Single Parent News  
Fall 2009
The Center for New Directions Newsletter for Single Parents/Displaced Homemakers in Technical Education
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http://careers.csi.edu/cnd

National Data
• Nationally there are 7.3 million displaced homemakers and 13.6 million single mothers.
• Displaced homemakers are more likely to be poor. Nationally 42% of displaced homemakers and 31% of single mothers are living in poverty.
• Displaced homemakers are less educated than single mothers, 62% of displaced homemakers have no education beyond a high school diploma, compared with 58% of single mothers.
• Single mothers are a younger group than displaced homemakers. The majority of single mothers are 25-54 years old and the majority of displaced homemakers are 45-64 years old.
• Single mothers are more likely than displaced homemakers to have young children living at home (Women Work, Status Report, 2008).

More than 2 million fathers are the primary caregivers of children under 18—a 62% increase since 1990 (New York Times, May 20, 2001).

Networking Luncheons
Single Parents/Displaced Homemakers are invited to get together for a FREE lunch on Wednesdays throughout the semester.
• Meet other Single Parents in other CSI Programs.
• Discuss issues relevant to life, school, and career preparation.
• Build a support system for success.

Luncheons are held on Wednesdays 12 Noon - 12:50 pm in SUB 247.
The dates are as follows:
• September 2, 16 & 30,
• October 14 & 28,
• November 18,
• December 2.

And now a word from a CSI student...
“This program came to me when I had no idea what to do as a single parent student. I needed help with what to do, to get help with financial matters, scholarships and funding available for students. This program is a lifesaver for those that are starting over as single parents and needing guidance. I continually refer this program to every single parent attempting to go back to school. Thank you!”—DaraLynn Crozier, Administrative Assistant major

If you are divorced, widowed, a single parent, a career-changer, want to upgrade your skills, have been out of school or the job market for some time, not certain what you want to take in school or what you want to be when you “grow up”—the Center for New Directions is the right place to begin.
**Do You qualify for the SP/DH Services from the Center for New Directions?**

- Are you unemployed or underemployed person who is responsible for a dependent in the home?
- Are you a person who must seek training due to separation, divorce, widowhood?
- Are you a single parent in need of marketable employment skills?
- Are you a single parent who needs to overcome personal & economic barriers to education and employment?
- Have you found yourself stretching time, finances, family and studies?
- Would you like to make a connection with other single parents?
- Do you lack a support system for yourself and your family?

*If you answered “Yes” to one of the above questions -AND- You are a student in Technical Education, contact Revis Turner, 732-6688.*

**Challenges of the Single Parent**
- Financial burden with the absence of the other parent.
- Time Management—balancing work, school & family life.
- Less time to supervise and train child(ren).

**Financial Aid Resources**

SP/DH Grant provides assistance for tools, books, materials or supplies listed and required in the student’s program. Only one award per student per semester will be awarded, dependent on availability. Call 732-6688 for information.

**Consider Non Traditional Occupations for a career.**

Non Traditional Careers, especially for Single Parent Women, are an attractive alternative to traditional gender careers because many of the high wage hot jobs in the next 10 years are in this group.

**Quick Facts on Non Traditional Occupations for Women**

- A nontraditional occupation for women is one in which women comprise 25 percent or less of total employment.
- Nontraditional occupations span all major occupational groups and provide many employment options for women.
- First, growth in the economy is projected to expand employment in many of these occupations and secondly, there will be strong demand for workers in these fields due to projected retirements or transfers of current workers to other occupations.
- Nontraditional jobs are attractive to women because they generally offer higher entry-level wages and a career ladder with pay between $20 and $30 per hour. (Dept. of Labor, Women’s Bureau, 2008)

“The single parent/displaced homemaker program proved to be very helpful to me and my family last year. Not only does the money help, but the activities for the kids and different topics we cover in our lunches came in handy.”

--Jayme Bohman, Welding major.