

Highlights Report

The Community Learning Network
and the Center for Adult and Lifelong Learning
www.cln.iupui.edu and www.adult.iupui.edu

Teaching and Learning

The Center for Adult and Lifelong Learning and the IUPUI Community Learning Network (CLN) are using a model of [Degree Completion Pathways](#), responding to the diverse needs in our larger community and the changing world of teaching, learning and online delivery systems. The model uses continuing education programs that offer a wide range of certificate and training credentials, furthering levels of post-secondary attainment and scaffolding to degree completion. CLN and CALL offer onsite, hybrid and online courses, providing students flexible options critical in degree completion for most non-traditional, adult students.

- The Community Learning Network (CLN) operates one of the largest continuing education programs in Indiana. In the 2012-2013 year, the program had 5644 enrollments and offered over 650 classes. With 18 noncredit certificate programs, CLN provides an access point for learners to take the first step in career development or opportunities for personal enrichment.
- For the past three years, 2009-2012, the General Studies degree program of study has graduated an average of 450 students each year -- 25% of which are minorities and under-represented groups; 70% of which are over the age of 25. During the 2012-2013 academic year, [Bachelor of General Studies](#) graduates received minors in 28 disciplines and 16 professional school certificate programs.
- Excel Centers are public charter schools operated by Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana that provide older students and adults with disadvantaged or challenged backgrounds a high school diploma. Participating students are then able to take steps towards obtaining industry-recognized certificates; undergraduate degrees from IUPUI or Ivy Tech Community College. Ninety five students were enrolled for Pharmacy Technician courses offered at three Excel Centers and the J. Everett Light Career Center. (Picture)
- The Center for Adult and Lifelong Learning (CALL) enrolled 9, 292 students in 212 online and distance education courses. Students could then make fewer visits to campus.
- College math and writing classes were offered to a cohort through a newly established partnership with the Fathers and Families Resource Center, a non-profit supporting fatherhood and male empowerment. The fathers, preparing for their first semester of

college, completed a six week course and saw improved scores on the ACCUPLACER Test. One student's scores rose by 40 points!

- The Institute of Reading Development, a leader in instruction helping educational organizations provide reading skills, served 428 children at the IUPUI Greenwood and Park 100 Learning Centers and on the main campus during Summer, 2012.
- In response to community focus groups' requests, IUPUI's Adult Learning Centers offered workshops and classes ranging from *Exploring Graduate School Options* to *Healthy Eating and Cooking for Diabetics*. There were more than 95 students enrolled for classes at schools, churches and community centers located on the near Eastside in the Martindale Brightwood neighborhood.
- *Childcare Answers*, a local organization educating both parents and childcare providers about how to best care for children in a professional and nurturing environment, enrolled 18 students for a 44 session training program offered at the Greenwood Learning Center. The successful students attained a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential certificate.
- The Indiana Parkinson's Foundation hosts an exercise program at the Greenwood Learning Center referred to as *The Climb*. This program is concerned with helping persons with Parkinson's reclaim their lives through active engagement. The program serves on average 13 participants per session.
- For more than twenty years the American Bus Association (ABA) has partnered with the IUPUI Community Learning Network (CLN), administering the Certified Travel Industry Specialist (CTIS) correspondence courses. This year, 34 students joined 635 members of the American Bus Association (ABA) who have now graduated from the CTIS program. The ABA and IUPUI created the program to provide an opportunity for its members to gain practical business and industry-specific knowledge. See: [Continuing Education and American Bus Association \(ABA\) Partnership](#)

Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity

Conducting research is imperative to building a results-oriented culture, addressing issues of access, success and equity. Toward this end, the Community Learning Network (CLN) and the Center for Adult and Lifelong Learning (CALL) works with the IUPUI Program Review and Assessment Committee (PRAC) and the General Studies administrative support team to implement plans to achieve IUPUI's enrollment, graduation and assessment goals. Faculty from schools across the campus are collaborating on equity and diversity research and have formed the Equity Institute and the African American Male Equity Project (AAMEP). Both are housed in the offices of CLN.

- The Center for Adult and Lifelong Learning (CALL) successfully conducted a [General Studies exit survey](#) obtaining a 95.6% response rate from 418 students out of a target 436. Findings indicated that 97.7% of the respondents believe their education enhances their prospects for future employment, with almost 60% feeling very well prepared for work requirements.
- In partnership with the Institute of Open and Distance Learning (IODL) Moi University, Kenya, the Center for Adult and Lifelong Learning (CALL) has launched an exchange project focused on adult learning and distance/online education. While in Kenya the CALL team, Myron Duff and Mary Jane Brown, conducted workshops on *Content and curriculum development for open and distance learning*, *Approaching community partnerships*, *Challenges faced in Adult Education*, and *Different teaching techniques in Adult and Professional Education*. The partnership has led to the creation of programming that is responsive to both university communities, the implementation of an international online learning program; faculty and staff exchange, research collaboration and program mentoring between the two divisions.
- Action research raising concerns about African American male high school graduation and matriculation to college was conducted by the African-American Male Equity Project (AAMEP). With Lumina funding, faculty from IUPUI and Indiana University/Bloomington generated a report on the academic, social supports and success stories of African American males transitioning from 20 of Indiana's urban high school corporations to Indiana colleges. Findings in the [African American Male Equity Project Report](#) suggest intentional, gender and race specific programming at both the high school and college level, make a difference in college access and success.

Civic Engagement

Connecting higher education to the broader community is a core value at IUPUI. Following the lead of Central Indiana's P-20 Talent Alliance and its multi-sector, collective impact model, the Community Learning Network (CLN), develops courses, certificates, and programs that meet demonstrated needs in the larger community where it matters! CLN was funded with a 2.5 million dollar grant from the federal government to launch three Full Service Community Schools (FSCS) in the east Indianapolis community of Martindale Brightwood. The [Martindale Brightwood Alliance for Educational Success \(MBAES\)](#) was then created as a University-Assisted Community Schools initiative with IUPUI serving as the anchor institution.

- During the past year 2000 parents and partners in the Martindale Brightwood community were recipients of a comprehensive family-friendly [Martindale Brightwood Community asset map](#) with 246 social services. The map, designed by the Indiana Partnerships Center (IPC) in collaboration with the IUPUI Community Learning Network (CLN), helps families better understand resources provided by each of the Martindale Brightwood Neighborhood Alliance for Educational Success (MBAES) partners. Additionally, 6900 unique services were provided through MBAES

- and its' 40 partnering organizations with services ranging from early childhood education, primary and mental health to adult education.
- Frances Parker Montessori IPS 56 partnered with Gleaners, a local food bank, to establish a school based food pantry that delivered 27,000 pounds of food to families in need. This important partnership was leveraged through the IUPUI Community Learning Network (CLN) and the Martindale Brightwood Alliance for Educational Success (MBAES).
 - MBAES Extended Day Liaison, Steyven Jackson, developed a mentor program to serve 6th grade girls attending IPS School 51. Forty one girls received group mentoring and discussed topics ranging from academic achievement, college access, career options and self-empowerment. Ten women mentors from a cross-section of educational and career backgrounds volunteered more than 50 hours towards this program. The girls' attendance and nine week grades notably increased.
 - The Martindale Brightwood Alliance for Educational Success (MBAES) supports [MBAES STEM Education through Urban Gardening](#). In partnership with Felege Hiywot Garden Center, IUPUI Community Learning Network (CLN) staff facilitated six student learning programs, conducted community education and participated in research initiatives.

Diversity

Commitment to diversity in the larger community and equity in adult access translates into continuing education classes offered at off-campus sites--in public schools, in community centers serving diverse neighborhoods, and partnering with non-profit agencies assisting individuals and families from every walk of life.

- The Center for Adult and Lifelong Learning (CALL) is partnering with Exodus Refugee Immigration Center to address the needs of Burmese refugees offering courses with the help of an interpreter. The Immigration Center, an Indianapolis based non-profit organization, serves immigrants from around the world who have faced war, persecution or injustice. The Center supports the refugees to self-sufficiency and progress. 78 Burmese adults enrolled for computer classes at the Immigration Center. Classes especially designed for these students included *Absolute Beginners in Keyboarding and Computer Use* and *Absolute Beginners Microsoft Introduction to Word for Windows*.
- Dr. Samantha Paredes Scribner, an IU School of Education faculty member, and Erica Fernandez, a graduate student, are using data to understand how parental engagement, particularly in the Latino community, is being impacted by school policies and practices. Supported by funding awarded to the Community Learning Network (CLN) and the Martindale Brightwood Alliance for Educational Success (MBAES), the research findings have been presented at national education conferences and to *Progreso De La Familia en de*

Comunidad (PFC), a parent group at IPS School 51 that connects Latino families to resources.

- David Suzuki, the director of the IUPUI Equity Institute on Race, Culture and Transformative Action, collaborated with Indiana University School of Education Center for Urban and Multicultural Education as well as a multidisciplinary team including faculty from the Schools of Medicine, Public Health and Science, and the Office of Equal Opportunity to launch a Cultural Competency Program. The Institute garnered a grant from the Indiana State Division of Mental Health & Addiction(DMHA) to conduct the program. A state-wide conference was hosted featuring Dr. Melba Vasquez, the first Latina President of the American Psychological Association, as the keynote speaker. See [IUPUI Equity Institute on Race, Culture and Transformative Action Cultural Competency Program](#).