Spotlight Strategy: Supporting Adult and Displaced Workers

Somerset County Technology Center

Somerset County Technology Center (SCTC) has a large adult and family literacy program that offers, among many courses, a general education degree (GED) program. This popular program allows many out-of-school youth to obtain a GED, especially those who cannot graduate because they are short a credit or cannot afford summer school.

Additionally, this program provides job skills training to displaced workers in need of remedial education or retraining to boost skills for future employment. Students considering enrolling in SCTC's adult or intergenerational CTE programs can boost their academic skills through the literacy program.

This literacy program has been a valuable resource for residents in Somerset, an impoverished, rural county. In the 2008-2009 school year, SCTC enrolled 289 students in the program. Of these students, 14 individuals set the goal of obtaining a GED and 14 passed. In the same school year, family literacy enrolled 42 families. Currently, SCTC has 207 students in literacy and 17 families in family literacy. To date this year, seven students have obtained a GED.

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Somerset County Technology Center is located in Somerset, Pennsylvania. As a part-time career and technology center, it enrolls approximately 395 students in grades 10 through 12 and offers 17 career and technical education programs. SCTC serves eight school districts, and students from these districts attend SCTC at no cost. An additional district may send students on a tuition basis.