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Congratulations to the GPP Class of 2019!



Join us in celebrating some of the graduating seniors from across Georgia who proudly completed their GPP experience. We can't wait to see where their college and careers take them!



GPP graduates Adrian Snyder and Brandon McMillan are pictured with GPP Regional Coordinators Devaki Gordon and Marvin Stafford at **Metter High School** Honors Night.

Adrian works at **Excelsior EMC**, while Brandon works at **Candler County Hospital**. These graduates are the first in GPP's new partnership in



Jefferson High School graduate Timothy Ransom receives GPP certificate and honors cord from GPP Regional Coordinator (and Jefferson native!) Hilda Garrison. Timothy worked at **Buhler Quality Yarns** in Jefferson.



Michael Barry, center, is all smiles as Stephanie Whitehead, GPP Site Coordinator at **Caterpillar of Athens** and GPP Regional Coordinator Hilda Garrison look on. Michael graduated from **East Jackson High School** in Jackson County. He was honored as East Jackson's Work-Based



Students left to right: (Back Row) Santos Parra, Thomas Gilliam, Eathan Mitchell, Kaiheem Stewart, Jed Groover, Brooklyn Whittington, Justin Harris, Jukermin Skipper, Brianna Stephenson, and Hailey Noland.



South Atlanta High School is one of our newest GPP partners. Among the purple and teal academic honors pictured are GPP cords and certificates for five GPP students who worked at the brand new **United Parcel Service (UPS) SMART**

(Southeast Metro Area Routing Terminal) Hub. Work-Based Learning teacher Thomas Dunn ensured success of this newest GPP partnership.



GPP honoree David Richard, center, shares a proud moment with his **Carrier-Transcold** supervisor Cedrick Richardson and mentor Lillian Wright. A **Clarke Central High School** student, David has been with GPP as an employee at Carrier Transcold for three years. His job was a huge blessing to him and his family as they survived Hurricane Harvey and were evacuated to Athens after their home was destroyed.

Shaw Industries hosted a Graduation Celebration for students from **Cass and Woodland High Schools** in Bartow County. They worked at Shaw Plants 12, 13 and 15. Cracker Barrel catered the celebration breakfast, and Shaw presented the graduates with gift certificates and leather bound journals.



Watch out, world! **Monroe County Schools** GPP graduates are ready for college and careers with guidance from

Work-Based Learning Coordinator Marcy Sanders! These students from Forsyth were all stars, working at the **Georgia Department of Corrections, Tift Campus.**

GPP Cornerstone Communities Honored at GMA Annual Conference

Five stellar communities were honored by Great Promise Partnership at the Annual Convention of the **Georgia Municipal Association** (GMA) on June 24, 2019:

Platinum

5 or More Employers
50 or more students

Douglas/Coffee County



Gold

4 or More Employers
25 or More Workers

Athens-Clarke County



Swainsboro/ Emanuel County



Silver

3 or More Employers
20 or More Students

Blairsville/Union County



Bronze

2 or More Employers
10 or More Students Employed

Cartersville/Bartow County



Cornerstone Communities exemplify four key components of an exceptional partnership:

Active business involvement including student worksites

Full partnership with area high schools, including Work-Based Learning and life skills training for every student

Government support and employment of GPP students

Community engagement with students that may include fundraising and facilitation of other opportunities



"We are honored to recognize these five outstanding Cornerstone Communities for their commitment to and passion for young people," said GPP Executive Director Lori Heemann. "They have worked hard to ensure at-risk students graduate with skills and experience to succeed after high school. With GMA's leadership, we look forward to expanding our partnerships with more communities across Georgia."

Created in 1933, the **Georgia Municipal Association** is the only state organization that represents all 538 cities in Georgia. Based in Atlanta, GMA is a voluntary, non-profit organization that provides legislative



Advocacy ♦ Service ♦ Innovation

advocacy, educational, employee benefit and technical consulting services to its members.



GPP Regional Coordinators Marvin Stafford and Devaki Gordon at the GMA 2019 CITIES UNITED: Lead to Succeed Conference.

GPP Cornerstone Community Awards Photo Gallery



Platinum honorees from **City of Douglas, Coffee County** pictured



left to right: Phil Best, GMA President, City Manager Charles Davis, Assistant City Manager Nia Smith, Commissioner Olivia Pearson, Commissioner Kentaiwon Durham, GPP Executive Director Lori Heemann



Gold awardee **Athens-Clarke County** Organizational Development Administrator Catherine

Bennett, center, congratulated by GMA President Phil Best and GPP Executive Director Lori Heemann



City of Swainsboro, Emanuel County Gold



Award presentation includes (left to right) GMA President Phil Best, Mayor Charles Schwabe, Council Member



Rita Falkner, City Administrator Al
Lawson and GPP Executive Director
Lori Heemann



**City of
Blairsville,
Union**

County honored (left to right) GMA
President Phil Best, Council Member
Robert Moore, City Clerk Kay McCann,
Mayor Jim Conley, GPP Executive
Director Lori Heemann

*Not pictured: **City of Cartersville, Bartow County, Bronze Award***

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