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“College = Post-Secondary Education including Apprenticeships, Technical Schools & Military Service.”

The Lenawee College Access Network has had quite an eventful year. We had a transition in coordinators, went through a re-granting process, created a new initiative (the Transition Conference), are in the process of building a new website, and have successfully completed college application week with record participation. We also have completed the TIP (Tuition Incentive Program) Initiative, helping 259 Lenawee County Seniors access money for post-secondary education, and have teamed up with the Lenawee YOUTH Council to provide six college visits for teens.

~Coordinator Changes~



In November 2014, Peggy Molter resigned as LCAN coordinator so she could handle some family matters. From January to June, 2015 Andy Shaw served as the coordinator. He was a tremendous help in coordinating tasks and keeping the momentum of LCAN going, bringing a fresh set of eyes to the table

and a different skillset. He played an important role in the re-granting process, and rallied support from the local school district Superintendents. He accepted a position as Superintendent for the Mason Consolidated School District. As he was preparing to depart, Peggy Molter moved back to Lenawee

County and returned as coordinator. During this transition, AmeriCorps VISTA, Jim Southard provided continued support.

~Reach Higher~

Adrian High School and the LISD TECH Center are two sites of 100 schools across the state selected by Michigan College Access Network to receive a \$5,000 grant that will boost efforts to help students pursue education beyond high school. 139 schools applied for the competitive Reach Higher grant in its first year. The goal of the program is to encourage a high school strategy to build a college-going culture and improve college enrollment outcomes. “With this grant, we’ll be able to create a strategy to improve the number of our students furthering their postsecondary education,” said Karen Kelly, counselor at Adrian High School. “This grant program will spark change necessary to increase college readiness and participation.”

~Transition Conference~

The plans for the 2016 transition conference are starting to take shape. The focus of the Transition Conference in February, 2016 will be on Lenawee County 8th graders. Some topics that will be discussed include post-secondary resources Lenawee County has to offer, such as our 3 local colleges, the Southern Michigan Center for



Science and Industry, the LISD TECH Center, and military careers, trade/tech schools, and other post-secondary options. The new LCAN website will be used to list resources and act as a hub for post-secondary options in Lenawee County.

~College Application Week~

The Lenawee College Access Network (LCAN) sponsored College Application Week October 26-30, 2015 in partnership with the



Michigan College Access Network and the American College Application Campaign. The goal of the program was to give every

graduating senior the opportunity to complete at least one college application. Research shows that students who apply to 2-3 schools are 47% more likely to attend college. Post-secondary plans may also include students applying for apprenticeships, trade and technical schools, specialized training centers, and exploring military career options. The 2015 College Application Week was a great success with 100% participation from all 12 of our school districts! Lenawee County is one of the only counties in Michigan to achieve this. This is truly something to celebrate, as the Lenawee College Access Network is recognized as a model network in Michigan.

~Tuition Incentive Program~

The Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) was established in 1987 under the Annual Higher Education Appropriations Act, as an incentive program that encourages eligible students to complete high school in order to access tuition assistance for the first two years of college and beyond. Students have to enroll in courses leading to an associate degree or certificate. Certificate courses are defined as “at least a one-year training program that leads to a certificate (or other recognized educational credential), which prepares



students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation.”

To be eligible for TIP, a student must have (or have had) Medicaid coverage for 24 months within any 36-consecutive-month period, as identified by the Michigan Department of Human Services. Students can become TIP eligible as early as age 9. Since the student must be Medicaid eligible for 24 months out of a 36-consecutive-month period, the state begins to look at the 36-month period prior to the date of the student’s 9th birthday and goes forward until high school graduation. For the 2015-16 school year, Lenawee County has 259 seniors who are TIP eligible, which is up slightly from 2014-15 when 212 were eligible.

~College Visits~

In partnership with the Lenawee YOUTH Council, the Lenawee College Access Network provided six college visits for youth ages 12 and older. The schools visited this year included Adrian College, Jackson College, Siena Heights University, Saginaw Valley State University, Ferris State University and Michigan State University. A typical college visit included a campus tour, lunch in an on-campus dining hall, a visit to a dorm room, and a presentation from college faculty and staff. This year we had over 125 students participate. There is no cost for a student to attend, and there’s no limit to the number of visits they can attend.

