

Three Rivers' Continuing Education courses aid the region's workforce

Collaborations with regional organizations

By **THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

The Continuing Education department at Three Rivers Community College has served more than 4,500 students during the past year in a variety of workforce, professional and personal enrichment courses. The department offers customized training and academic programs to businesses and industry in the region. Courses are designed to improve productivity and meet regional workforce needs. The College has assisted numerous businesses improve productivity, upgrade skills, and retain their existing workforce. Examples of topics include: leadership development; allied health; public health; technology; online courses; culinary fast-track; and manufacturing.

In addition, the college collaborates with regional organizations to meet workforce and community needs. Entities such as The Eastern Workforce Investment Board, City of Norwich and the Community College System have provided vital scholarships for students pursuing careers such as allied health (certified nurse aid, patient care technician, and practical coding and reimbursement). The college recently received a grant from AT&T to provide technology training to residents of a transitional housing facility. Courses are offered every Saturday in conjunction with the Chinese American Cultural Association to provide Chinese and English courses to residents free of charge. A successful series on autism will continue into Spring '08, implemented in collaboration with the college's Early Childhood Education Center, LEARN, Norwich Public Schools and the State Department of Education. Three Rivers' adult education partners have provided English for Speakers of Other Language instruction applied for specific professions such as the manufacturing and service industries.

Whether you operate a business in southeastern Connecticut, are a resident who needs to update your skill set or a community based organization helping those in need, Three Rivers Community College, Continuing Education & Community Services is your community college. For more information regarding Spring '08 programs or to inquire about training customized for your business, call 885-2608.



Contributed

Instructor Sheila Skahan with students from Thames Valley Community Action Agency. The Eastern Workforce Investment Board funded a college credit Early Childhood Education course to provide students upward mobility in the childcare industry.