



ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20 Program Year

EOC, Inc.

Website: www.eocinc.org

Tel: (570) 331-6755



TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Agency Highlights

- CliftonStrengths utilized to strengthen staff teamwork and added CliftonStrengths as service in both EOC & ETS Programs. CliftonStrengths allows individuals to explore their top talents/strengths through coaching and facilitation.
- Developed large scale field trips to bring together all ETS School Districts to explore careers & build TRIO comradery
- The agency again supported the Women in STEM Conference presented by the Workforce Alliance at Woodloch Pines. This event had over 200 high school attendees.
- The agency awarded 12 scholarships: 6 to our ETS participants and 6 to our EOC participants

EOC Program Highlights

- The Great Northeast Job Fair-brought together GED students from three counties to attend a daylong Conference in conjunction with the Job Fair held at Mohegan Sun Pocono. Attendees received lessons on utilizing their CliftonStrengths and Networking. Three participants left with scheduled interviews.
- Tobyhanna Army Depot Veteran Field Trip-brought college students from Wilkes University and Kings College to meet with Human Resources and Engineering Division chairs. The day long trip included a tour of the facility along with tips on how to apply to positions at the Depot and navigating the Federal jobs process.

ETS Program Highlights

- ETS Students from four different school districts enjoyed an overnight field trip to Pittsburgh. During the trip, they stayed at Carlow University and visited California University of PA, University of Pittsburgh, and Duquesne University. They also enjoyed a Trolley Ride up the mountain.
- Surgery Live! Over 100 of our ETS students visited the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg and watched a gastrointestinal surgery performed at the Hershey Medical Center. Students were encouraged to ask questions of the surgical team with the surgeon offering answers and detailed explanations. The day also included a lesson on the careers and education needed for all positions at the hospital. The students also spent two hours in the STEM hands-on lab, and watched the 3D movie Engineering in today's world after lunch.
- ETS Students from the Scranton and Shenandoah Valley School Districts visited Rep. Matthew Cartwright's office to share how much the TRIO program has impacted on their future. From there, the students visited the Federal Courthouse for a tour and a meeting with various professionals to learn about careers in the legal fields. The presentations included a Federal Clerk, the Jury Office, and Federal Probation.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

- Added an Assistant Director position to oversee U.S. Department of Education TRIO Programs: Angeline Abraham
- Added Coordinator Positions:
 - OVR Program Coordinator: Dave Smith
 - Overnight Field Trip Coordinator: Leydi Basillo
 - Tutor Coordinator: currently vacant
- ETS Program-re-structured territories and added a Middle School Counselor to provide consistent programming across all thirteen intermediate schools: Nicole Reese
- Added Remote Worker Arrangement-to allow staff to work remotely. The goal is to give staff the opportunity to work at their convenience and in their comfort areas.
- Expanded offices to include an Administrative Office with workshop area for meetings and tutoring-located at 115 Gateway Shopping Center, Edwardsville

Organizational highlights:

- Independent Auditor Report found that the agency is a low-risk auditee;
- Received a \$3,000 Wells Fargo Financial Literacy Grant;
- Carriage House Project: EOC, the Women's Resource Center of Scranton, and Lackawanna College have combined to offer a scholarship with free housing to one recipient per school year. This exciting program has an application and specific criteria. The 2018-19 Recipient was selected and is an EOC Client pursuing a Bachelor Degree in Business.
- EOC was selected as the PA Careerlink Lackawanna PA Operator in collaboration with EDSI and Rescare. Carolyn Quinn serves as the agency representative.
- For the 2nd year in a row, EOC enjoyed the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Railriders game as the Community Agency of the evening on May 2nd. Bill Leonard and Alex Krisanda served as the chair of this event.
- Tutoring Program:
 - Both the EOC and ETS Programs are offering tutoring in groups and one on one. The agency supports weekly drop-in sessions in all offices and in three outreach posts.
 - The agency worked to Beat the Summer Melt by offering weekly drop-in sessions all summer long with over 50 students receiving support.
 - The agency awarded 12 scholarships to EOC & ETS clients. Six recipients were EOC participants and six were ETS participants.

ETS Program Report

The Educational Talent Search (ETS) Program is offered in the following target school districts: Hanover Area, Hazleton Area, Scranton, Shenandoah Valley, and Wilkes-Barre. Participants must meet eligibility requirements: both: low-income (150% of the poverty line) and be a first-generation college student. The ETS Program is funded 100% by the U.S. Department of Education at \$512,910.

2018-19 Program Results:

- Served 1,003 ETS Students (program goal: 1,000)

Breakdown by school district:

- Hanover Area: 97
- Hazleton Area: 326
- Scranton: 291
- Shenandoah Valley: 112
- Wilkes-Barre Area: 177

Breakdown by grades:

- 364 ETS middle school students (grades 6-8)
- 156 Freshman
- 153 Sophomores
- 174 Juniors
- 156 Seniors

ETS Graduates:

- Assisted: 156 Graduates from all five school districts
- 126 Enrolled in Post-Secondary Schools 80.7%
- 22 Enrolled in Public 2-Year Colleges
- 3 Enrolled in Private 2-Year Colleges
- 60 Enrolled in Public 4-Year Colleges
- 41 Enrolled in Private 4-Year Colleges
- 2 Enlisted in the military
- 28 Entered the Workforce

6-Year Cohort Report-ETS students who graduated in 2013 and were served by the program in the 2012-13 Program Year. The U.S. Department of Education assesses success of completion within the 6 years post-ETS Program:

- Cohort Group: 40 students selected-41% successful completion
- 2 completed an Associate's Degree
- 13 completed a Bachelor's Degree
- 1 completed both an Associate's and Bachelor's Degree
- 17 did not complete in the timeframe (3 are still enrolled with anticipated graduation in 2020) and we had one student pass away.

ETS Program Objectives:

- 834 of non-graduating students advanced to the next grade (98.7%)
- Our ETS students are diverse: 36% identify as Hispanic/Latino;
- 100% of our ETS graduates were assisted in completing the FAFSA & applying for other financial aid;
- 141 ETS students received tutoring and mentoring as part of our Competitive Preference Program
- Summer Scholars Program:
 - Week long sessions offered in Scranton and Hazleton with Lackawanna College. 45 students from four of our school districts earned dual enrollment credit
- College Signing Events in conjunction with the Better Make Room Movement include lessons on Etiquette, Interviewing and professionalism along with Financial Literacy from CCIS
 - Scranton Event at the Radisson, our Scranton, Wilkes-Barre & Hanover Area students enjoyed a mentor luncheon with the Scranton Rotary members and an inspired presentation by luncheon speaker, William Conaboy, Allied Services
 - Hazleton Event at the Sands Springs Golf Course, our Hazleton and Shenandoah Valley students enjoyed lunch with the Mountain Top Rotary and luncheon speaker Lindsay Griffin, Wilkes-Barre Chamber



Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts
Harrisburg, PA

125 students from all ETS School Districts are represented

ETS Programming includes:

- Lessons on:
 - Study Skills, Values, Career Planning, Financial Aid, Financial Literacy, Work/Employability Skills, STEM, Financial Literacy & so more!
 - SAT/ACT Strategies with Test Preparation-Test Preparation classes were offered in 100% of Target Schools in the 2018-19 school year as well as over the summer in all three agency offices;
- Field Trips-100% of our ETS students are given access to sign up and attend agency sponsored field trips. In the 2018-19 Program Year, our middle school students visited eleven different colleges, our high school students participated in twenty field trips including the Looking Forward LIU Conference at Misericordia University



- ETS Program added a College Club at the Hazleton One Center that meets the 3rd Saturday of each month. This club allows the agency to expand programming and recruit more eligible participants.
- ← The group volunteering at the Weinberg Foodbank in Pittston; they assembled two pallets of senior citizen boxes.

- The Club also brings in guest speakers and take educational and cultural field trips. **This group has been so successful; the agency added College Clubs in Scranton & Wilkes-Barre for the 19-20 Program Year.

EOC Program Report

The EOC Program is offered in eleven counties: Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming. The EOC Program is funded 100% through a U.S. Department of Education federal grant at \$661,246

EOC Programming Includes:

- Decision Making: O'net Interest Testing, CliftonStrengths Assessment, and Assessing Your Barriers;
- Post-Secondary Planning: College Admissions, comparing schools, understanding your major, and Applying to Post-Secondary
- Financial Aid Assistance: Completing the FAFSA, PHEAA and other financial aid documents, scholarship research and application, and financial literacy
- Conducting workshops on career and educational topics
- Field Trips

2018-19 EOC Program Report:

- Assisted 2,258 (goal 2,233)
- 69.4% were both low-income (150% of poverty line) and first-generation college student (goal 67%)
- Our participants are very diverse with 44% identifying as non-Caucasian and 30% from the Hispanic/Latino backgrounds
- We assisted 1,352 females and 906 males
- For the program year, we provided services to 31 Military Connected individuals
- Our program helped 295 traditional high school seniors with applying to college, completing financial aid and enrolling in post-secondary schooling;
- We assisted 238 high school dropouts with advancing toward a GED and issued 130 vouchers to 88 individuals to assist with testing; of those students, 22% completed their GED in the program year;
- Our staff assisted participants with completing 1,183 FAFSAs
- Our staff assisted 688 participants with completing over 1,000 college applications
- Staff worked alongside the Department of Labor Rapid Response team to support dislocated workers in ten of our counties.

- 37% of our college ready participants enrolled in post-secondary for the 2019 school year
- Post-Secondary School breakdown:
 - 256 enrolled in a Public 2-Year College
 - 21 enrolled in a Private 2-Year College
 - 95 enrolled in a Public 4-Year College
 - 92 enrolled in a non-profit, Private 4-Year College
 - 31 enrolled in a non-profit vocational/technical institution
 - 16 enrolled in a proprietary school



Students from Kings College and Wilkes-University tour Tobyhanna Army Depot to learn about careers in Engineering and how to maneuver the employment process.

EOC Program Goals:

- Increase awareness of services in all eleven counties
- Increase Veteran and Military connected individuals to EOC services
- Expand referral base to assist more low-income and first-generation college students
- Provide CliftonStrengths testing to eligible individuals seeking to receive coaching from certified agency coaches
- Expand scholarship opportunities to EOC non-traditional participants

EOC Workshop Topics Include:

- Financial Aid and Financial Literacy
- Post-Secondary Planning, College Knowledge and College Myth or Truth
- Career Sector Workshops:
 - Manufacturing & Logistics with Skilled Trades
 - Health Careers
 - Business Careers including Hospitality
- Hot Jobs of the Future
- Scholarships! Scholarships! Scholarships!
- Matching Your Skills to Today's Workforce along with Interviewing and Resume Workshops

EOC Outreach Report:

- Staff conducted regular monthly workshops in all eleven counties at PA Careerlinks, colleges, and referral partners
- Staff presented 264 Career Exploration workshops to over 1,300 participants
- Staff members administered 400 O'net Interest Inventories
- Staff conducted over 200 Financial Aid Presentations to over 3,000 people;
- EOC staff offer one on one appointments at the Workforce Alliance in Wayne County, Libraries in Monroe and Lackawanna Counties, and PA Careerlinks in Pottsville, Jim Thorpe, Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton, and Tannersville.

Additional Agency Programming

- Received a grant from **United Way of Lackawanna and Wayne Counties** to provide SAT Preparation classes to the schools in Wayne County. Grant total: \$1,800.
 - 91 students attended SAT Preparation Classes in the three Wayne School Districts:
 - Honesdale High School: 26 students
 - Wallenpaupack High School: 29 students
 - Western Wayne High School: 36 students
 - 44 students became EOC clients and received program services
- Received a grant a \$500 mini-grant from the **Lackawanna Interagency Council** to conduct the annual Empowering Teen Parent Conference at Luzerne Community College's Scranton Center:
 - 39 Teen Parents-both moms and dads attended the daylong conference
 - Special Keynote Speaker: Joey Negrón
 - Conference Breakouts on: budgeting, healthy relationships, resumes, successful parenting, legal issues, and so much more!
- **OVR Pets Program** to provide career and educational programming to high school students with an IEP, 504 Plan or disability:
 - Provided classes to over 200 students in eight school districts;
 - Lessons include: career exploration, financial literacy, decision making, time management, study skills, and hot jobs.
- **Weinberg Foodbank Partnership** provided over 1,400 snacks during field trips, college clubs, SAT Preparation and other agency programs



Please visit our website: www.eocinc.org to see all of the exciting things planned for the 2019-20 Program Year including the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the agency.

Please find us on Social Media:

Facebook: EOCincPA

Instagram: EOCincPA

Twitter: eocinc

Linkedin: Educational Opportunity Centers, Inc.

YouTube: Educational Opportunity Centers, Inc.