

GED Examiners Trained

Arkansas GED Testing staff members recently conducted two training sessions for examiners.

On November 10 a "make up" session was held for examiners who were unable to attend the annual examiners' training. This training is mandatory to maintain certification for the upcoming year.

On November 1 the staff provided a hands-on training as a part of an Arkansas Correctional School (ACS) principals' meeting. Arkansas GED Testing recently introduced a new web-based information system that allows examiners greater access to records at the local level. ACS tested more than 1,200 individuals in 2009; and that volume of individuals testing/retesting at multiple units statewide makes records management a critical component of test administration for the fifteen ACS examiners.

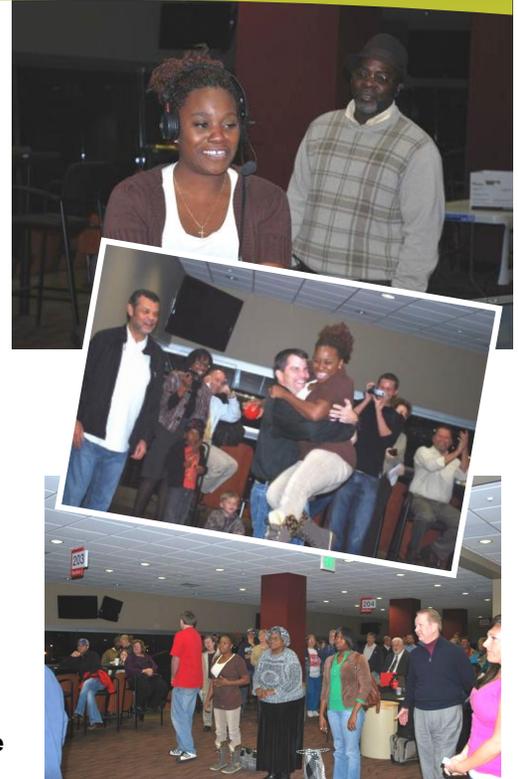
According to Janice Hanlon, GED Administrator, "The Arkansas GED Information System is proving to be a beneficial work tool not only for the ACS examiners but for all test sites."

ADULT EDUCATION PROMOTION Super Bowl Giveaway

The Adult Education Division of the Arkansas Department of Career Education sponsored a promotional event as a part of the ongoing marketing campaign to increase awareness of services. The grand prize—a trip to the 2011 Super Bowl at Cowboy Stadium in Dallas, Texas—was awarded on November 17 at War Memorial Stadium in Little Rock.

Contest entries were made at local adult education centers statewide. The winner was Donna Bowman who registered at the UA Monticello College of Technology Adult Education Center in Crossett. Donna was previously enrolled in a "refresher" class at the adult education program at UAM College of Technology to prepare for college enrollment. She is currently a student at UAM College of Technology at Crossett majoring in Administrative Office Technology.

The Adult Education marketing campaign is comprised of several components implemented in phases. Print, television and radio advertisements, as well as web-based tools have been developed for use. Recently 20 centers were visited on a statewide bus tour. In addition, several live/remote broadcasts were aired on radio increasing awareness of opportunities offered by Adult Education.



Donna Bowman, Adult Education grand prize winner, with other finalist who qualified for prize.

ADULT EDUCATION ADMINISTRATORS MEET

On Wednesday, November 17th, the Adult Education Division held an Adult Education Administrator's Meeting at the Downtown LaQuinta Hotel Ballroom. Attendees were welcomed by Deputy Director Jim Smith and Jennifer Holman, Director of Arkansas Literacy Councils.

During the meeting staff from the Department of Career Education provided information on the state and federal grant processes, expenditures and funds, and other relevant issues.

Pictured Below (l-r): Carolyn Korte, Senior Auditor; Jim Smith; and meeting participants.



The Arkansas Department of Career Education funds the Adult Education Division. The Adult Education Division provides programs and services statewide.

Arkansas Advisory Council

The Arkansas Adult Education Advisory Council met November 18-19, 2010 at the Arkansas Adult Learning Resource Center (AALRC) in Little Rock.

The council discussed a variety of topics pertinent to the state program including:

- Upcoming legislative luncheon
- Marketing campaign
- NRS assessment
- Literacy Council audit issues
- GED practice test scores.

On Friday the council conducted a review of membership/regional representation and selected officers for 2011. New officers and members of the council are listed below.

Officers

Blake Robertson, President
Malvern

Kathy Spigarelli, Vice President
Fayetteville

Diane Cary, Secretary
Magnolia

Members

Ben Aldama, Bentonville
Ashley Buchman, Marked Tree
Steve Clayton, Jonesboro/AAAEE
Clif Ford, Little Rock
Eddy Kay Hansen, Stuttgart
Denise Hester, Blytheville
Wes Pillow, Osceola/AACAE
Jolla Robinson, North Little Rock
Gail Shrum, Stuttgart
Marsha Taylor, Little Rock/AALRC
Peggy Weir, Pocahontas

Ex-Officio Members

Jennifer Holman, Little Rock
Jim Smith, Little Rock

NEW STATE DIRECTORS' MEETING

Staff of the Adult Education Division, along with State Adult Education Directors from across the U.S., attended the New State Directors' Management Workshop on October 5-7, 2010 in Washington D.C. Attending from Arkansas were Jim Smith, Sherry Brown, Bridget Bullard, and Cecelia Jarry.

The meeting covered topics such as: The Federal Planning Process, Local Award Considerations, Data Quality IQ, and NRS Performance Measures and Data Quality Standards. Also, a peer panel of veteran Directors was available to share their expertise and experiences with a number of issues. On Wednesday, October 6th, Assistant Secretary Brenda Dann-Messier addressed the group, providing information on the outlook for Adult Education.

Adult Education State Staff Update



The state staff welcomes Vicki Hatter to the team as the new Administrative Assistant for the section. Prior to joining the staff Vicki was a self-employed bookkeeper; she has experience as a state employee from service with the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management. Vicki calls her new co-workers "a great working group." She is impressed by the camaraderie and the fact that everyone works so well together.

Dr. Philip Less has accepted the position of Director for the Rhode Island Adult Education program. Dr. Less takes with him an extensive knowledge of the state's English as a Second Language initiatives, National Reporting System requirements, and adult education as a whole. Arkansas' loss is definitely Rhode Island's gain.



Adult Education.....	501-682-1970
James H. "Jim" Smith, Jr., Deputy Director	
Emily Barrier (Northeast Region)	Sherry Brown (Southwest Region)
Bridget Bullard (Central Region)	Priscilla Flowers (Southeast Region)
CC Jarry (Northwest Region)	Ralph Edds (W.A.G.E.)
GED Testing.....	501-682-1980
Janice Hanlon, Administrator	
Arkansas Adult Learning Resource Center.....	501-907-2490
Marsha Taylor, Director	

