



Partners in Change

Chanute Ottawa Parsons Fort Scott Coffeyville Columbus Independence

Creating success, one person at a time...



Not So Basic Training

Helping Others Help Themselves



Partners in Change History

- The need for the program was identified through
 - ✓ Industry requests
 - ✓ Employer surveys
 - ✓ Referral agency requests
- The concept was presented to key partners, the City of Chanute and Social and Rehabilitative Services, in February, 1998
- A steering committee was formed, curriculum was developed, and the first class began in September, 1998.
- Monthly partner meetings and quarterly advisory committee meetings continued to refine the program. Local industries hosted the advisory meetings in their facilities.

Partners in Change Curriculum

Purpose of the Program:

To move individuals to a state of self-sufficiency by providing the training needed for them to become productive members of the workforce. The program is designed to assist individuals at varying levels of job readiness by offering basic adult education preparation and testing as well as life skills and workforce training.

Program is 6 weeks in length gradually increasing from 2 hours per day to 8 hours per day (196 hours)

The First 3 weeks

The first 3 weeks teach basic life skills that enable individuals to become self-sufficient by better managing their lives – which allows them to better manage their work.



First 3 weeks topics

- ✓ Attitude
- ✓ Goal Setting
- ✓ Career Exploration
- ✓ Responsibility
- ✓ Assertiveness
- ✓ Child Management
- ✓ Stress Management
- ✓ Coping with Crisis
- ✓ Re-entry/Employment
- ✓ Money Management

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Final 3 weeks topics

Workplace Math:

- ✓ Whole Numbers
- ✓ Fractions
- ✓ Decimals
- ✓ Percentages

Employability Skills:

- ✓ Being a team player
- ✓ Decision-making
- ✓ Problem solving
- ✓ Work ethic

Communication:

- ✓ Listening
- ✓ Speaking
- ✓ Reading for information
- ✓ Workplace writing
- ✓ Computer literacy
 - Resume writing
 - Interviewing skills
 - Required interviews:
 - 1) Instructor
 - 2) Local employer



Co-Enrolled in Technical Programs
On-the-Job Training with Employer Partners

Assessment

Each participant takes the CASAS test upon entering the program and at the end of the program. ACT WorkKeys® tests are done at the end of the program to provide Kansas WORKReady! Certificates to participants.

Graduates Leave the Program With...

- ❖ Professional Resume and Cover Letter
- ❖ WORKReady! Certificate
- ❖ Opportunity to Complete their GED through the Eastern Kansas Adult Education Program
- ❖ Opportunity to Enter the Workforce or Continue their Education
- ❖ FOLLOW UP SERVICES - to ensure a smooth transition from training to workforce



Cost of program is \$7,500 per session
3 – 10 participants per session
Six sessions offered per year
Up to 60 students per year served
Resulting in a cost per student of \$750



The Beginning

By May, 1999, 42 participants were served
93% of these participants were placed in employment or continuing education
Student CASAS scores increased from beginning of program to end of program



The Success

By August 2001, 200 participants were served
56% were placed into employment; 32% continued their education
39% had their Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) “cash” assistance cases closed



The Reality

By May, 2003, over 300 participants were served
Funding constraints begin
Data coordinator position was eliminated due to insufficient funding



The Decision

By May, 2006, the program closed due to lack of funding

A stumbling block... A Brick Wall...

The end...?



Randy Pausch

“The brick walls are there for a reason. The brick walls are not there to keep us out. The brick walls are there to give us a chance to show how badly we want something. Because the brick walls are there to stop the people who don’t want it badly enough. They’re there to stop the other people.”

- Randy Pausch, The Last Lecture

Seeking Opportunity....Needing Change



Alysica Henning

“This program would be very beneficial to bring back into the community. As a 2004 graduate of this class, I was able to find and secure employment in a professional field with the skills I took out of the class. The Partners In Change course gives you what you want to take out of it. I wanted to do something better with my life and it gave me the opportunity to do that.”

~ **Alysica Henning**

“I always thought Partners in Change was a great program for our clients and was quite successful. It was an excellent example of collaboration between several different partners (e.g. City, NCCC, SRS, Corrections, Employers, etc.) to actually develop the program.”

Mike Dawes

Mike.Dawes@dcf.ks.gov



From: Sally Ciufulescu [<mailto:Sciufulescu@indycc.edu>]

Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 11:33 AM

To: Brenda L. Krumm

Subject:--Partners in Change

Hello! The program was wonderful and had a major impact on my life. I will help in any way that I can. It would be very beneficial to community members if you could get this program back. How exciting!



Sally Ciufulescu
Director of
Admissions ICC

Finding Solutions

Common Ground

Same Expectations

Same Goals

Partners In Change

A Liaison Between
Business » Industry » Education

Working
Together

Providing Basic
Training

Manufacturing
Buy-in



Making Change Possible Working Together

Forming Successful Partnerships



Neosho County
Community
College



Independence
Community
College



Coffeyville
Community
College



Labette
Community
College



Fort Scott
Community
College



USD 290
Ottawa



Making Change Possible Working Together Forming Successful Partnerships

Southeast Kansas Manufacturing partnerships



MAGNA TECH, INC.
"Delivering the Finest in Technology"

Partners in Change

New Beginnings



➔ A new PIC class begins May 2012 on the NCCC campus with five participants.



➔ October 2012 PIC class begins at ICC with nine students. Five complete the program.

➔ January 2013 a third PIC class starts at Coffeyville Community College.

➔ February 2013 another PIC session begins at Neosho County



Promoting the Change

Advocates for Partners in Change presentations:

- ▶ Franklin and Wilson County officials
 - ▶ Southeast Kansas Court Service Officers
 - ▶ Regional Civic Organizations
 - ▶ Kansas Senate Commerce Committee, Welfare Bill
 - ▶ Kansas Department of Labor
 - ▶ Project 17 Organizational Committee Members
 - ▶ Kansas Board of Regents
 - ▶ Accelerating Opportunities Kansas Initiative
 - ▶ Southeast Kansas Legislators
 - ▶ Eastern Kansas Adult Education Consortium



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Success Stories

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Reflections By Brandy

"Today is the first day of your life" I did not understand why I was here, but in the days to come, I would find out. I did not come here to learn how to type a cover letter, or how to make a resume. For me it was deeper. No it was not about math, it was not about reading blue prints. It was about me. Who did I want to be. I am not saying that a six week program fixed all this, but what it did was to give me the tools. In the past few weeks I learned that it's not about who I think I am, it's about who I really am inside... and, that no matter how bad it gets, I need to pick myself up and keep going. I now have the tools to continue to follow this path. Thanks to Partners in Change.

Reflections By Rickie

When I thought of being in the Partners in Change program at first I didn't think highly of it. One of the first questions they asked us was who we are and the first thing that came to mind was I am Rickie, and I am here because my corrections officer made me come. In the Partners in Change class I learned my work ethic... also made me want to further my education so I have currently enrolled myself into the NCCC welding program. So in other words I thought that this class was going to bring me nothing in the future but it brought a lot, actually it opened many doors to better my life.

So this class has taught me who I am. It has also taught me my values and work ethics. Another thing has taught me that it is never too late to change life, not matter how old you are. So thank you for showing me my opportunities in life in pushing me to do my best in class. Yes it was a rough start, but they kept on my rear until the end. Therefore, after all this hard work I am looking forward to graduation and getting the work readiness certificate.



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Success Stories

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From: Richard Nelson [mailto:info@mspsecurity.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 11:19 AM
To: Randy Kettler
Subject: letter for Partners in Change

To Whom ity concerns:

My Name is Richard Nelson, in 2004 I took the Partners in Change classes at NCCC. At that time I was going through the absolute worst time in my life, the structure provided me by Randy Kettler and staff changed that. The course truly is what it says, Partners in Change. I will not go into specifics, but the course and people in it and running it all had a hand in saving my life, had it not been for Partners in Change, I would not be alive today. It got me back into thinking about a future and setting goals and even though all those goals have not been met, they will be and it has been fun setting them and attaining them.

Today I own a company called MSP Security and am co-owner of Security services of SEK LLC., (Providing NCCC and ICC with nightly security) I am remarried and bought my first house outside of Chanute. I am active in the community, putting on PAWZ FEST last year and again this year.

Had it not been for Partners in Change and particularly Randy Kettler none of this would have been possible. I wish to thank Randy and staff for their time and diligence; I was not a good student....well not at first.

I hope others are able to take advantage of such a program.

Richard Nelson

Partners in Change

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QUESTIONS?

Thank you for your time!