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Adult Education Volunteers build confidence

It takes hard work, dedication, and hours of coaching from a team of instructors to build the confidence students need to reach the goal of achieving a GED®. On June 18, 2015, the volunteers for North Georgia Technical College’s Adult Education programs in Fannin, Union, and Towns Counties were honored at a special brunch celebration.

“We know that you are the reason that so many of our students succeed,” said NGTC President Dr. Gail Thaxton. “You believe in them and they respond to that belief, and that is changing lives. The students that pass the GED and then enroll in college courses are recognized by our instructors as outstanding students because you have helped to strengthen their work ethics, study habits, and confidence in themselves.”

Throughout Northeast Georgia, North Georgia Technical College’s adult education centers offer free classes to those who wish to attain their GED or prepare for college entrance tests. The level of service and individual help given to those students would not be possible without the help of a large number of volunteers.

Fannin County residents honored at the event included board members Jane Brackett, Amanda Callihan, Jane Callihan, Carol Crawford, Emily Dunn, Carol Green, Bill Hammond, Jill Key, Glenn Harbison, Dane Kirby, Darrell Mann, Sherry Moore, and Stephanie Scearce. In addition, volunteers James Gray, Jane Haddow, Billy Henry, Rebecca Hammond, Evelyn Morris, and Nancy Trice were recognized for their contributions to student success.

Union and Towns County board members honored at the event included Diane Hassett, Frank Uhle, Norm Cooper, Barbara Lerdon, Jennifer Mulkey, and Janet Chapman.

“When someone comes through the program here and passes that final test and goes and gets that job they’ve been wanting, that builds the strength of our community as well,” said Dr. Mark Ivester, NGTC Vice President for Economic Development. “Because of our volunteers, we can serve more students, and that contributes directly to the economic growth in our neighborhoods.”

The adult education program is designed to assist adults returning to school to resume educational programs which were interrupted in earlier years. Plans are in place to expand current offerings such as an evening class
in the Towns County area and a “Ready for College” class in Fannin County. NGTC’s GED® program at the Colwell Probation Detention Center in Union County placed third in the number of GEDs completed among all correctional facilities in Georgia in 2015.

For more information on the literacy and the Adult Education program at North Georgia Technical College, visit www.northgatech.edu or call 706-754-7717.

Photo: (Front, L-R) Michelle Collins, Paula Ary, Kathy Rich; (Middle) Donna Earl, Linda Wood, Diane Brackett, Rebecca Hammond; (Back) Frank Uhle, Norm Cooper, Jennifer Mulkey, Bobbie Lerdon, Carol Crawford, LaQuita Dillbeck, and Amanda Callihan.

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