOVC campus in Mason County, the Heart of Appalachia EOC serves adults in Lincoln, Mason, and Wayne Counties in West Virginia.

***All of our services are free and confidential!***

If you are interested in our program or know someone who might be, please contact the EOC office (contact information is provided on the back page of this newsletter).

### Have You Considered a Scholarship?

Did you realize that there are many scholarships out there for West Virginia residents? These scholarships are created and awarded to help with the expense of obtaining a post secondary education. And who couldn't use some free money? An example of scholarships available is from the West Virginia Golf Association Fund! The description states, "Scholarship for residents of West Virginia who have an interest in golf and are pursuing full time post-secondary studies." Many scholarships are for specific institutions or for residents of specific counties. The EOC counselors would be happy to assist you in learning how to search for scholarships and how to complete the application process. You never know what you may be eligible for until you apply!

*Life does not come with a remote control!  
Get up and change it yourself!!*

*Author Unknown*



## *Summer 2014 Schedule for Roxanne Smith and Patty Moore*



### ROXANNE AT MOVC

<b>J U N E</b>	<b>J U L Y</b>	<b>A U G U S T</b>
Mon: - 9 to 5:30 Tues: - 2 to 5:30 Wed.: - 9 to 5:30 Thurs:- 9 am to 11:30 am Fri.: - By Appointment	Mon: - 9 to 5:30 Tues: - 2 to 5:30 Wed.: - 9 to 5:30 Thurs: - 9 am to 11:30 am Fri.: - By Appointment	Mon: - 9 to 5:30 Tues: - 2 to 5:30 Wed.: - 9 to 5:30 Thurs: - 9 am to 11:30 am Fri.: - By Appointment

ROXANNE: Library Visits	Mason City	Hannan	New Haven
<b>JUNE</b>	Thurs. 12th 1—5:00 pm	Thurs. 19th 1—4:00 pm	Thurs. 5th 1—5:00 pm
<b>JULY</b>	Thurs. 10th 1—5:00 pm	Thurs. 17th 1—4:00 pm	Thurs. 3rd 1—5:00 pm
<b>AUGUST</b>	Thurs. 14th 1—5:00 pm	Thurs. 7th 1—4:00 pm	Thurs. 21st 1—5:00 pm

PATTY: Library Visits:	Wayne	Ceredo- Kenova	Southern CTC LCHS	Branchland	Hamlin	Alum Ck.
<b>JUNE</b>	Mon. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th 9am—4pm	Mon. 16th 2pm— 4:30pm	Thurs. 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th 10am—4pm	Wed. 11th 1 pm— 4 pm	Fri. 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th 12:00pm—4	Wed. 4th 1 pm— 4pm
<b>JULY</b>	Tues. 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th 9am—4pm	Mon. 21st 2pm— 4:30pm	Thurs. 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st 10am—4pm	Wed. 9th 1 pm—4pm	Fri. 11th, 18th, & 25th 12:00pm—4	Wed. 2nd 1 pm— 4pm
<b>AUGUST</b>	Mon. 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th 9am—4pm	Mon 18th 2pm— 4:30pm	Thurs. 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th 10am—4pm	Wed. 13th 1 pm— 4 pm	Fri. 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th 12:00pm—4	Wed. 6th 1 pm— 4pm

### *Applying to Marshall?*

Did you know that if you are planning to attend Marshall University, the Educational Opportunity Center can provide you with a fee waiver for the Admission's Application Fee of \$30.00? Ask a counselor for details! An application fee is also available for the Mountwest Community and Technical College in Huntington and at the Mason County MOVC in Pt. Pleasant.

*Education is the Heart of Success!*

## DON'T PAY FOR THE FAFSA!

Several Web sites offer help filing the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** for a fee. These sites are not affiliated with or endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education. We urge you **not** to pay these sites for assistance that we can provide for free. The official FAFSA is at:

[www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov](http://www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov)

If you are asked for your credit card information while filling out the FAFSA online, you are not at the official government site.

Remember, the FAFSA site address has .gov in it!

**EOC counselors are available to help participants through the financial aid process. We have information on many financial aid options. Please contact us for further information and assistance. Just give us a call.**

## Non Traditional Students, Women Excel at Online Classes

*By GetEducated Consumer Reporting Team*

*A new study may finally put to rest the long debate over whether online classes are as good as traditional residential learning. Research by Rowan University found that the key to completing a degree program depends on the type of student rather than the educational delivery method.*

*In the 2010 study the News Jersey based university measured student retention, which refers to whether a student who begins a course or a degree program completes that course or degree program. The study revealed that certain types of student—the non-traditional, older, working mom and single parents who work full-time—stand a better chance of completing online classes than completing residential classes.*

*Real-life examples abound. Cecilia Parmer chose to pursue an online masters in Library and Information Science from Sam Jose State University after considering campus alternative. “If I did not have the option of changing the nights I would attend class or listen to recorded lectures, I would have long felt the pull of family responsibility over career goals and left further education behind,” says the 42-year old New Jersey working mother. “Flexibility is something I require as my family and professional needs can vary.”*

*Non-traditional students in general, and physically disabled students in particular, are significantly more likely to complete online courses rather than traditional ones, the study found. The flexibility of online degree programs may also explain why women,*

*married students, and physically disabled students are much more likely to opt for distance learning classes: Online degree programs work best for these types of students.*

*A recent survey by the instructional Technology Council reported the number of women enrolling in distance learning programs at 2-year colleges at a record high: 63% of online course registrants.*

*Non traditional online student Regina White.*

*For Regina, a 42-year-old mother of two in Fairbanks, Alaska, an online education was the only type of education that offered the flexibility required to pursue a bachelors degree in social Work at the University of Alaska. The native American, who has a slight disability, says, “it is easier for me to learn from home. I am also able to study when I can instead of when I have to.”*

### **A Non Traditional Online Student Checklist:**

*Students who prefer online coursers are more satisfied with online education than they are with traditional classroom learning. And these satisfied students demonstrate a set of shared characteristics. Check this list to see if you are the type of student who is likely to benefit from a distance degree program:*

- *Seek part-time enrollment in courses*
- *Older (and did not attend college out of high school)*
- *Financially independent*
- *Primary caretaker for elderly dependents*
- *Single parent (especially mom)*

*These same set of student characteristics have historically been more prevalent among students who demonstrate higher college drop-out rates in residential degree programs.*

*Researchers who study distance learning retention and online course drop-out rates say the primary reason online courses show higher drop-out rates is because distance learning degree programs attract and are marketed to higher risk non-traditional students.*

*Older non-traditional students, who work full-time and assume responsibility for childcare, especially single moms, are more likely to drop out of college. Higher drop-out rates persist with this population whether these students study online or on campus. In other words, it is not the delivery method—online versus face-to-face—that causes higher online course drop-out rates. It is the “type of student”.*

*Older, non-traditional students with complex lives are more likely to encounter obstacles—overtime work, childcare, travel for work, poorly developed study skills and lack of college prep coursework—that make them vulnerable to having to stop courses midway through a semester term of study.*



**Are you thinking about going back to school and don't know where to begin?? Would you like to get your GED and are not sure where to go for information?**

The Heart of Appalachia Educational Opportunity Center can help!

*The Summer 2014 newsletter was designed and created by Patty Moore, Counselor for the Heart of Appalachia Educational Opportunity Center.*

The Educational Opportunity Center office is located in Gullickson Hall, Room 212 on Marshall University's main campus in Huntington, West Virginia.



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