August 28th, 2013

ARE YOU READY FOR SUCCESS?

How many of you remember the movie “Coach Carter”? For those of you who don’t, here is the quick version. The movie stars Samuel Jackson as Coach Carter, a high school basketball coach. He inherits a scrappy, misguided group of young men he must turn into a team and show them their true potential beyond the basketball court. In one of the movie’s riveting scenes, Coach Carter confronts one of his most troubled players and asks him “What is your greatest fear?” That question comes from the poem, “Our Deepest Fear” written by Marianne Williamson who gives this response: “Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate, but that we are powerful beyond measure.” What a statement!

What is success? Some think success only comes from rapping, singing, scoring the winning touchdown, or sinking the winning basket. For the rest of us, true success is more concrete. For instance, you find true success in the “A” you received on a test you took in class, taking part in your school’s Student Government, or in your community by volunteering. These are the areas that provide a lasting impact on you and those around you. So ask yourself, are you ready to make a positive impact? No time for fear, you have to change the world!
May 29th, 2013

The students of TRiO visited St. Jude Hospital and Alabama State University in Montgomery, AL. The students enjoyed the view of the campus.

TRIO SCHEDULE: ALL WORKSHOPS ARE HELD IN ROOM 516

9/4/2013– MATH 090 REVIEW WORKSHOP (2-3)
9/18/2013– HOW TO AVOID COMMON MATH ERRORS (2-3)
9/23/2013– TIME MANAGEMENT (11-12)
10/16/2013– A TRIPLE MARRIAGE(MATH) WORKSHOP (11-12)
10/17/2013– LEARNING TO STUDY & COMPREHEND (10-11)
10/28/2013– FIRST IMPRESSION WORKSHOP (TBA)
10/30/2013– COMMUNICATION SKILLS WORKSHOP (TBA)
11/04/2013– MATH 098 REVIEW WORKSHOP (2-3)
11/05/2013– FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (1-2)
11/1/2013– IMPROVING YOUR PERFORMANCE ON EXAMS AND TEST (1-2)
Students must meet the following criteria for participation in the Trio Services Program:

- Must be a citizen or national of the United States or meet the residency requirement for federal student financial assistance
- Must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College.

Must meet one or more of the following:

1. First generation college student (neither parent graduated from college with a bachelor's degree)
2. Grant Eligible
3. Documented disability

Program Components:

- Academic advising
- Career, personal, and financial counseling
- Individual tutoring services
- Access to the TRiO lab computer
- Preparation for transfer to four-year college
  - Scholarship opportunities
- Support for student with disabilities
- Cultural and academic enrichment programs
- Peer, campus, and professional mentoring
My name is Qiana James and I am a 34-year-old graduate of J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College. I have been attending Drake State since January 2010. Drake has given me confidence, self motivation, and a drive to be the best I can be. Before attending Drake, I really did not have confidence and never would have been involved in activities other than sports. I came out of my shell and became involved in different organizations on campus. I was Secretary/Treasurer of God’s Chosen Praise Dance Team for two years, I was Historian of Phi Beta Lambda for 2 years, and was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Student Government Association for 2011-2012. In 2012, I achieved so many great things in my life. I will never forget that year 2012 it has been the biggest year of my life. I was a recipient of the 2012 All Alabama Academic Team which is one of the highest honors you can receive. I was inducted in the National Technical Honor Society. I graduated with Honors (Cum Laude). After graduation I was interviewed by the Huntsville Times and had a whole article written on me.

I have been a part of TRiO from the beginning. TRiO has helped me tremendously and has given me great advice from great people who run the program. Mr. Richard Collie is a great person, motivator and supporter. His words of encouragement are the best. Even though she is no longer in the office, Mrs. Bivens was also a great motivator. We would have great conversations about school and potential schools. When Maria Meador arrived, she was a Godsend. Ms. Maria has been working with me since she her arrival at Drake. She is one of the most loving and caring people in the TRiO office. Ms. Maria has always been available when I’ve needed her. We have talked about everything: life, school, and work. Anytime I needed to talk, she was there to listen and gave me great advice about to handle all my situations.

I am still attending J.F. Drake State, but I will be spreading my wings and moving on to the next chapter in my life. In the fall of this year, I will be attending Alabama State University on a full academic scholarship. Ms. Maria made this a very exciting and smooth transition. Ms. Maria even planned a college tour at Alabama State because she knew how badly I wanted to attend. When I got accepted she was so very proud of me and I thanked her with all my heart.

TRiO is a really great program to be involved in. I am very blessed to be part of the TRiO family and I appreciate all the seminars, workshops, and college tours that TRiO has provided for the TRiO students. I have learned a lot about myself and how to manage life in a positive manner. I will recommend to anyone seeking out a two year degree to attend Drake State, to become a part of all school organizations, and to become a TRiO student. TRiO “Thinks I’m A Big Deal” and I feel the same way about TRiO.

I really want to thank the TRiO family for really embracing, supporting, and pushing me. I will never forget any of you. Again, thank you so much, Mr. Collie, Ms. Meador, Ms. Bivens and Ms. Owens for caring and being there for me. You all are great people and may you all continue touching the lives of students as you did mine.
TRiO Watch

My name is Danyel Kellum. I am currently a student at J. F. Drake State Community and Technical College. I began my journey in August 2012. I have always been a leader in every job or assignment I was chosen for. I decided in 2012 that I wanted more out of my life, to help build my family and to be a community leader. I have maintained a 4.0 in my degree plan thus far. Recently I was inducted in Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society and will serve as an executive leader in the office of Treasurer. It is an amazing experience to be one of the first 12 members inducted at J. F. Drake State Community and Technical College. We were also chaptered on that day.

I have blossomed as a leader. I ran for the office of SGA President, volunteered for numerous campus activities, helped children in a local elementary school with reading, and helped students with different issues on campus. My purpose became more clear when I became a member of TRiO.

The TRiO program helped me to see my full potential. I have supported others in their quest, but the staff showed me that I had the same ability in me. I have so many staff members planting valuable seeds in my life. I recently went on a trip to Montgomery, AL, to visit the City of St. Jude and Alabama State University. On that trip, I met people that have the same heart I have for helping others and realized how much of a blessing I can be if I just continue my path. I have always strived for success in all that I do, but TRiO has taught me how to follow my plan through.

I will pursue a degree in Psychology from Oakwood University in the fall of 2014. I truly want to help make a difference in my community. Success to me is pursuing your dream passionately and seeing it through. I will succeed! I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.

My name is Nina Johnson. I am the current Ms. Blue & White at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College, and I am also a proud TRiO student. I have been attending Drake State for almost a year now, as well as being a TRiO student. I am majoring in Culinary Arts, and I have a passion for entertaining while serving others. My mission in life is to help others through food service. My goals after graduating are to attend a four-year institution and graduating with a bachelor’s in Food Science to pursue a career in either Hospitality Management or working for the USDA. In my experience, the transition from high school into college was a fairly easy one thanks to TRiO. TRiO is a student support service that offers tutoring, workshops, and trips to four-year institutions as well as information on transferring to four-year institutions upon graduating. I was shy and oblivious to the new campus until I met the staff of TRiO. They were very enthusiastic and believed that I could accomplish anything if I put my mind to it. The tutors are the reason I am passing with a 3.8 GPA, and in due time I will be at a 4.0. Honestly, I had no intentions of participating in anything in college because the stress level from high school graduating was high. Since joining TRiO, I have received several scholarships. I have maintained a B average in school, and participated in my first pageant. TRiO is just one amazing aspect of Drake State. The faculty and staff are always happy to see you and want you to succeed. The staff treats you as a person, not just a number on a roster. As a student attending J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College and in TRiO, I cannot stress enough that taking advantage of everything the campus has to offer can make your college experience a much more enjoyable one.

Hello! My name is Junnecia Moore and I attend J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College, where I’m an Accounting major. I have attended J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College since the fall of 2010 and my experience has been quite an amazing journey. I have a witty sense of humor, but endured heartfelt pains along the way. However, currently I am a work-study student for the college’s library. Fall of 2012 and spring of 2013, I made the Dean’s List. I have to commend myself for striving to accomplish what I set out to do. I can say it’s been challenging, but well worth my progress and effort. I’ve had to study sometimes late at night after helping my boys with homework, preparing dinner, taking them to practice, and making sure they were ready for the following day. In the midst of being a full-time student, work-study student, full-time mother, I wouldn’t trade my experiences for anything.

I must say that while attending J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College, I joined the TRiO program in spring 2013. Joining this program and having the support, mentoring and guidance from the faculty, staff and students has lead me to further my education by giving me the choice to transfer to Alabama A&M or Athens State University for my Bachelor’s Degree. After this milestone, I look forward to my next achievement, my Master’s Degree. The amount of direction that has been bestowed upon me here at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College is one I’ll always remember.
GRANT AID

The information listed below is an outline of how to become eligible to receive scholarships

⇒ Must be accepted as a participant.
⇒ Must be receiving a Pell grant and have an unmet need of at least the minimum Pell grant award. If your unmet need is less than the minimum Pell grant award, or if you do not have an unmet need, you will NOT be eligible to apply for a scholarship.
⇒ Mandatory semester GPA of 2.5
⇒ Must have completed all assessments.
⇒ Must have completed at least three study skill workshops by a designated date.
⇒ Have three contacts per semester with program director or advisor for academic advisement.
⇒ Attended two cultural events
⇒ One four-year college
⇒ Completed two (2) Financial Literacy Modules (Buttonwood)
⇒ Write a 250-word essay describing: How will TRIO services help me to accomplish my goals here at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College.

Tutoring Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Math/English/Reading</th>
<th>Nurses’ Math</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Room# 516)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Jason Stephens</td>
<td>Pamela Long</td>
<td>Sarah Jamar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 1PM-6PM</td>
<td>Mon. 12PM-2PM</td>
<td>Mon. TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. 1PM-6PM</td>
<td>Tues. OFF</td>
<td>Tues. TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. OFF</td>
<td>Wed. 12PM-3PM</td>
<td>Wed. TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur. 1PM-6PM</td>
<td>Thur. OFF</td>
<td>Thur. TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 1PM-6PM</td>
<td>Fri. OFF</td>
<td>Fri. TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reminder: Only TRiO participants are eligible for tutoring through TRiO.