

Tools for Success: A Tour of



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Tools for Success

- A tour of the NCTN College Transition Toolkit
- If we build it will they come?
- Recruitment Activity
- You say retention, I say persistence
- Counseling/Screening Activity

THE COLLEGE TRANSITION TOOLKIT

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If We Build it, Will They Come?

- Reaching “new markets”
- Need versus Demand
- Lessons from the Field



Recruitment Map Activity

- What would you add?
- Share examples of work done and work to be done



Other Lessons from the Field

- Make sure all staff have good information
- Go beyond flyering
- Document your efforts (and use the data)
- Invite people to visit orientation or class
- Share student successes

Resources for “Growing Your Own”

Encourage ABE/ESOL students to think about college early and often.



Resources:

- Beyond the GED (NCSALL)
<http://www.ncsall.net/?id=1099>
- Integrating Career Awareness
(NCTN & SABES)
www.SABES.org

You say Retention, I say Persistence



RAISE YOUR HAND IF:

Student Success Factors*

- Display a willingness to embrace change
- Open to new skills and perspectives
- Have clear career goals



*J. Gittleman, *The New England ABE-to College Transition Project Evaluation Report*, June 2005.

Student Success Factors

- Focus and good attendance
- Self-starters who use resources
- Good self-esteem
- Ability to connect with learning community



The Data on Persistence:

Negative Forces

- **Life demands** (49%)
- Unsupportive relationships (17%)
- Negative sense of self (11%)

And the Positive Forces

- Relationships (63%)
- Instruction (63%)
- Having a goal (57%)
- Teachers, students (51%)
- Positive sense of self (44%)

When Does Counseling Begin?

Can you:

- Screen for these qualities?
- Nurture them?
- Address Barriers?
- Build Supports?



Intake and Application

- Multi Step process that requires initiation and follow-through
- Self-assessment and careful consideration:
 - ▲ Ready for change?
 - ▲ Ready for commitment?
 - ▲ Obstacles/supports?
- Enrollment contract

The Critical First Three Weeks

- Learners often come motivated but encounter demotivation
- Early verbal connection between teacher and student
- On-going follow-up from someone besides the teacher

Allen Quigley (1998)

Orientation: Setting the Stage for Lifelong Learning

- Establish learning environment
- Open minds to embrace change
- Create supportive community
- Identify barriers and build supports

Student-Counselor Interview

- What do you want to know and why?
- What questions would you add?
- Is the order of questions relevant?
- What about the wording?

Student Success



“Transition helped me know myself better- my limits, my faults, my goals, and some things I should change if I want to be a successful person.”