Presidents' Community Partner Award



Adult Learning Center
Nashua Community College

The Adult Learning Center and Nashua Community College have a long history of a close and effective partnership. This partnership strengthens every year with new initiatives and increased collaboration. The Adult Learning Center is a valuable resource in the Greater Nashua community that provides a variety of classes such as English as a Second Language, Basic Math and English, Computer Literacy and HISET (GED) preparation. In addition, the Get Ready for College course prepares students from the Adult Learning Center (ALC) to make a successful transition to college. The services that the ALC offer provide a natural bridge for many students to attend Nashua Community College.

Due to the open access mission of community colleges, many students are in need of an opportunity to strengthen their math and writing skills. Working together, the staff of NCC and ALC have been able to meet that need through several innovative programs. Each summer, the two schools provide basic skill instruction to students of varying levels. Teachers from the Adult Learning Center have conducted these courses on campus at Nashua Community College. These classes have been free of charge to students and in many cases students have been able to bypass remediation requirements and enroll directly into college level courses, ultimately saving time and money. This past summer, the ALC and NCC teamed up to offer the first Summer Bridge program which included instruction in math and writing as well as study and college survival skills. Future collaborations include test preparation for the Accuplacer and strengthening the transition for nontraditional students from the ALC to NCC.

Diana Owen, Adult Education Coordinator, and Steven Reid, Adult Basic Education Coordinator have been an integral part of this partnership. Both show a passion and commitment to providing adults the skills needed to access higher education and reach their academic goals. Together with staff from NCC, they both have worked to make sure that students who need extra support and services in order to enroll in college have this vital opportunity. Without the services provided by the ALC and the collaboration with NCC, many students would not have the chance to make a better life for themselves and family by attending college. The staff at Nashua Community College would like to thank both Diana and Steven for their commitment and hard work and look forward to continuing this partnership for many years to come.