

Inspiring every day.
Access

October 2017

About half a million U.S. high school students graduate each year but do not go on to obtain a college credential. Monroe Community College forges innovative community partnerships that help individuals move through high school purposefully, realize their dreams of going to college, and connect them to meaningful employment that will improve their economic future. Here are some of the many ways MCC serves to improve student achievement and strengthen the educational pipeline.*

**2016 Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce*

Downtown Campus Welcomes RECIHS Juniors, Seniors



When fall 2017 classes started, Rochester Early College International High School (RECIHS) students began their academic year at MCC's Downtown Campus.

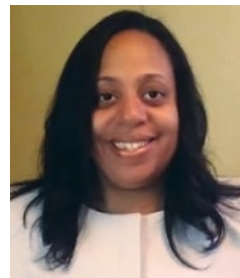
More than 85 RECIHS juniors and seniors take high school classes on campus, and some are enrolled in select MCC classes based on their college readiness. RECIHS students, faculty and staff use four classrooms and science labs. Students also have use of shared spaces throughout the campus. RECIHS staff have office space on the campus to administer the project with MCC.

RECIHS was launched in 2010 with the goal of making college a reality for at-risk and underrepresented students and strengthening the education pipeline in the Greater Rochester area.

Yolonda Steward: The Face of MCC's New Access Initiative

MCC knows where to find prospective traditional students. Our admissions counselors are frequent visitors to area high schools and college fairs. They meet with school counselors regularly. But the adult student prospect is a bit more elusive. So MCC created a new position to seek out prospective adult students and give them the guidance they need to pursue college successfully.

Meet Yolonda Steward, MCC admissions counselor/community liaison.



You'll find her touting the value of a college education at community centers, fairs, festivals, resource rooms, halfway houses and other places that support adults in the Rochester community.

Armed with an extensive higher education background, Yolonda helps prospective students apply, register, and file for financial aid. In addition, she can refer them to community resources such as tutoring services. "The more confident you are, the better you're going to do," she said. "We give them the guidance they need. We help them over the hurdles. We don't want them giving up."

"We want people to understand that it's never too late for college," said Christine Casalinuovo-Adams, MCC associate vice president for Enrollment Management. "MCC created this position to better ensure that adults in our community who would benefit from a degree or certificate have ready access to information and resources that can transform their lives—and, in turn, the lives of their families."

Innovative MCC Program Keeps Tuition Flat

MCC Guarantee is an innovative new scholarship program that guarantees qualifying full-time students who stay on track to graduation will not see their tuition increase during their two years at MCC. Launched in summer 2017, the program:

- Provides students and families with the ability to predict the cost of college and set financial goals.
- Offers an innovative solution to college affordability.
- Incentivizes students to start college-ready and persist to degree completion.
- Encourages full-time enrollment and on-time graduation.

New Programs Benefit from Federal Grant

Since receiving a \$6 million America's Promise federal grant, the *NY Inspire: Advancing Finger Lakes Forward* project consortium has created programs aimed at meeting employers' workforce demands in advanced manufacturing, information technology and health care.

The *NY Inspire* initiative focuses on providing underserved urban and rural residents, and incumbent workers with tuition-free education and training in one of the three industry sectors. MCC is the lead in the initiative. www.mccediws.com/NYINSPIRE

Among the new offerings is the Office Technology: Medical Office Assistant Certificate Program. Facilitated by MCC, the cohort-based program allows students to attend every class together at the



Downtown Campus, increasing the likelihood that a student will persist and graduate. The model is focused on building a tight-knit learning community of peers who use one another as resources and collaborate on projects and in discussions.

Classes also meet on a schedule that is convenient for parents of

school-age children. Currently, 12 students are enrolled in the program.

Financial aid, including the NY Inspire Scholarship for qualified individuals, and support services—including job placement assistance—are available through MCC and community partners.

Coming in ... November

MCC's work with students begins long before they enter college. Find out how we work with K-12 to build educational pathways.

Did You Know ...?



On MCC Instant Decision Days, admissions counselors visit area high schools, meet one-on-one with seniors and review their admission application. Often a student can be accepted on the spot and is then provided with information on the next steps of the enrollment process.

11 Number of high schools where placement testing was offered last year.

37 Number of local high schools where MCC held Instant Decision Days.

51 Number of Instant Decision Days held at local high schools last year.

238 Number of students registered during Instant Decision Days.

1,100+ Number of students admitted during Instant Decision Days.

Contact MCC

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