

**Cabell County Youth Empowerment Program**  
**July 2008 Report**  
**Kelly Plantz**  
**Student Support Specialist**



Good News for Ashley Nelson! Ashley Nelson who is a former Neighborhood Network and CCYEP student has set goals for herself and is accomplishing them one at a time. Ashley enrolled in our program in the winter of 2007 in hopes of receiving GED tutoring and job readiness skills. She worked very hard and only a few short months later Ashley passed the test and received her GED on February 8, 2008. She then began volunteering in the CCYEP/ROSS office. Ashley learned the daily office operations quickly as she answered phones, made copies, and

directed lobby traffic. At this time she then set another goal of attending post secondary education. Without hesitation Ashley began classes at Huntington Junior College on June 30, 2008. She then received a call that she qualified for a vehicle through the Good News Mountaineer Garage. On July 15, Ashley picked up a 1996 Chrysler Town and Country minivan. She now had transportation back and forth to college and to daycare for her 5 young children. "This was something that I never expected. This has been life changing not just for me but also my children", Ashley said. The future looks very bright for Ashley Nelson and we wish her the best

Mr. Jim Garrett, Educational Services Director at Huntington Junior College, visited the CCYEP classroom to discuss the importance of education after obtaining the GED. Mr. Garrett presented an overview of the academics at HJC. We then attended a tour of the college on July 30. The students were able to visit many of the classrooms and meet the professors. While visiting the classrooms it was especially nice to see many former CCYEP students enrolled in college.



The students have attended various workshops throughout the month with Cindy Shade, Mental Health Counselor. They have attended classes on Alcoholism,

Anger Management, and Building Self Confidence. Ms. Shade believes that each student could relate to the various topics in some way and the classes went really well.



During the month of July we had two students pass the GED test. Michael Halstead and Dustyn Eagle passed with outstanding scores. They took an all day exam on Saturday, July 19. Roderick Johnson also passed the Driver's test and received his permit on Wednesday, July 30.



CCYEP students attended the Food Handler's class at the Cabell County Health Department on July 23. After completing a test, students received their occupational skills certificate.

We currently have a waiting list and as students progress through the program, we will be calling prospective students in for testing and an interview.

## Cabell County Youth Empowerment Program Update

Kelly Plantz, Student Support Specialist

On May 22, the annual Cabell County Youth Empowerment Program cap and gown graduation ceremony was held in the auditorium located at the Douglas Center. This was a time to honor each and every student for their many accomplishments. The students were presented with CCYEP sweatshirts, the Freedom Writers book and journal, a gift card to Walmart, a YMCA pass, and a portfolio which included copies of their resume as well as pictures from various events they had attended. Students were awarded with certificates for the following achievements:



**Certificate of Participation and Certificate for Obtaining their GED** - Andre Canada, James Ross, Corey Turner, Melissa Waters

**Certificate of Participation and Certificate of Excellence for Her Volunteer Work, and Certificate for Obtaining her GED** - Ashley Nelson

**Certificate of Participation and Certificate of Excellence for Advancement to Higher Education, and Certificate for Obtaining their GED** - Corey Blaylock, Candace Cremeans, Dominica Harper

**Certificate of Participation and Certificate of Excellence for Finding Employment, and Certificate for Obtaining their GED**

Chris Gue, Trever Durhammer, Michael Pack, Charlie Schaffner

**Certificate of Participation, Certificate of Excellence for Finding Employment, Certificate for Obtaining his GED, and Student of the Year** - John DeBerry



Malcolm Ames, a Marshall University counseling student is completing his 200 hour capstone internship with CCYEP and ROSS programs. Malcolm helped tutor the students, and also observed the students while they were interviewed by our mental health counselor. He has expressed that he has gained some incredible experience through our program and hopes to work with us again while studying for his master's degree.

**CCYEP IS NOW TAKING  
APPLICATIONS FOR FALL CLASSES.**

**IF YOU ARE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 21 AND NEED YOUR GED, JOB TRAINING SKILLS, OR COLLEGE, MILITARY OR JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE CALL 522-0576 TODAY. SPACE IS LIMITED SO CALL TODAY.**