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TO EXALT THE LORD BY SERVING AND SHARING CHRIST THROUGH MEETING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS

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**“Education is the
most powerful
weapon for
changing the world”
Nelson Mandela**

*Because of
your support,
Turning
Point has
celebrated 339
graduates
in the last 5
years!*



TPEC has been recognized as one of the most efficient adult education programs in the state with a very high completion rate in the 85 percentile range. This past year (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018) saw a record 169 students served with 92 earning diplomas.

What is Turning Point All About?



Adult Education Coordinator Michelle Ellis with 2018 Valedictorian Alex Buck

Turning Point Education Center (TPEC), a branch of Open Arms, is an adult basic education school offering High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma and workforce certifications on the campus of Open Arms Christian Ministries.

TPEC now offers a variety of workforce WorkIn (Work Indiana) certifications, including: Welding; HVAC: Heating, Vent, Air, Cooling; Administrative Assistant with MS Certification; CCMA Medical Assistant; CNC Operator; CDL; Electronics Fundamentals; ASC Automotive Brake Repair and Teaching Assistant with Para Pro Assessment. All of these trainings are completed in 16 weeks or less.

“Adult education is a catalyst for change. It helps adults to get off of welfare and become contributing taxpayers,” says the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE). “The demand for more educated workers continues to grow.”

According to information supplied by COABE, “Adult Education is a smart investment because low-skilled adults are two-times more likely to be unemployed; three times more likely to be in poverty; four times more likely to be in poor health; and eight times more likely to be incarcerated. By neglecting adults who need services, we affect their children as well. Almost 60 percent of children whose parents do not have a college education live in low-income families and are less likely to succeed in school and qualify for family-sustaining jobs.”

**“Adult education is a catalyst
for change.” -COABE**

“That is why donating to our program is a good investment,” says Open Arms Adult Education Coordinator Michelle Ellis.

Donations to Turning Point Education Center help to maintain the highest degree of academic excellence within the context of a trusting, respectful, and moral environment.

The environment helps students gain knowledge and goal setting skills necessary to make sound decisions regarding their futures and to become productive and responsible students.

The TPEC program is a perfect fit for anyone behind on high school credits; for persons wanting to prepare for the HSE; for students needing remediation for WorkIN; for persons wanting to brush up on math, reading, or English skills; for out-of-school youth (16 years and older); for persons preparing for college & vocational admissions tests; for persons wanting to improve employment opportunities or gain a WorkIN certification and gain confidence; for parents wanting to help their children with homework & success in school; for persons wanting to prepare for the career exploration and resume building workshops.

At TPEC, all HSE classes are free of charge.

**“The
demand
for more
educated
workers
continues
to grow”
-COABE**



How Your Donation Is Changing Lives!

For Kristen Saladin, Open Arms' Turning Point Education Center (TPEC) offered her a chance to improve her career skills.

Kristen worked in the North Daviess School Corporation last year as a substitute teacher and a one-on-one aide. "I liked what I saw there. I liked the environment and liked who I worked with. I thought, you know, it might be kind of nice to make this a permanent thing, but obviously I didn't have my certification in order to advance my career. I really didn't know what to do or where to start."

Her introduction to TPEC came, after she saw a Facebook post made by guidance counselor Beth Smith. Smith posted a notice for students who had graduated and weren't sure what they were going to do. She urged them to contact TPEC for information about their state certification programs.

Kristen contacted Adult Education Coordinator Michelle Ellis and talked about the teacher's aide certification program.

She had already had her high school diploma from White River Valley High School in 2003.

"I always wanted to be a teacher, but after I graduated I got married and we started having kids," she said. "I decided I'd be a stay-at-home mom."



The Saladin's have three children – ages 13, 11 and 10. The certification program took her about six weeks to complete. She started in June

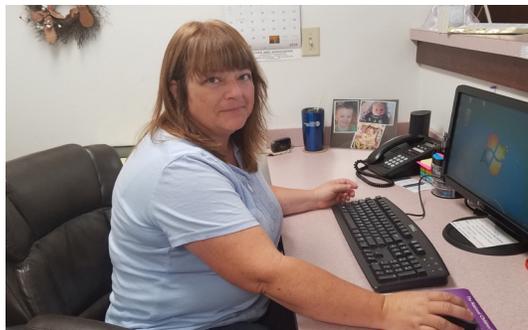
and came twice a week for classes. "I wanted a job and I was focused on what I wanted to do," she stressed.

Kristen successfully passed her certification exam in early August. The certification enhances Kristen's ability to find a good, permanent job. Kristen said "I knew I needed to brush up on some skills. I don't think I could have gone in blind without going through the program and passed."

"I really didn't know what to do or where to start." -Kristen

In her mid-50s, Beth Mayo could not see a brighter future. She needed a job that could better support her family. She was possibly looking at getting her real estate license, but she didn't have a high school or a high school equivalency diploma.

Beth finished the 11th grade at Bloomington North High School before she dropped out school. She had a number of what she called "little jobs" that really did not pay much.



"I greatly appreciate the help I got" - Beth

Beth said she "thought long and hard about it and decided it was time to get it (her HSE diploma)." She started at TPEC and got her diploma in July of 2018.

"I greatly appreciate the help I got," Beth commented. "It made a difference in my life," she says without hesitation. "Donating to TPEC would be a wise investment for any business or an individual."

After receiving her diploma, she worked at the WorkOne in Linton in a part-time position.

Open Arms, Michelle Ellis contacted Beth to see how things were going and learned that her position was ending. She offered her a clerical job in the Open Arms administrative office.

Beth started at Open Arms on Sept. 3.

She credits her experience at TPEC with helping her to get a better full-time job. "It (TPEC) gave me confidence to go back to school. I was pretty low," she recalled. "I've always thought that whoever your teacher is plays an important part in your life. They have good teachers at TPEC, they really do want to help everyone."

To help other students, like Beth, continue to have better opportunities, please consider donating to TPEC.

Story written by Nick Schneider

Turning Point Receives Overdue Renovations!

It was long overdue. The TPEC building, located on Open Arms campus was purchased used in 2003. It was only intended to be a temporary facility until a new one was built. But time passed and the TPEC building was still serving students but was in great need of an upgrade. Thanks to donors like you and wonderful volunteers, TPEC received an exterior and interior renovation. The building now has a new metal roof, new windows, new carpet, a new front door as well as new siding and guttering. A special thanks to the Embassy Men's group from Linton First Christian Church who donated several work sessions on the project. Thanks to our individual donors, golf scramble sponsors, golf scramble participants, churches and Greene County Foundation for providing the funds to cover the costs. Thanks to Plywood King who gave an amazing discount on the roofing materials. Thanks to Gerry Thomas who volunteered his time to supervise the project.

Because of you we are able to maintain the highest degree of academic excellence within the context of a trusting, respectful, and moral environment!

All stories written and edited by Open Arms Staff including but not limited to Nick Schneider, Volunteer Coordinator; Sheila Corey, Director of Development; Alyse Rick, Development Assistant



I want to help change the world by helping a TPEC student!

Enclosed is my gift of:

\$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$150 _____

Other _____

Weekly Monthly Annually

Give online now at:
OpenArmsChristian.com



Open Arms
FAMILY & EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

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