

FLORIDA'S
BEST

Business and Education
Partnerships

Val Ward Cadillac, Incorporated
Lee County High Tech Center Central
Ft. Myers, Florida

Automotive Youth Educational Systems (AYES)

Program Overview

The objective of the Automotive Youth Educational Systems (AYES) is to forge structured school career partnerships throughout the nation between automotive dealerships and local schools offering high quality automotive technology programs. Students learn four AYES certified automotive areas and intern at a participating dealership in the summer and senior year in high school. The outcome is full-time employment at the dealership after high school graduation or to pursue postsecondary studies in automotive technology.

Major Activities

The school and dealers have worked on the following activities to achieve the program's objectives:

- developed criteria for student's acceptance in the program,
- conducted employment interviews for dealership jobs,
- selected and trained mentors from the dealerships and evaluated student employment progress.
- participated in meetings with principals, participated in career fairs and attended open houses, quarterly advisory meetings and graduation ceremonies.

Program Awareness

High Tech Central held several open houses. The instructor visited 10 local high schools to promote the program. In 2005, two technical high schools will open with an automotive feeder program for ninth and tenth graders. Two colorful brochures were created and used for promotional purposes.

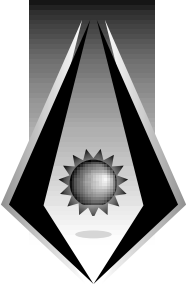
Replicating Success

To get the program up and running, High Tech Central provided approximately \$200,000 in tools, equipment, and facility improvements. The automobile manufacturers provided over \$150,000 in new vehicles, engines and transmissions in order to properly train the students for today's highly sophisticated technology. The local automobile dealers have given \$16,000 worth of salaries, uniforms, tool boxes and tools to each student while still in high school. In addition, the students received valuable on-the-job training from a certified mentor and advancement opportunities after graduation. The students are paid \$8 per hour and learn at school from a highly trained automotive instructor.

Student Success Story

After moving to Fort Myers with his family, a 2nd Year AYES student had left behind a special group of classmates and friends. Personality, enthusiasm and motivation seemed to be lost. A usually good student, his parents were convinced that enrollment in the AYES program turned his life around. Once again they saw an enthusiastic, goal-oriented and focused young man intent on continuing his future in the automotive industry.

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Naples Community Hospital, Inc.
Edison Community College – Nursing Collier campus
Basic Nursing Program – Collier campus
Naples, Florida

REGISTERED NURSES NOW

Program Overview

The partnership between Edison College-Nursing/ Collier campus and Naples Community Hospital (NCH) is innovative. The goal of the partnership is to provide for the education of associate degree nurses in Collier County. The end result is licensure as Registered Nurses (RN). The overall objective is to address the nursing shortage in Collier County by filling current and predicted vacant Registered Nurse positions. Edison provides the curriculum, faculty, classroom space and office support. Naples Community Hospital provides nursing skills laboratory space, clinical rotations within the hospital and its affiliates, financial support and assistance with clinical faculty support.

Core Objectives

In 2003, national reports indicated that there were 110,000 Registered Nurse vacancies in the United States, 8,400 of those in Florida. According to the Region 24 Workforce Development Board (which includes Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry, and Glades counties), it is estimated that there will be 336 RN vacancies per year throughout this decade in the five county region. Prior to this partnership, limited numbers of students in the five county area were able to attend the basic nursing program that was available only on the Lee campus. Education of students in their home county not only makes an associate degree in nursing more obtainable for the student, but benefits the local hospitals as well. Increased numbers of graduate Registered Nurses who currently live within the county will help fill the county's vacancies.

Achievements

The program has graduated its first sixteen students. The hospital and the college both are hopeful that the quality education received by the students as a result of this partnership will be reflected in successful RN Board pass rates.

Student Success Story

One of the graduates of the first basic nursing class on the Collier campus is an older, non-traditional student. She has desired to become a nurse for a long time and when she finally was ready to do so, found that the nursing school in her home town was not accredited. She decided to look around and moved to southwest Florida with her husband. She was delighted to find out about the Edison-Naples Community Hospital partnership and was very impressed that a hospital would support its community in such a way by actually being proactive about the nursing shortage. She received the scholarship offered by Naples Community Hospital and is looking forward to working in Naples as a registered nurse, feeling that she will be able to serve her community in its area of need.

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Lee County Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
Edison Community College
EMT- Basic Certificate Program as a Dual-Enrollment for High School students
Fort Myers, Florida

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

Program Overview

In August 2000, Lee County EMS and Edison Community College formed a partnership to begin offering the EMT-Basic Certificate Program as a dual-enrollment course for high school seniors. This concept was developed to meet the critical employment needs in health care. During the course, students are matched with other health care professionals. The main goal of the EMT-Basic program is to prepare the student as a competent entry-level EMT-Basic using three main objectives: cognitive, psychomotor, and affective domains. In 2002 Edison was recognized as an exemplary Postsecondary Career and Technical Education Program by the National Dissemination Center for Career and Technical Education.

Achievements

The dual-enrollment program has accomplished the goal of increasing interest in the health care field. Since inception of this format, 266 high school students have dual-enrolled. Over 35% have continued their education into EMS or another health care field. Students are surveyed at the beginning and ending of the program. One survey question inquires about career choice. Health care fields increase significantly at the conclusion of the program. Information concerning the performance of the EMT- Paramedic program is readily available to the consumers in a variety of ways.

Student Success Story

A single parent student entered the EMT-Basic Certificate program, not sure of what she wanted to do in life. She was struggling financially, and was able to receive financial assistance from Edison's Single Parent Program. She thrived in the EMT-Basic program and successfully passed the Florida EMT-Basic Certification Exam. She continued on through the Paramedic Program and became Florida Certified. She began working for Collier County Emergency Medical Services and was recently promoted to the position of Lieutenant. She went on to complete her Associate of Science Degree in Emergency Medical Services. In addition to her full time employment with Collier County EMS, she is now an adjunct professor for Edison Community College, teaching EMT students. She has come full circle!

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