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If you have questions about UDC-CC Workforce Development Programs, email us at Workforce@udc.edu.
Bertie Backus Appreciation Event

On December 18, 2013, the Bertie Backus Campus hosted its first Ward 5 ANC Christmas Party.

Councilmember Anita Bonds and Commissioner Frank Wilds show their support.

Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie showing his support at the appreciation event.
My name is Lakina Morgan, modeling instructor of the student appreciation event, Dress for Success Fashion show at PR Harris Educational Campus. I enjoyed the three week adventure working with my peers. It was full of ups and downs, but overall an enriching experience. I am still "floating on cloud nine". All the students showed a lot of dedication and determination in accomplishing the goal. I am grateful for the opportunity that Mrs. Jenkins afforded me to show my expertise in the Fashion world. The program consisted of 6 scenes: (1) Plumbing and Administrative Scene, (2) Medical and Customer service, (3) Informational Technology Scene/ Professional Dress (4) Future Entrepreneur, (5) What not to wear, and (6) Finale. The scenes showed the students in their “what to wear” work attire and staff members in their “what not to wear” interview attire. It was an extreme pleasure to work with Ms. Fletcher and Mrs. Jenkins-Fields to assist me with all of the barriers. I would like to give special thanks to the stage crew Kayo, Mr. Brown and Ms. P, the National Hand Dance Association, and Glen Hendrix for providing an excellent DJ at the last minute. So, I have to say again, thank you (dipped in titanium) to all you beautiful souls! You are super and I look forward to the next appreciation event.

Lakina Morgan– Patricia R. Harris
"I like that Councilwoman Yvette Alexander is someone who decided to stop by and check on our progress here at UDC." -Alexandria Chase

"The experience of the Student Appreciation Day allowed me to recognize the importance of the program." -Thomas Broadnax

"It was a pleasure seeing Council woman Yvette Alexander come to the school." - Janika Archer

“The Student Appreciation Day was one the most exciting days of the program." -Richard Thomas

On November 19, 2013, Marion Shadd held its appreciation event. At the event, Shadd awarded perfect attendance and community service certificates.
INNAUGURAL PHARMACY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM

On October 16, 2013, United Medical Center (UMC) inaugurated the first Pharmacy Technician program within the Division of Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning. The pharmaceutical industry is expected to grow over the next decade because of the increased medical needs of a larger and older population. Our program provides both technical and practical learning which enables our students upon program completion and national certification to function as a competent entry-level pharmacy technicians to a licensed pharmacist. This new and exciting program provides students with the basic knowledge and practice of drug distribution systems, pharmacy calculations, the dispensing process, and basic pharmacology.

A Letter for Dr. Annissia Neal, Adjunct Faculty

Pharmacy Technician

I am truly honored to have been selected as the initial professor to teach and mentor the Pharmacy Technician candidates for certification at UDC-CC. This experience has been a true joy, as I have watched the students capture and understand clinical data that will allow them to grow and flourish in one of the most honorable, helpful and respected professions. The Fall 2013 students have worked diligently to master the required materials and exceeded all goals. I am confident that their next steps will include certification and full-time employment as a Certified Pharmacy Technicians.

Annissia Neal, Ph.D.

Phlebotomy Program Receives a New Innovative Teaching Tool

The Fall 2013 semester has brought so many new ideas and innovative technology to our programs. Thanks to Dean Kim R. Ford, UMC received UDC-CC’s first “Virtual Phlebotomy Laboratory”!

Virtual Phlebotomy is a comprehensive, self-directed learning system for training phlebotomy from the novice to the expert level. Powerful 3D graphics and a force feedback device provide absolute realism in appearance and feel when performing the procedure. The virtual laboratory includes several benefits: 50 case scenarios presents students with the clinical information needed to execute each procedure, build decision making skills, challenge their knowledge, and master procedures; 29 unique patient model present normal, abnormal, difficult and uncommon cases.
On Friday, October 25, 2013, we were at the Martin Luther King Jr. Public Library. Volunteers assisted with the 5th Annual Moving Together Forward Secondary Transition and Community Fair. This event was held for high school students with special needs. There were over three hundred students that attended. As volunteers, we seated guests with disabilities, assisted students that are wheelchair users, greeted and directed guests, learned about services that are available for high students with disabilities, received information about the new computer room with ninety computer stations for public use that has free scanning, paid 3D printing, and book-binding services and assisted library guests.

Four students attended from the P.R. Harris campus, two children of a student, and a current UDC student. The names of the students are: Shelina Scriber, Elleada Williams, Eric Thomas and Lydia Rosenboro. They were all very helpful with assisting each guest.

The volunteers were asked, “What was the most rewarding moment during the Transitions Fair when you volunteered?”

Lydia Rosenboro- to see how the staff supported the children with special needs.

Shelina Scriber- when I was able to help the students to lunch and throughout the event.

Eric Thomas-seeing the students with special needs being mainstreamed in the public school system.

Elleada Williams- assisting the participants anyway I could and seeing my sons be willing to volunteer.
I began my journey with the UDC Community College Workforce Development Program in 2011 at P.R. Harris with the Digital Literacy class. After completing this course, I received a brand new laptop, which was very instrumental in my current success. Having a laptop allowed me to strengthen my math skills with an web-based class that I was enrolled with the WDP. Accessing Wi-Fi at various locations allowed me to complete job applications and pursue other training. I currently possess a Professional Food Handler's certification as a result of the resources that the UDC Workforce Development Program offers. My resume has been updated with my accomplishments and achievements. Friendship Public Charter School has extended an employment opportunity that I have gladly accepted! Eric Thomas—Patricia Harris Educational Campus

My name is Bufonda Peyton and I heard about the University of the District of Columbia Community College Workforce Development Program through word-of-mouth. Patricia Harris Educational Center provides the community with unlimited opportunities for students who want to advance their career or reenter the workforce. The staff at P.R. Harris is very helpful and supportive in assisting me to reach my personal goals. I obtained certifications in Microsoft Office Specialist Word and Medical Billing and Coding. I am excited to say that I accepted a job opportunity at Capna Health Care in Washington DC.—Bufonda Peyton—Patricia Harris Educational Center

Student: Karen Shepherd
Position: HIV Tester

Family and Medical Counseling Service, Inc.
I was born in Russia, and presently reside in Washington, D.C. The idea to start my own business originated while sitting in a town hall meeting listening to Dean Ford. Dean Ford encouraged us to “Achieve the Dream” so I decided that I would open my own business. I opened my art business August of 2013. For many years, I have knitted sweaters and sewn beautiful textiles. I started by using all the scrapes of fabric and textiles that I had accumulated over the years from my projects in order to create a piece of beautiful art. I put the scraps together into different patterns and my style of textile art was birthed through this creative process.

I, like many of the starving artists in Washington DC, also work at Washington Premier Bus Company. This is to support the cost of the fabric and additional materials needed for my art. If anyone is interested in purchasing or viewing my art work, please go to http://vasilysetka.com/.

I obtain a reasonable income and I continue to educate myself at the District of Columbia Community College Workforce Development program at the Patricia Harris Educational Campus. I would like to thank Dean Ford and UDC-CC WDLL staff for all of their support. –Vasily Tsukanov– Patricia R. Harris
Student Success

I am a student at the University of the District of Columbia, and my name is Rosetta L. Brown. I am working on getting my Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering. It was my goal straight out of high school to go to college and get a degree in Electrical Engineering. I attended The University of the District of Columbia until I got married and started a family. Marriage for me became an obstacle in the way of completing school, and unfortunately I withdrew from the University. Life is full of challenges and obstacles, but it is our responsibility to ourselves to make the very best out of each and every one of them good, bad or just plain difficult.

In May of 2013 I found myself forty-nine years old, unemployed and in the final stages of a divorce. As I searched for employment I found that jobs paying thirty-five thousand dollars a year were requiring that the applicants have a Master’s Degree. Before I was unemployed I was making over forty thousand a year without a degree. Looking for direction, I enrolled in UDC Work Force Development Program and took the Direct Professional Support class at the United Medical Center Campus, and upon completion of that class I enrolled in the Home Health Aid class at the Bertie Backus Campus. It was a challenge for me to return to school after almost thirty years, but it was my responsibility to myself to make any improvements to my life and the lifestyle I had become accustomed to living. With the completion of UDC Work Force Development Program with a certificate in both the Direct Professional Support class and the Home Health Aid class, I am now job marketable in both careers. Benjamin Franklin said “An Investment in Knowledge Pays the Best Interest.” I was inspired by the investment I made, in enrolling in UDC Work Force Development Program and with the transcript review assistance they offered. On August 26, 2013 I enrolled in UDC Community College. I am now the recipient of an Associate of Science in Liberal Studies from UDC Community College. I’m looking forward to looking back knowing that UDC Community College Workforce Development Program was my bridge I used to cross over to UDC Community College, which was the bridge I used to cross over to the University of the District of Columbia. The quote by Benjamin Franklin means to me, that the more knowledge I seek and acquire, the more I will accomplish in my life. - Rosetta L. Brown—Student

It has been a pleasure being a part of UDC CC Work force Development Program at PR Harris Campus. I’ve completed several courses which include Medical Terms/Anatomy (Shadd/Ms. Middleton), Medical Billing and Coding, and I became certified as a Medical Billing Coding Specialist. As a result of my hard work, I was awarded a Dean’s List certificate. I would like to give a special thanks to Ms. Muhammad for not just believing in me but all of her students. In conclusion, I accepted a position as a Release of Information Specialist at Doctors Community Hospital. I want to give a special thanks to Ms. Middleton, Ms. Poteat, Ms. Jenkins, and my favorite professor Ms. Mohammed for believing in me! - Tomeka Watson—Patricia Harris Educational Campus
Dear Dean Ford:

Hi! My name is Tanika Dailey and I am currently a student of UDC-CC at United Medical Center. The WDLL program has afforded me the opportunity to achieve my professional objectives including successfully completing the Patient Care Technician program. The healthcare industry is on the rise; my goal is to be as competitive as possible. Therefore, I decided to continue my education as a Dialysis Technician. I want to be able to negotiate a decent salary and move forward in my profession. Ultimately, my goal is to become a Registered Nurse. I really appreciate UMC’s staff and instructors for their words of encouragement, kindness, and support. I’m extremely thankful for my certification training, especially, at no cost! Usually, people don’t appreciate the small things, but I do! If it wasn’t for this opportunity, my life could be in a different order. Everyone plays a major role in my success, and I don’t know what I would do without your grace. As a motivated and determined student, I’m grateful.

Thank you for all that you do!
Giving and Receiving at Shadd – A Community Exchange

During the Fall 2013 semester, the Marion Shadd site had some extra special visitors - 3rd and 4th graders from E. L. Haynes Public Charter School. They weren’t there to complete the CASAS or to learn about UDC opportunities. These students came to pay tribute to community heroes the veterans taking Workforce Development classes at Shadd. The elementary students were taking part in a two week class “Finding the Hero in You.” As part of their community service activities, they decided to create hand-made certificates for the veterans and delivered them to Shadd. The veterans were also served cake and sparkling cider as they were presented with their certificates.

The veterans were really touched by the kindness and warmth of the Haynes students. In fact they were so moved, they decided to collect money so they could do something nice for the youngsters. The organizer of the effort, Mr. Wayne Jackson, collected the funds and even solicited donations from the Veterans Affairs Center. Along with other students, Mr. Jackson purchased school supplies and sweet treats to show appreciation for what the students had done. For their efforts, Shadd students and staff who donated to the Haynes students all received Community Service Awards at the Student Appreciation Celebration later in the semester.

Being part of a community means working together, sharing resources and lending supporting when needed. It was great that these youngsters took the time to let the veterans know their sacrifices for this country have not gone unnoticed. After all, some of the veterans still bear physical and emotional scars from the wars in which they served. It was also noble, however, of the veterans to return that kindness to the students and purchase items to support their learning. All in all, these events show what community is really all about. Giving and receiving, across barriers such as generations and cultures, is the key to strong communities.

As a team, the staff and students at Marion Shadd will continue to do our part to make UDC a valued member and contributor to the success of the Washington, DC community!

Veterans: Stefano Washington (left) and John Green (right) showing off Mr. Green’s certificate.

Veterans: Eric Love (left) and Richard Thomas (right) proud to receive their Certificates of “Bravery”.
Celebration of Excellence

Mayor Gray addressed over 1,100 attendees with motivating words and encouraged lifelong learning. Afterwards, he spoke with students and took pictures with guests.

On Saturday, January 18, 2014, the Celebration of Excellence was held at H.D. Woodson High School. UDC-CC WDLL presented 632 students from Summer 2013 session and a historic 929 from Fall 2013 with completion certificates.

UDC-CC WDLL students walked across the stage for the first time.

UDC-CC WDLL Veterans were recognized and awarded a gold coin for their service by General Errol Schwartz.
Introducing Our Transitions Coordinator

A Dream Deferred

Hello WDLL Family. It is with great pleasure that I am serving in the capacity of transition coordinator. In this capacity it is my job to assist students with college applications, applying for financial aid, conducting degree audits, finding other sources of funding for school, advising on career paths, and helping students determine their next steps as it relates to achieving their dream of becoming a college graduate. Since moving into this role there has been an overwhelming response from workforce students desiring to either become a first time college student, finally completing a degree, or continue on to achieve their masters. This speaks to our motto of Life Long Learning and works hand in hand with our vision of helping to reduce unemployment and underemployment within DC residents. I strongly encourage any student who has not taken advantage of this service to please do so. It has proven to boost self-esteem, give a sense of purpose, and acted as a dream pusher towards one’s goals. As I close this article, I want to encourage you with Langston Hughes’s poem “A Dream Deferred”.

A Dream Deferred

What happens to a dream deferred?
Does it dry up
like a raisin in the sun?
Or fester like a sore--
And then run?
Does it stink like rotten meat?
Or crust and sugar over--
like a syrupy sweet?
Maybe it just sags
like a heavy load.
Or does it explode?
Realize your dream today!

Langston Hughes
Hello, my name is DeQuan Palmer, and I moved to Washington DC from North Carolina in August with the hope of attending the University of the District of Columbia in the fall of 2013. However, due to circumstances beyond my control unfortunately I missed the deadline.

While at 801 I met Mr. Lloyd who informed me about the workforce development program and classes that were being offered. I was very interested in the construction trade that was offered at Shadd. I immediately went with Mr. Tim to Shadd that same day where the CASAS test was administered and a list of specific documentation was also provided for the registration process. I brought all of my documents the next day to register for HVAC CFC and Basic Drivers Education. I’m very proud to say that I passed my HVAC CFC Universal Certification and I now have my Learner’s Permit.

After completing these classes I spoke with Mr. McDuffie about transitioning into the construction management Degree program. He assisted me through the entire process. He helped me fill out my admission application, FAFSA application, and paid for my application fee.

Mr. Lloyd and Mr. McDuffie have been great mentors during this process. I’m proud to say that I will start my degree in construction management in January 2014. Additionally, I was accepted into the Marriott Training Program, after Mr. Lloyd advocated on my behalf. Since moving to Washington, DC from North Carolina, I have accomplished much in the way of my educational journey. I’m looking forward to completing my associate’s Degree in Construction Management and continuing by Bachelors in Engineering from North Carolina A&T. I would like to thank Mr. Lloyd and Mr. McDuffie, and the entire workforce development staff for helping in the achievement of this part of my journey!
On Monday, November 4, 2013 University of the District of Columbia Community College Volunteers at the Father McKenna Center. The students that volunteered gave their reflections about the community service event.

Sharman Wilkins: I went to the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church where the Father McKenna Center is located. I made dessert from scratch for sixty people without knowing how to do it although I read the recipe. The recipe in the book was for about 10 people but I needed to prepare for sixty. I had to use a cook book to change the measurements for cups, liters, pounds and ounces. I had to use basic math with adding, subtracting, multiplying and division with fractions at times. Eventually the blueberry dessert turned out like it should have. We sampled it and so did others. They all said it was “A-OK.” I fed the homeless men, cleaned up different rooms, directed people who came in for services, washed dishes and put them away, and cleaned the kitchen as people were cooking. I learned that teamwork is best when you are trying to get something done service that benefits those that are in need of service. Sometimes you have to be to give of yourself to help others!

Kimberly Burks: Volunteering at the Father McKenna Center was an experience that enlightened me on how blessed I am. It also allowed me to see thankful-ness and joy on the faces of those that are less fortunate when a meal has been prepared by strangers. Feeding the homeless was emotional. Our city, DC, is the best!

Lydia Rosenboro: It was good learning how to cook and prepare food. I washed dishes, pots and pans. I cleaned and arranged the dining area that was used by the homeless men. I prepared punch, and baked cornbread. I served food. Most importantly, I learned that it is always good to give your time and service because you could one day be homeless.

Eric Thomas: I had quite an experience at the Father McKenna Center on Monday, November 4, 2013. I completed several tasks. I assisted with the preparation of a green bean casserole. I assisted volunteers with the dessert that was being made. I served food and cleaned the kitchen. I learned that the Father McKenna Center has a food pantry for Ward 6 residents and that they will see residents from other wards at least once. They provide haircuts weekly for the homeless and a meal daily. I will make a personal commitment to go back and volunteer on my own!
10,000 Steps to a Happier and Healthier You in 2014!

⇒ The US Surgeon General recommends 30-minutes a day of exercise, three times a week; following the 10,000 step a day guideline, you will be exceeding this recommendation and walking your way to a happy and healthier you!

⇒ Your steps will vary from day-to-day especially if you work out on alternate days, run errands on a specific day, etc. For this reason, do not be discouraged by the results of ONE day but rather look at your totals on a weekly basis; this is psychologically healthier as well as practical!

⇒ Regular physical activity is one of the most important things you can do for your health. It can help:
  ⇒ Control your weight
  ⇒ Reduce your risk of cardiovascular disease
  ⇒ Reduce your risk for type 2 diabetes and some cancers
  ⇒ Improve your mental health and mood
  ⇒ Keep a journal and you will be impressed and notice the difference!

In Spring 2014, WDLL is looking to start a 10,000 Healthier Steps Club! For more information, please contact United Medical Center at (202) 574-6854! Let’s get fit together!

“The physical and emotional health of an entire generation and the economic health and security of our nation is at stake”

- First Lady Michelle Obama
“Did you know????”

We now have UDC-CC Signage at the PR Harris and Marion Shadd Campuses
Throughout the semester there was a host of Town Hall meetings throughout the sites. Below are highlights and questions asked by the students and responses from the Dean, Kim R. Ford.

**Summary of the questions from the Town Halls from all WDLL campuses**

**When do Student ID’s expire?**
Student ID’s do not expire, if you continue within the University. If you stop taking courses your ID will be deactivated after one year.

**Will students be able to complete internships, after completing all WDLL programs?**
Workforce Development is currently seeking to establish an agreement with internal departments at UDC to allow student interns. Ideally, students would be able to intern with these departments throughout the semester.

**Will there be student resource centers at all the campuses?**
College and career resource centers will be opening at PR Harris and Backus by the Fall 2014 semester.

**Is transportation assistance available for students facing hardship?**
In extenuating circumstances, short-term transportation assistance may be made available to students. We understand that this is an issue that affects many students; however, we currently do not have the funds available to meet this need for everyone. By working with local government, we are hopeful that we will be granted funds designated solely for this purpose. Students can help by contacting their councilmember to express need for UDC-CC Workforce Development to be funded appropriately.

**Should we expect leadership change within UDC?**
Both the CEO of the UDC-CC, Dr. Calvin Woodland, and the President of UDC, Dr. James Lyons, are expected to remain in their interim capacities until further notice. The University is expecting to commence its pursuit of long-term replacements in the foreseeable future.

**Will Workforce Development students be offered tickets for basketball games?**
As a part of the Student Success Initiative, Workforce Development has previously been able to provide tickets to Washington Nationals and DC United games. We continue to pursue these opportunities, and, as we are provided tickets to these sporting events or others, we will disseminate them to students.
**Will non-credit programs offer credit in degree programs in the future?**
Workforce Development is currently in the process of building articulation agreements with the Academic Affairs Department that will allow non-credit programs to offer credit towards graduation in degree programs.

**Will the campuses provide a variety of workshops?**
Each of the four Workforce Development sites will offer workshops. The presenters and topics of these workshops will vary from subjects like Financial Aid (presented by the Educational Opportunity Center), how to enroll in a degree program (presented by an admissions representative or a Transitions Coordinator) or Study Habits (presented by site staff). We welcome thoughts and ideas of other topics from students. Please email at workforce@udc.edu

**How long is the CASAS test valid?**
The CASAS test is valid for one year from the date it was completed. After the year has passed, students must retake the assessment.

**How can I find out about enrolling in degree programs?**
To gather more information about enrolling in degree programs, students may contact Workforce Development’s Transition Coordinators, Mr. Timothy McDuffie, via his email address Tim.McDuffie@udc.edu or Kim Blaney-Bivens at kimblaneybivens@udc.edu, or you may also send an email to Workforce@udc.edu

**Does UDC-CC Workforce Development partner with organizations that support DC residents who had contact with the judicial system?**
Presently, UDC-CC Workforce Development partners with the Office on Returning Citizens Affairs (ORCA), Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) and Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS).

**How can I support UDC-CC Workforce Development’s effort to inform DC residents about the wonderful opportunities being offered?**
Students can help inform other DC residents about the training opportunities by telling friends, family members, church members, parents at schools, or others whom they may encounter frequently. Students may also obtain tri-fold brochures to disseminate from the main office at the respective site they attend.

**How can I communicate with the mayor and my councilman? What do I ask for/ what do I say to support Workforce Development?**
As a DC resident and constituent of the mayor and the councilmembers, you have a voice that they want to hear. The most efficient way to correspond with them is through email; however, you may also send a letter to their office at the John A. Wilson Building or speak with them at a community event. Within that correspondence, you can ask for their support in funding the UDC-CC Workforce Development Program. In addition, tell them about your experience and what it has meant to you.
Pamela Jenkins-Fields
Content Officer

David Lloyd
Editor

Jefre Holmes
Contributor

Student Writers

Rosetta Brown………………………………………………………………………..Former Workforce Development Student
Tanika Dailey……………………………………………………………………………United Medical Center
Jarrett Kiser………………………………………………………………………………Bertie Backus
Lakina Morgan……………………………………………………………………………Patricia R. Harris
DeQuan Palmer……………………………………………………………………………Transitions Student/ Marion Shadd
Bufonda Peyton……………………………………………………………………………Patricia R. Harris
Eric Thomas………………………………………………………………………………Patricia R. Harris
Vasily Tsukano……………………………………………………………………………Patricia R. Harris
Tomeka Watson……………………………………………………………………………Patricia R. Harris

Student Quotations

Janika Archer  Alexandria Chase  Kimberly Barks
Shelina Sribor  Thomas Broadnax  Lydia Rosenboro
Richard Thomas  Elleada Williams  Stefano Washington
Sharman Wilkins

Kim R. Ford

Dean, Division of Workforce Development & Lifelong Learning