

Out-of-School Youth Initiative

Annual Report to the Montgomery County Community

2008-2009



SINCLAIR
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Executive Summary



The Fast Forward Center staff is excited about the progress of the Out-of-School Initiative over the past year. Although we face many challenges such as policy issues regarding re-entry schools, future funding and working with our graduates to increase educational and employment success, we have experienced a number of successes.

The Fast Forward Center has been identified by the National Dropout Prevention Center at Clemson University and the Retention Resource Database, University of Arkansas as a national model and exemplary program. Our partnerships with schools and community agencies remain strong. We completed an extensive self evaluation of our program in January with the assistance of Out-of-School Youth board member and West Carrollton superintendent, Rusty Clifford and Sinclair Community College senior director of advancement, Office of Grants department, Neil Herbkersman. From that we have written a strategic plan that will guide us over the next three years. (page 7)

Most importantly, 2009 saw our largest number of graduates for one year. These 315 high school graduates gave us an overall total of 1,934 since 2002. In addition, Montgomery County now has the second lowest dropout rate of the ten largest counties in Ohio, and we have the most significant improvement in lowering our dropout rate of the ten largest counties.

Moving forward, we will continue to work hard to ensure that every 16-21 year old in Montgomery County who drops out of school has the opportunity to return and earn a diploma if that is his or her desire.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Carter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Carter, Director
Fast Forward Center

Executive Summary *(continued)*



On behalf of the Out-of-School Youth Advisory Committee I am pleased to support the work represented in this annual report. Included in the report is a summary of the hard work and dedication of many professionals including those working in the Fast Forward Center. The work is led by our talented director, Michael Carter, and those working in our partner schools, area school districts and many supporting programs.

There can be no greater testimony to the value of the Fast Forward initiative than the almost 2,000 young people who have obtained their high school diplomas due to the second chance they were provided through the Fast Forward Center and our partner schools. Building upon this success and recognizing that in today's economy even a high school diploma is not enough, Fast Forward graduates now have an exciting opportunity to continue their education at Sinclair Community College due to the wonderful generosity of the John Taylor family. We are pleased to note that there are over three hundred graduates of our Fast Forward partner schools enrolled at Sinclair.

We are most proud, however, of these outstanding young people who have chosen to resume their education. In many cases they are overcoming significant obstacles, in order to change the direction of their lives. These young people at one time walked away from their education, but later returned to achieve their goal of earning their high school diploma with the help of the Fast Forward Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah A. Feldman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deborah Feldman
Montgomery County Administrator

Introduction

In January 1998, the Montgomery County (Ohio) Commissioners created the Montgomery County Out-of-School Youth Task Force to identify why 22% of high school students were dropping out. The task force concluded the dropout epidemic was having devastating effects on the local economy. In addition to the obvious problem of local employers having trouble finding an appropriately skilled labor force, the task force also discovered over two-thirds of the county budget was spent on human services or criminal justice. It was decided the community needed to develop a broad, proactive dropout recovery initiative to stem the dropout tide. Thus, the Sinclair Community College Fast Forward Center opened in 2001 as a resource center for out-of-school youth.

Since the inception of the Fast Forward Center, its focus has been to reclaim as many out-of-school youth in the community as possible. To achieve this goal, the Fast Forward Center is the central access point for youth ages 16-21 who are out of school or not attending school on a regular basis. The center is a partner with area alternative high schools that specifically serve dropouts, as well as other alternative education programs to serve the needs of out-of-school youth.

Once contact is made with the center, an initial assessment is conducted which includes computerized testing of the student's reading and math skills. Through a partnership with Prevent Blindness Ohio each youth that receives an assessment also receives a vision screening and, if eligible, a free pair of glasses. Once the assessment is done, students select a school from a range of re-entry programs that meet their individual needs.

The Fast Forward Center has seen an increase in the number of youth that are reclaimed and enter partner schools to attain their high school diploma or GED. Today there are over 3,400 former drop-outs enrolled in partner programs. Fast Forward Center partner high schools produced 315 graduates for the 2008-2009 school year bringing the eight year total to 1,934 high school graduates. In 2001, the dropout rate for Montgomery County stood at 25.6%. At the end of the 2007-2008 school year the county dropout rate was cut in half to 12.6%. The success has been achieved through the work with youth and their care givers, local schools, government, business, colleges, and community leaders.

The Fast Forward Center continues to strengthen its program by incorporating additional support services for youth. Students involved with the Fast Forward Center have access to employment, job training and placement, vision screening, eyewear, life skills training for young women, tutors, Kids are Riding Safe (KARS) program, employment program for special needs students, interview/job attire, job coaching, after school services, Academic Resource Center, Early College Credit Options, and Ohio Graduation Test Intervention. These services are provided by Sinclair or in partnership with 12 social service/not-for-profit agencies within the Montgomery County area.

Graduates of Fast Forward Center partner high schools have the opportunity to earn a Taylor Scholarship that allows them to attend Sinclair for two years at no cost. The 2008-2009 school year was the third class of Taylor Scholarship recipients. Sinclair employs an Individual

Introduction *(continued)*

Learning Plan (ILP) counselor to work with graduates of partner high schools who express interest in attending Sinclair. The ILP process was provided to 330 partner school graduates who are enrolled at Sinclair. Of these enrolled students, 145 were newly enrolled and 185 were returning students from the 2007-2008 school year.

The Fast Forward Center has earned various awards and is recognized as a national model in the field of dropout recovery and prevention. The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network (NDPC/N) honored the Fast Forward Center with their 2005 Crystal Star Program Award for Excellence in Dropout Recovery. In addition, NDPC/N recently named the Fast Forward Center as a model program that has “Strong Evidence of Effectiveness,” the highest distinction within the NDPC/N model program database.

The American Youth Policy Forum featured the Montgomery County Out-of-School Youth Initiative as one of 12 communities in the nation that are successfully serving out-of-school youth in the publication entitled *Whatever it Takes: How Twelve Communities Are Reconnecting Out-of-School Youth*. The Fast Forward Center was also featured in the National Education Association/Youth Development and Research publication *Answering the Call: Addressing the Dropout Trend*.

Last school year, Fast Forward Center staff provided technical assistance to representatives from Monroe, Georgia, Cincinnati, Ohio and Evansville, Indiana. In addition, Fast Forward staff was asked to present program successes at the 21st Annual At-Risk Youth National Forum in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, February 2009.

The leadership of the Montgomery County Out-of-School Youth Task Force is a driving force behind the successes of the Fast Forward Center. Thus, the staff of Fast Forward would like to thank John Boggess, Rusty Clifford, Frank DePalma, Robert Johnson, John Moore, Ned Sifferlen, Fred Smith, Robert Mengerink and Deborah Feldman (chair) for their volunteer service and guidance, with a special thanks to Mrs. Feldman and the Montgomery County Commission for their continued financial support.

Organization of the Out-of-School Youth Initiative

Several local organizations and agencies are involved in administering and managing the various components of the Out-of-School Youth Initiative. The following describes the key partners and provides an organizational chart:

The Montgomery County Workforce Policy Board—

The local administrative entity comprised of business, government, and community leaders that manages the strategic direction of the local workforce development activities.

Sinclair Community College—Conducts and coordinates fundraising activities for Out-of-School Youth initiatives and serves as the fiscal agent for the Fast Forward Center.

Fast Forward Center—The coordinating organization for Montgomery County's Out-of-School Youth initiatives is led by Michael Carter, director of the center. The Fast Forward Center is a department of Sinclair Community College.

Community Oversight Groups—Two groups provide input on the design, development, and implementation of programs for out-of-school youth:

Young People Succeeding—A committee of the Montgomery County Workforce Policy Board and the Family and Children First Council, is comprised of representatives from agencies that provide support to out-of-school youth. This council is chaired by Dr. Frank DePalma, superintendent of the Montgomery County Educational Service Center and Jenni Roer, executive director of the Tait Foundation

Fast Forward Center Advisory Board—An oversight group comprised of area educational leadership, chaired by Deborah Feldman, Montgomery County administrator.

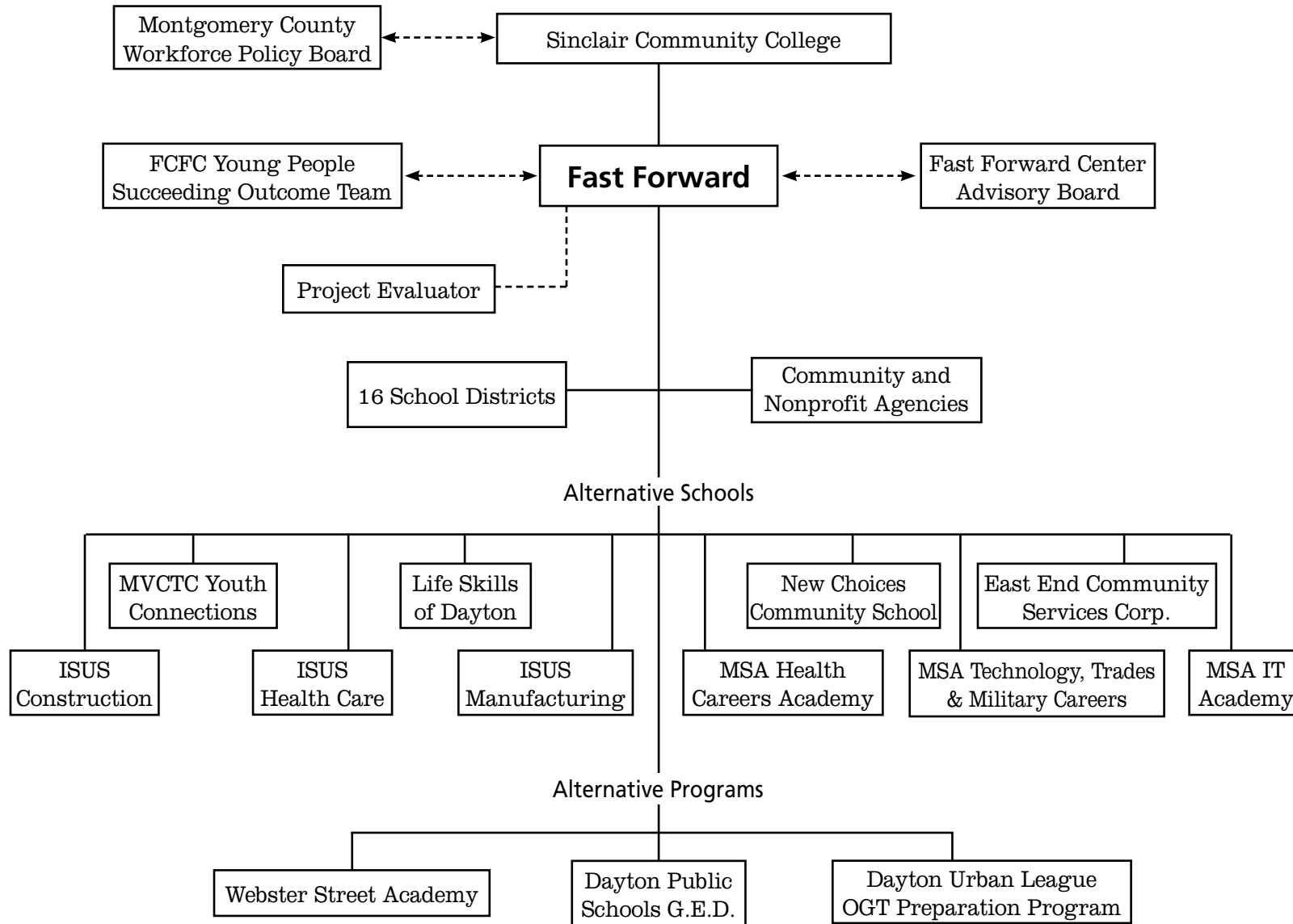
Project Evaluators—Dr. Robert L. Seufert, director of the Applied Research Center at Miami University Middletown, has evaluated all aspects of the Fast Forward Center's progress toward achieving its goals, objectives, and outcomes pertaining to key indicators of success from 2002 – 2006.

From 2006-2008 the National Dropout Prevention Center/Network conducted the review and assessment of our program. The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network is a research center and resource network for practitioners, researchers, and policymakers to reshape school and community environments to meet the needs of youth in at-risk situations so these students receive the quality education and services necessary to succeed academically and graduate from high school.

Since 1987, the National Dropout Prevention Center/Network has worked to improve opportunities for all young people to fully develop the academic, social, work, and healthy life skills needed to graduate from high school and lead productive lives. By promoting awareness of successful programs and policies related to dropout prevention, the work of the network and its members has made an impact on education from the local to the national level.

In January 2009, the Fast Forward Center began discussion with Dr. Richard Stock of University of Dayton to evaluate the Out-Of-School Youth Initiative, beginning in 2010. This evaluation will monitor the progress of the new Strategic Plan. (page 7)

Organization of the Out-of-School Youth Initiative *(continued)*



Strategic Plan

Fast Forward Center Strategic Plan

January, 2009

The Strategic Plan of the Fast Forward Center (FFC) provides a road map to and a vision of the future. It is firmly rooted in the April 2000 Montgomery County Out-of-School Youth Task Force Final Report. Our Strategic Plan is also based upon the cumulative effect of eight years of experience in operating a highly successful countywide out-of-school youth initiative to reclaim youth into the educational system.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Fast Forward Center is to reclaim the futures of out-of-school youth by reducing the high school drop-out rate in Montgomery County, Ohio through advocacy, benchmarking, collaboration, and/or financing partner programs.

Purpose

...To recruit out-of-school youth to schools and programs in order to earn their high school diploma or GED

...To create, select, and advocate for relevant learning programs

...To provide technical assistance and support to educational programs

Core Values

Reclaiming Futures ... Building Relationships ...
Transforming Lives...

Strategies

Accountability—We will continue to be accountable to the public by being good financial stewards and through the oversight of partner programs.

Student Retention—We will encourage and assist partner programs to improve student retention by using established national “best practices.”

Academic Rigor & Relevance—We will promote academic rigor and relevance at partner programs by emphasizing a curriculum that is individualized, career-based, comprehensive and relevant to the local marketplace.

Communication & Collaboration—We will demonstrate and support a climate of communication and collaboration between students and families, partner programs, and the community to fulfill our mission.

Action Plans

Accountability

The Fast Forward Center will:

1. Develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) process for partner programs in order to determine fund disbursement.
2. Continue to sponsor third-party evaluations of the Out-of-School Youth Initiative.
3. Develop a uniform data system for partner programs to report student and school information to the Out-of-School Youth Taskforce.

Strategic Plan *(continued)*

Student Retention

The Fast Forward Center will:

1. Promote a referral process that expedites enrollment at partner programs.
2. Encourage and assist partner programs in fostering a climate that allows students, families and staff to participate in decision making.
3. Continue to empower students by allowing them to choose the academic program that best meets their needs.
4. Encourage and assist partner programs in developing written policies regarding enrollment, suspension, expulsion and withdrawal.
5. Encourage and assist partner programs in developing an orientation, enrollment and retention specialist position.

Academic Rigor & Relevance

The Fast Forward Center will:

1. Promote the use of both qualitative and quantitative data in the academic decision-making process at partner programs.
2. Provide staff development and training opportunities for partner programs to enhance student achievement.
3. Promote alternative forms of assessment in order to support student success.
4. Continue to support an Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) intervention program to increase the Montgomery County graduation rate.

5. Provide Individual Learning Plan (ILP) counseling services for any program partner graduate who wishes to attend Sinclair Community College.
6. Promote academic opportunities that draw upon community-based resources and learning experiences beyond the school walls.

Communication & Collaboration

The Fast Forward Center will:

1. Provide technical assistance and support to partner programs.
2. Continue to recruit out-of-school youth for schools and programs to earn their high school diploma or GED.
3. Continue to collaborate with the 16 public school districts to provide services for out-of-school and at-risk youth.
4. Facilitate information sharing sessions to encourage collaboration between partner programs.
5. Continue to partner with community organizations to provide additional support services for students.
6. Continue to create, select and advocate for relevant learning programs that serve out-of-school youth.

Fast Forward Center Partner Schools & Programs

Partner Schools

Mound Street Health Career Academy

Mound Street IT Academy

Mound Street Technology, Trades & Military Careers Academy

354 Mound Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402
Superintendent: Anne Beane
(937) 223-3041
www.moundstreet.k12.oh.us

The Mound Street Academies are three alternative career-based community schools designed to provide a second chance to young people aged 16-22 who have dropped out of high school. Students combine real world, computer-based academic instruction with career exploration and work-based learning to earn a high school diploma with a career focus.

Improved Solutions for Urban Systems (ISUS)

ISUS Institute of Construction

ISUS Institute of Manufacturing Technology

ISUS Institute of Health Care

140 N. Keowee Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402
Founder: Ann Higdon
(937) 223-2323
www.isusinc.com

The ISUS State of Ohio charter schools were created to re-engage court-involved and dropout youth into the educational system and to offer them postsecondary

opportunities, such as apprenticeships and college level course work. On average, language and math skills were below 7th grade at entry.

Students alternate between academic, technical and hands-on course work—practicing their skills in service to the community. For example, construction students build green homes and install renewable energy systems. Manufacturing students fabricate wall panels using precision machinery. Computer students refurbish and upgrade computers that are gifted to inner city children. Health care students rotate as volunteers at area hospitals and nursing homes.

Miami Valley Career Technology Center Youth Connections

1133 S. Edwin C. Moses Boulevard, Suite 280
Dayton, Ohio 45417
Superintendent: Dr. John Boggess
(937) 226-1741
www.mvctc.com/youthconnections

Youth Connections is an alternative, public school program that serves students in grades 8-12 from thirty-two different school districts. The curriculum is competency-based which allows students the opportunity to complete their academic work at their own pace. Each student has a personalized schedule that outlines the work that must be completed in order to earn a high school diploma. Youth Connections houses a program that serves over age eighth graders.

Fast Forward Center Partner Schools & Programs *(continued)*

Life Skills Center of Dayton

1721 N. Main Street
Dayton, Ohio 45405
Administrator: James Brown
(937) 274-2841
www.lifeskillscenters.com

Life Skills Center of Dayton allows students who are credit deficient the opportunity to earn credits at an accelerated pace. The flexible scheduling of Life Skills Center allows students to maintain employment via participation in the Career-Based Intervention program. Life Skills Center currently operates three academic sessions. Life Skills Center employs a family advocate and vocational specialist to aid students and their families.

New Choices Community School

601 S. Keowee Street
Dayton, Ohio 45410
Dean of Students: Mary Goodwin
(937) 224-8201

New Choices Community School serves at-risk students and out-of-school youth. New Choices specializes in reconnecting students to the educational process. Students also receive life skills training and case management services. In addition, qualified students can participate in the Career-Based Intervention program.

Provider	Type of Agreement
Dayton Public Schools A.B.L.E. – G.E.D.	Co-operative (Partnership ended as of 7/1/09)
East End Community Services Corp.	Co-operative
ISUS	Memorandum of Understanding
Life Skills Center	Memorandum of Understanding
Mound Street Academies	Memorandum of Understanding
MVCTC Youth Connections	Memorandum of Understanding
New Choices Community School	Memorandum of Understanding
Webster Street Academy	Co-operative
Dayton Urban League (OGT/Proficiency Intervention)	Co-operative

Fast Forward Center Partner Schools & Programs *(continued)*

Fast Forward Center Partner Schools/Highly Qualified Teachers

The federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), which took effect in 2002 and requires that all teachers be highly qualified in the core academic content area(s) they teach, places major emphasis upon teacher quality as a factor in improving achievement for all students. This emphasis grows out of the research showing that teachers' mastery of the academic content they teach is critical to engaging students and is a significant factor in raising levels of student achievement.

New, newly hired, and veteran teachers in non-Title I schools, as well as veteran teachers in Title I schoolwide and targeted assistance programs, had to satisfy the definition of a Highly Qualified Teacher by the end of the 2005-2006 school year. Federal regulations require that new and newly hired teachers in Title I schoolwide and targeted assistance programs be highly qualified at the time of hire.

The educational partners associated with the Fast Forward Center report that 100% of their teachers are highly qualified under the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

The chart on the right indicates the number of teachers, number of highly qualified teachers and percentage of highly qualified teachers at each school.

School	Number of Teachers	Number of Highly Qualified Teachers	Percentage of Highly Qualified Teachers
ISUS	14	14	100%
Life Skills Center	14	14	100%
Mound Street Academies	17	17	100%
MVCTC Youth Connections	9	9	100%
New Choices Community School	11	11	100%
TOTAL	65	65	100%

Partner Programs

Webster Street Academy

Licensed as a mental health program, students at Webster Street Academy receive individualized therapeutic support as well as a self-paced curriculum in the core areas of Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies aligned with the Ohio Department of Education. Students remain actively enrolled in their current school, are generally able to participate in after school functions and are awarded credit for the completion of academic work with the ultimate goal being the student's successful re-integration to their home school.

Dayton Urban League Ohio Graduation Test Intervention

This program, administered by the Dayton Urban League, prepares students to pass the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT). The program runs four separate sessions for each administration of the OGT and is open to all Montgomery County high school students.

Fast Forward Center Partner Schools & Programs *(continued)*

Dayton Public Schools A.B.L.E.

The 2008-2009 school year was the last year of our partnership with the Dayton ABLE-GED program. This has been replaced by the Miami Valley Career Technology Center GED program.

East End Community Services Corporation

East End Community Services Corporation operates an educational case management outreach program for youth. The purpose of this program is to counsel youth on their current educational situation and encourage them to graduate high school with the expectation of continuing on to college. Jan Lepore-Jentleson is the executive director.

Partnerships

Prevent Blindness Ohio

The Fast Forward Comprehensive Vision Care Project continues to provide access to vision screening for all of the students assessed by the Fast Forward Center. After a student is screened, the Fast Forward partner school sends referrals to Prevent Blindness Ohio (PBO), the local affiliate of Prevent Blindness America. Based on the student's financial status, PBO determines which resources to utilize for comprehensive eye care (such as Medicaid, Sight for Students program, or Wallace Foundation Funds).

Clothes that Work

Clothes that Work is a not-for-profit organization that provides interview skills, work appropriate clothing, and workplace image coaching to low-income job seekers who are working to become self reliant. Fast Forward contracts with Clothes that Work to provide these services to the students of our partner programs.

Project READ/AmeriCorps

In partnership with Project READ, AmeriCorps will provide two academic tutors at two Fast Forward Center partner schools. The tutors will assist students who are credit deficient and struggling academically. The Fast Forward Center has made a financial commitment to cover a portion of the cost of this program.

Goodwill/Easter Seals KARS

The KARS program is a combined effort between the Fast Forward Center and Goodwill/Easter Seals which provides students who are parents and attending one of the Fast Forward Center partner schools to receive a free car seat for their infant or toddler. These parents will receive their car seat(s) after attending a mandatory 90 minute training class which covers proper installation, proper positioning and securing of the child.

Fast Forward Center Partner Schools & Programs *(continued)*

Additional Support Services

Miami Valley Youth Career Services

- Job Training

Juvenile Court Intervention

- Referrals

21st Century Grant

- After school services at Mound Street Academies

Burnette Clingman Enterprises

- Life skills training for young women

Unified Health Solutions

- Employment & Training Programs

Sinclair Community College

- Academic Resource Center
- Taylor Scholarship Program
- Early College Credit Options

Student Support Services at Sinclair

Sinclair's Fast Forward program has done an excellent job of partnering with community school sites in an effort to reduce the drop-out rate in Montgomery County. They have succeeded in cutting this rate in half which is a commendable effort. Sinclair decided not to stop there and thus developed an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) counselor position to work exclusively with the Fast Forward partner schools to continue encouraging youth toward educational pursuits. The ILP counselor has

developed relationships with Mound Street Academies, Life Skills Center of Dayton, MVCTC Youth Connections, ISUS, The Academy of Greene County, and Centerville School of Possibilities.

The counselor works in conjunction with Admissions to introduce prospective students to Sinclair's various programs and degrees through school sight visits, enrichment programs and campus tours. Once a student selects Sinclair as their school of choice the Counselor guides them through each enrollment step and then implements the ILP counseling process. The project is currently in its third year.

The Fast Forward Center coordinates campus visits and site visits with the partner schools to introduce the students to Sinclair. A process has been developed to support a seamless transition for students graduating from the out-of-school youth programs which include exposure to campus, individual sessions with the ILP counselor, on-site school visits from the ILP counselor and Admission representatives and presentations at school-based enrichment programs. Each prospective student is earmarked in a database and pre-assigned to the ILP counselor to ensure continuity. Once that student completes their placement testing an appointment is scheduled with their counselor to review the enrollment process and assist the student with each step. That student is then monitored for three or more quarters and offered support services and advisement. Upon successful completion of their goals the student is transitioned to the academic division counselor for advisement as needed.

Program Statistics & information

Enrollment Statistics

The overall enrollments for the Out-of-School Initiative for 2002-2009 are provided below. The 2002-2009 data shows actual enrollments.

Enrollment For Fast Forward Partner Schools									
Provider		FY 02 Actual	FY 03 Actual	FY 04 Actual	FY 05 Actual	FY 06 Actual	FY 07 Actual	FY 08 Actual	FY 09 Actual
Youth Connections		140	159	159	161	161	161	161	161
Youth Connections—Over Age 8 th Program								12	24
Maranatha Church Teen Mothers		10	40	35	—	—	—	—	—
ISUS		280	260	278	381	252	252	232	181
MSA	Health Careers	—	116	114	115	113	101	116	159
	IT Careers	—	134	113	122	129	101	126	113
	Technology, Trades & Military Careers	—	100	115	125	119	101	83	82
Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow		—	—	200	—	—	—	—	—
New Choices Community School		—	—	150	147	196	238	235	215
New Choices—Young Mothers		—	—	13	15	22	12	15	—
Frontier City		45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Frontier North		159	119	—	—	—	—	—	—
Webster Street Academy		—	78	75	63	195	130	120	107
Dayton Urban League—Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) Intervention		—	50	378	305	311	493	565	504
Life Skills Center		—	—	—	340	417	353	331	382
East End Community Services		—	—	—	25	13	13	172	350
Dayton Public Schools ABLÉ-GED*		—	—	784	838	528	573	609	968*
TOTALS**		634	1056	2414	2637**	2456	2528	2777	3246

*As of 7/1/09 the Dayton Public School ABLÉ program ceased operation. 2008-2009 will be the last year that FFC will be reporting these statistics

**In FY 05 approximately 400 additional students were referred by Fast Forward to other schools in the region that best met the students' needs

Program Statistics & Information *(continued)*

High School and GED Graduates 2002-2008

2002	High School Graduates	58
2003	High School Graduates	175
	GED Graduates	60
2004	High School Graduates	234
	GED Graduates	65
2005	High School Graduates	310
	GED Graduates	89
2006	High School Graduates	281
	GED Graduates	69
2007	High School Graduates	289
	GED Graduates	68
2008	High School Graduates	272
	GED Graduates	63
2009	High School Graduates	315
	GED Graduates	53
High School Graduates		1,934
*GED Graduates		*467
Total Graduates from Partner Programs		2,401

*This reflects FFC referrals of high school dropouts aged 22-34 years old to Dayton ABLE—GED program. As of 7/1/09 the Dayton Public Schools A.B.L.E. program ceased operation. 2008-2009 will be the last year that FFC will be reporting these statistics.

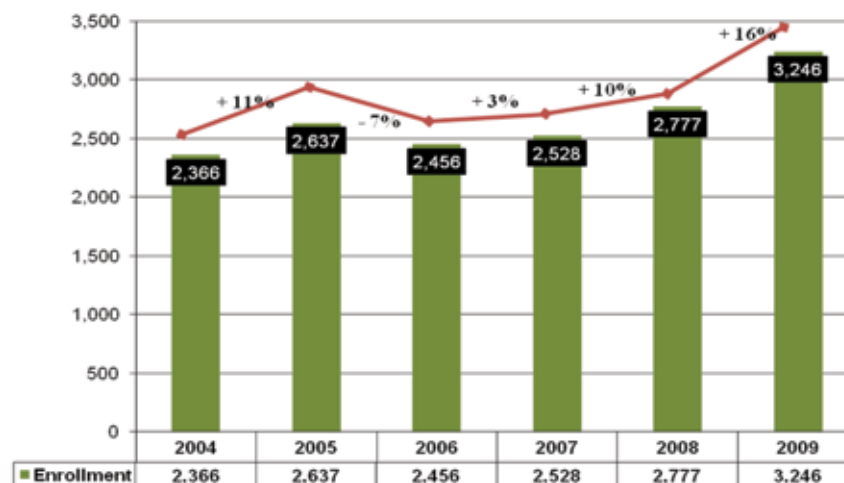
High School Graduates from Fast Forward Center Partner Schools 2002-2008

Partner School	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
ISUS	22	42	62	76	59	64	74	59
Life Skills Center*	n/a	n/a	n/a	13	56	88	85	99
Mound Street Academies	n/a	47	81	106	86	59	63	77
MVCTC Youth Connections	36	74	82	115	80	78	50	80
ECOT**	n/a	12	9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Totals	58	175	234	310	281	289	272	315
Graduates to Date: 1,934								

* Opened January 2005

** No longer associated with Fast Forward

FFC Enrollment in Partner Programs, 2002 -2009



Program Statistics & Information *(continued)*

Student Assessment Report 2008-2009

Categories	2008			2009									YTD
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	
Students Assessed	45	42	23	23	35	45	38	14	32	42	89	56	484
MSA Referrals	48	39	24	19	37	40	35	11	24	38	95	49	459
Males	15	22	6	8	17	22	21	6	13	21	44	27	222
Females	30	20	17	15	18	23	17	8	19	21	45	29	262

Ethnicity

White	13	12	5	6	9	16	12	6	8	8	12	18	125
Black	30	28	17	17	22	26	24	8	24	32	75	34	337
Bi-racial			1		2	1	1			1	2	3	11
Hispanic	2	1				1	1						5
Other		1			2	1				1		1	6

Average Grade Equivalent

Math	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	6
Reading	7	8	7	8	7	8	7	9	7	6	6	7	7

Ages

15			1		1	1							3
16	18	16	8	7	18	10	16	3	11	15	38	17	177
17	17	10	8	8	4	15	7	5	8	11	28	18	139
18	7	10	3	5	9	10	9	4	7	8	14	8	94
19	2	3	3	1	3	6	3	2	3	2	6	7	41
20	1	3		2		3	3		1	5	2	5	25
21									2	1	1	1	5

(Continued on Next Page)

Program Statistics & Information *(continued)*

Student Assessment Report 2008-2009 *(continued)*

Categories	2008			2009									YTD
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	
School Districts													
Dayton Public	11	14	9	6	13	10	8	3	15	15	42	26	172
Beavercreek		1				1		1	1		1		5
Centerville								1					1
Fairborn		3		2	1	1						2	9
Huber Heights	2	1				4	3			1	1	1	13
Jefferson Twp.			1	1							2		4
Kettering	1	1				1			1		2	2	8
Miamisburg							1		1	1		1	4
New Lebanon							1						1
Northmont	1		1	1		1	1	1	1		1		8
Northridge		1								1			2
Stebbins				2							2		4
Trotwood	3	4	1	2		2	3	1	3	1	5		25
Vandalia Butler		1	1		2	2	1	1			2		10
West Carrollton		1					1						2
Xenia				1									1
Charter Schools	16	6	4	2	8	13	12	4	4	11	14		94
Home schooled	4	3		3	1	4	1	1	1	1	4		23
MVCTC YC	1	1	2			1					3		8
MVCTC					1		1			1			3
Private			1		3		1		1		1		7
Other	5	5	3	3	6	5	4	1	4	10	9		55

Assessment Breakdown of All Students, 2002-2009

Gender

Age (years)	Number of Students
12	3
13	12
14	75
15	542
16	1,218
17	1,172
18	790
19	405
20	245
21	119
22	6
Total	4,587

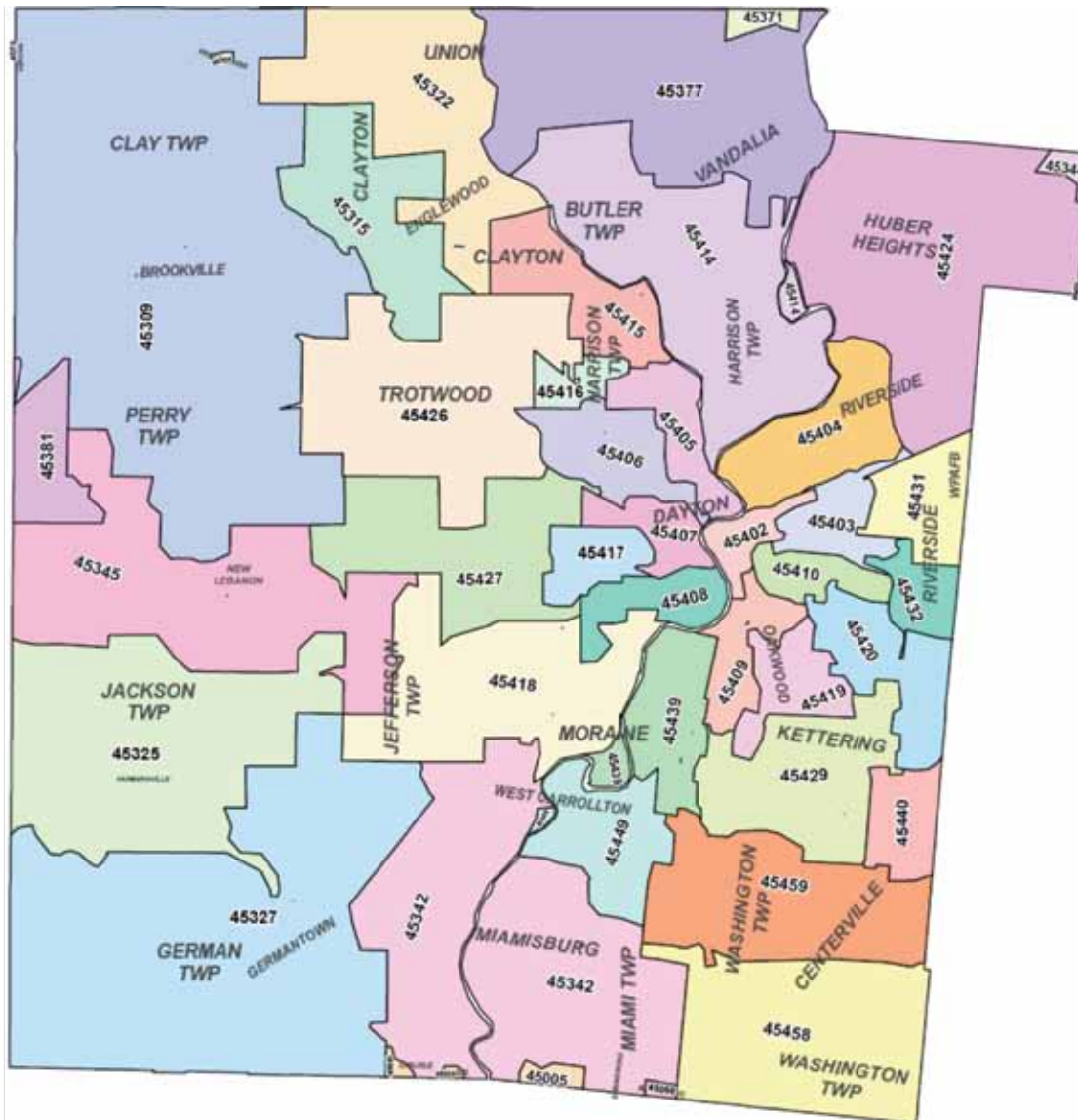
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Male	309	405	291	257	252	222	169	222
Female	417	538	337	247	238	224	196	262
Totals	726	943	628	504	490	446	365	484

Ethnicity

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
White	61	230	177	158	145	132	129	125
Black	350	673	435	332	320	292	223	337
Bi-Racial		28	8	6	13	10	3	11
Hispanic		2	3	3	6	7	4	5
Other		3	5	3	6	5	5	6
Unknown	315	7		2			1	
Totals	726	943	628	504	490	446	365	484

Program Statistics & Information *(continued)*

Zip Code Breakdown of Assessed Students in Montgomery County, 2002-2008



45309	10	45410	172
45315	16	45414	205
45322	41	45415	54
45325	0	45416	112
45327	7	45417	335
45342	39	45418	59
45344	3	45419	27
45345	17	45420	88
45371	5	45424	168
45377	64	45426	255
45381	1	45427	235
45402	196	45429	28
45403	228	45431	62
45404	157	45432	37
45405	433	45439	31
45406	702	45440	24
45407	200	45449	39
45408	433	45458	14
45409	18	45459	17

Montgomery County Total 4,532

Program Statistics & Information *(continued)*

Advertising Initiatives for the Fast Forward Center

In the infancy of the Fast Forward Center, the Montgomery County Family and Children First Council took the lead in developing advertising initiatives for the program. MCFCFC advertised throughout Montgomery County by:

- Having kiosks at various locations (malls, shopping centers, educational institutions, etc.)
- Distributing posters throughout the community
- Developing videotapes for dropouts and parents of dropouts
- Billboard advertising
- Advertising with Regional Transit Authority (buses)

Fast Forward then became responsible for its own advertising initiatives. The center has advertised its services in the following manner:

- **Postcard Mailings**—Sinclair Community College contracts with a local mailing service vendor. Through this vendor, Fast Forward can request the addresses of county residents that have children between the ages of 16-21, allowing the center to conduct targeted mailings.
- **Television Commercials**—During FY 07, Fast Forward ran a television spot on a Dayton area channel that caters to an urban audience.
- **Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority**—For FY 07, Fast Forward signed a six-month contract with RTA to run a 30"x 87" display on 20 buses that serve various areas throughout the county. In addition, Fast Forward advertised with RTA in FY 06. Fast Forward recently contracted with RTA to run exterior ads as well as interior audio spots.

- **Brochures**—The Sinclair Community College Publications department created a professional brochure for the center. In addition to using the brochure as an informational piece for walk-in parents and students, Fast Forward distributes the brochure at various community events, and to agencies that serve at-risk youth.
- **Posters**—In FY 06, FY 07, FY 08 and FY 09 Fast Forward distributed 11" x 17" posters throughout the community (churches, libraries, social service agencies, recreation centers, etc.).
- **Radio Spots**—In FY 03, 04, 07, 08, and 09, Fast Forward ran spots on local radio stations.
- **Radio Show Sponsor**—In FY 07, Fast Forward sponsored a local radio show entitled Rise!, a show that caters to a female audience.
- **Radio Show Interviews**—Fast Forward staff has been interviewed on several local radio shows including Rise!, The Educational Report, and Whose Child Is It Anyway?
- **Community Events**—Fast Forward has advertised its services at numerous community events (ex: Fast Forward maintained an informational booth at a local back-to-school event featuring nationally syndicated radio show host Russ Parr).
- **Movie Theaters**—In FY 09, Fast Forward contracted with Screenvision Direct to run on-screen ads that appear prior to the upcoming movie trailers at the Huber Heights location.

Financial Status & Budget

Out-of-School Youth Fast Forward Center Revenue and Expenditure Summary As of 8/04/09

Description	Actual FY 2002	Actual FY 2003	Actual FY 2004	Actual FY 2005	Actual FY 2006	Actual FY 2007	Actual FY 2008	Prelim. Actual FY 2009	Budget FY 2010 ³
Revenues									
Montgomery County grant	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
U.S. Dept. of Labor grant	76,223	421,777	352,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mont. Cty. Job & Family Services—TANF	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,045,000	915,750	420,750
State of Ohio grants	115,153	24,792	-	-	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	-
Gifts/pledges/earnings to date ¹	348,975	631,011	704,162	731,420	568,403	400,393	149,801	123,277	15,000
Juvenile Justice Block Grant	-	119,012	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21st Century Comm. Learning Center Grant	-	-	-	286,896	286,896	286,096	215,172	143,448	-
Surplus carryforward ²	-	266,897	310,328	288,317	382,595	868,648	1,258,625	1,284,134	1,353,294
Total Revenues	2,040,351	2,963,489	2,966,490	2,906,633	3,587,894	3,905,137	3,918,598	3,716,609	2,289,044

Expenditures									
Fast Forward Center operations	415,148	538,753	443,743	339,891	372,753	378,754	410,728	395,641	425,000
Program marketing	31,753	49,773	12,743	1,633	9,483	20,284	12,308	19,229	40,000
Student assessment	64,437	3,500	3,500	3,500	22,468	11,743	1,167	7,601	10,000
Program evaluation/model assessment	15,143	49,857	56,211	67,040	60,596	22,935	23,158	8,646	25,000
Youth Connections	134,957	858	25,000	25,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	37,500
Youth Connections—8 th Grade Prog. Lab	-	-	-	-	-	-	115,431	35,000	44,353
ISUS Trade & Tech. School	1,112,016	1,000,000	1,025,000	975,000	975,000	975,000	926,250	811,688	372,937
Mound St. Health Careers Academy	-	200,000	200,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	50,000
Mound St. Information Tech. Academy	-	316,000	200,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	50,000
Mound St. Technology, Trades & Military Careers Academy	-	369,012	200,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	50,000
Mound St. – 21st Century CLC Grant	-	-	-	286,896	286,896	286,096	215,172	143,448	-
Mound St. – Maranatha Lab	-	-	-	22,448	50,000	-	-	-	-
Dayton Urban League	-	62,956	33,586	30,000	40,000	40,000	45,000	52,500	35,000

(Continued on Next Page)

Financial Status & Budget *(continued)*

Out of School Youth Fast Forward Center Revenue and Expenditure Summary As of 8/04/09 (continued)

Description	Actual FY 2002	Actual FY 2003	Actual FY 2004	Actual FY 2005	Actual FY 2006	Actual FY 2007	Actual FY 2008	Prelim. Actual FY 2009	Budget FY 2010 ³
Expenditures (continued)									
ECOT Young Mothers Program	-	39,452	47,203	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Choices Life Skills & Young Mothers	-	-	285,187	80,080	-	-	-	-	-
Partnership for Youth – GED	-	23,000	6,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
ISUS Young Mothers Program	-	-	40,000	40,050	40,050	-	-	-	-
Young Women's Program	-	-	-	-	-	40,500	40,500	40,500	20,250
New Choices Community School	-	-	100,000	125,000	250,000	250,000	243,750	229,062	77,813
Webster Street Academy	-	-	-	2,500	12,000	10,000	-	10,000	7,500
East End Community Services Corp.	-	-	-	-	-	11,200	1,000	10,000	7,500
Future Programs (funding TBD)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures⁴	1,773,454	2,653,161	2,678,173	2,524,038	2,719,246	2,646,512	2,634,464	2,363,315	1,252,853
Net	\$266,897	\$310,328	\$288,317	\$382,595	\$868,648	\$1,258,625	\$1,284,134	\$1,353,294	\$1,036,191

¹ All pledges made to the Sinclair Foundation for the Out-of-School Youth Program have been fulfilled. The FY 2010 budget of \$15,000 represents projected interest earnings only.

² The FY 2010 budgeted surplus carryforward amount of \$1,353,294 represents the unencumbered balance of the Sinclair Foundation's Out-of-School Youth Program account as of June 30, 2009.

³ In accordance with the draft strategic plan, beginning in FY 2010 funding for schools will be determined through an RFP process.

⁴ Each of the schools is also receiving operating funds from the State of Ohio on a per student basis. These funds generally match the funds that the school district would receive if the student were enrolled in a traditional school.

Community Initiatives

Montgomery County Alternative High School Programs

Listed to the right are various district-based alternative programs throughout Montgomery County. Although these programs are not direct partners of the Out-of-School Youth Initiative, they have contributed to the reduction of the county dropout rate. Public school districts in Montgomery County and the Montgomery County Educational Service Center continue to do an outstanding job educating students who need an “alternative” approach in achieving high school graduation.

Schools	Program
Centerville	School of Possibilities
Dayton Public Schools	Dayton Technology Design H.S. Longfellow Alternative Learning Center
Fairmont	KAP—Kettering Alternative Program
Jefferson Township	School of Hope Alternative School Virtual Learning Lab
Miamisburg	Secondary Academy
Montgomery County Educational Service Center	VCS (Virtual Community School)
Northridge	SIS (Stay in School) Northridge Alternative School
Northmont	OASIS (Options Alternative for Success in School)
Stebbins	OASIS (Options Alternative for Success in School)
Trotwood-Madison	SOS (Second Opportunity for Success)
Vandalia-Butler	NovaNet—Credit Recovery
Wayne	Twilight School
West Carrollton	CAP—Continue Academic Progress Learning Online

Community Initiatives *(continued)*

Alternative Secondary Schools in Montgomery County Since 2001

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 - Present
ISUS	ISUS	ISUS	ISUS	ISUS
MVCTC Youth Connections	MVCTC Youth Connections	MVCTC Youth Connections	MVCTC Youth Connections	MVCTC Youth Connections
	Mound Street Academies	Mound Street Academies	Mound Street Academies	Mound Street Academies
		ECOT	ECOT	Life Skills Center—Dayton
		TRECA	TRECA	New Choices Community School
				Dayton Early College Academy
				Miami Valley Academy
				New City School H.S.
			ARISE Academies	ARISE Academies
			Chappie James Leadership Academy	Chappie James Leadership Academy
			Horizons Science Academy	Horizons Science Academy
			Main Street Automotive Academy/PACE Central	Summit Academy Secondary School
			TechCon Institute	TechCon Institute
			Wright-Dunbar Academy	ECOT
				OHDELA
				TRECA
				Virtual Community School of Ohio

Affiliated with Fast Forward Center
Online Schools
No Longer Open

Note: These options are in addition to the credit recovery programs offered by Montgomery County public school districts.

Community Initiatives *(continued)*

Attendance Rates for Montgomery County School Districts

State Requirement 93%

School District	Attendance Rate per School Year					
	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Brookville Local	96.0	95.9	95.8	96.1	95.8	95.9
Centerville City	95.7	95.5	95.6	95.8	94.7	96.1
Dayton City	90.3	91.2	91.5	91	87.8	91.3
Huber Heights City	94.6	94.4	94.3	94.2	92.7	94.6
Jefferson Twnshp. Local	92.8	93.6	93.6	93.9	92.5	92.2
Kettering City	94.4	94.6	94.9	94.9	94.0	95.1
Mad River Local	94.9	95.0	95.5	95.1	94.7	95.0
Miamisburg City	95.4	95.5	95.6	95.5	94.0	95.3
New Lebanon Local	94.1	94.9	95.2	95.6	93.8	94.6
Northmont City	95.4	95.2	95.6	94.5	95.0	95.9
Northridge Local	93.8	93.2	93.4	93.3	93.3	93.7
Oakwood City	95.4	96.0	96.2	96.4	94.6	95.9
Trotwood-Madison City	93.5	93.8	93.4	93.1	93.3	94.5
Valley View Local	95.2	94.9	95.1	95.3	94.8	95.6
Vandalia-Butler City	95.4	95.8	96.2	96.2	96.1	96.1
West Carrollton City	94.8	93.1	95.1	94.5	93.3	94.6

Community Initiatives *(continued)*

Graduation Rates for Montgomery County School Districts

State Requirement 90%

District	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Brookville Local	93.2	91.7	93.8	88.0	90.9	93.7
Centerville City	97.8	96.8	95.5	96.4	96.7	96.6
Dayton City	53.8	69.7	73.3	79.5	79.9	83.1
Huber Heights City	85.1	81.8	86.7	88.2	86.2	87.4
Jefferson Township Local	87.5	101.8	95.0	93.7	94.1	91.5
Kettering City	97.6	99.3	99.4	98.6	98.7	97.9
Mad River Local	76.7	79.4	83.5	88.2	88.2	89.9
Miamisburg City	93.9	94.9	96.9	94.9	98.5	92.7
New Lebanon Local	83.5	86.2	90.0	80.0	87.7	84.8
Northmont City	93.7	96.2	98.7	98.1	98.2	97.7
Northridge Local	77.0	78.9	75.6	87.5	93.2	94.5
Oakwood City	98.7	98.0	97.9	98.3	98.8	100.0
Trotwood-Madison City	81.2	82.4	90.8	93.0	92.0	90.4
Valley View Local	90.2	95.1	91.8	94.3	98.5	97.2
Vandalia-Butler City	93.0	96.5	99.3	99.2	99.3	99.0
West Carrollton City	98.3	100.4	91.4	95.4	86.6	84.1

*Previously in 2004, the calculations included stopouts and dropouts which allowed school districts to report in excess of 100% graduation rates.

Community Initiatives *(continued)*

Dropout Rates for the 10 Largest Counties in Ohio

2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006	
Lorain	10.5	Lorain	10.1	Lorain	9.8	Butler	10.5	Stark	10.8	Stark	10.7
Stark	16.4	Butler	14.7	Butler	12.2	Lorain	11.8	Butler	12.7	Mahoning	12.5
Summit	17.1	Stark	16.3	Stark	15.9	Montgomery	12.3	Montgomery	13.2	Butler	12.9
Mahoning	18.6	Mahoning	18.4	Montgomery	16.3	Stark	12.6	Lorain	14.0	Montgomery	14.1
Butler	19.2	Montgomery	18.7	Mahoning	17.0	Mahoning	16.0	Summit	14.8	Hamilton	14.2
Hamilton	24.0	Summit	19.0	Summit	19.0	Hamilton	16.7	Mahoning	14.9	Summit	15.0
Lucas	24.0	Hamilton	20.9	Hamilton	20.9	Summit	17.6	Hamilton	18.0	Lorain	15.6
Franklin	25.0	Franklin	23.2	Franklin	23.2	Franklin	21.1	Franklin	21.2	Lucas	21.1
Montgomery	25.6	Lucas	25.1	Lucas	25.1	Cuyahoga	23.0	Cuyahoga	24.1	Cuyahoga	23.7
Cuyahoga	31.6	Cuyahoga	31.6	Cuyahoga	31.6	Lucas	24.7	Lucas	25.5	Franklin	26.6

2006-2007		2007-2008	
Stark	11.1	Butler	11.3
Butler	11.4	Montgomery	12.6
Montgomery	11.6	Stark	13.3
Mahoning	11.7	Mahoning	14.6
Hamilton	13.2	Lorain	15.5
Lorain	14.7	Hamilton	18.0
Summit	15.7	Summit	19.7
Cuyahoga	18.4	Cuyahoga	26.6
Lucas	21.9	Lucas	27.1
Franklin	27.3	Franklin	29.1

Difference in Dropout Rates for Top 10 Counties in Ohio

County	2000-2001	2007-2008	Change
*Montgomery	25.6	12.6	-13.0
Butler	19.2	11.3	-7.9
Hamilton	24.0	18.0	-6.0
Cuyahoga	31.6	26.6	-5.0
Lorain	10.5	15.5	-5.0
Mahoning	18.6	14.6	-4.0
Stark	16.4	13.3	-3.1
Summit	17.1	19.7	+2.6
Lucas	24.0	27.1	+3.1
Franklin	25.0	29.1	+4.1

*Montgomery County continues to have the most significant dropout reduction rate of the 10 largest Ohio counties

This is "Report Card" data provided by the Ohio Department of Education

Appendix



Lessons Learned

Having been in existence for over eight years, there are many lessons the Fast Forward Center has learned. The five major lessons and keys that led to the success of the Fast Forward Center are:

Affiliation of center with an established entity

The Montgomery County Out-of-School Youth Task Force had the foresight to affiliate the Fast Forward Center with Sinclair Community College which is an established, respected entity in the county. Affiliating the center with Sinclair gave the initiative instant credibility. Residents of Montgomery County knew Sinclair would not risk its goodwill and reputation on an initiative that was not needed, or not well researched. President Emeritus Dr. Ned Sifferlen was instrumental in affiliating the center with Sinclair.

Location

In addition to having the foresight to affiliate the center with an established entity, the task force also had the foresight not to physically house the center on Sinclair's campus. The campus of a large community college would be intimidating for the students and families in which the center serves to navigate. Thus, it was decided to place the Fast Forward Center office at the Montgomery County Job Center. The Job Center, one of the largest of its kind and a national model for one-stop centers, houses several not-for-profit entities and county social service offices. Housing the center at the one-stop has been beneficial because the families and students being served by the Fast Forward Center are generally familiar with the Job Center. There have been many instances where a student has come into the Fast Forward Center office to enroll

in the program while a parent or guardian has been at a county office inquiring about social services. The location of the Fast Forward Center is yet another reason the center has been successful.

Students and their families want and need to be served immediately

Families and students that enter the Fast Forward Center want to be served immediately. It is imperative to reengage the student into an educational environment as soon as possible. Once a student enters the Fast Forward Center, test assessment results and student information is sent to the school in which the student chooses to attend. All Fast Forward Center partner schools have ongoing enrollment procedures in place so students can start at any time of the year. Most partner schools have weekly orientation programs so a student never has to wait more than one week to enroll and meet with school representatives. When working with a low-income and at-risk population who, in all likelihood, has had many experiences with social service agencies, it is important for them to know the process for getting a student back into school has been simplified and that they don't have to jump through several "hoops" to participate in the program.

Enrollment Criteria

As noted above, the Fast Forward Center established specific enrollment criteria for youth wishing to return to school. Since the Fast Forward Center partners with charter schools, one may assume the program does not enjoy the support of public school officials and supporters. This assumption would be incorrect. Due to

Lessons Learned *(continued)*

the enrollment criteria, the Fast Forward Center enjoys an excellent relationship with the leaders of the sixteen Montgomery County public school districts. In fact several public school districts actively refer students to the Fast Forward Center.

The establishment of enrollment criteria (students who have missed 50 days or more in the previous school year, students who are consistently failing to attend school on a regular basis in the current school year, or students who are referred by their public school district) has allowed the Fast Forward Center to stay above the charter school vs. traditional public school debate. Since the Fast Forward Center will only serve students who are out of school, or students referred by local school districts, traditional public school supporters, union leadership and anti-charter school forces cannot claim Fast Forward schools “steal” students from traditional schools. Thus, establishing enrollment criteria from the onset is one of many reasons the Fast Forward Center has been a successful program.

Having Options for Students

Another lesson learned and key to success is having multiple options for students. The Fast Forward Center has been a successful resource center for students because it has several options available. Each student has their own interests and abilities. Thus, the Fast Forward Center does not employ a “one size fits all” approach that is generally employed in a traditional setting. Students entering the program can choose between the various programs under the Fast Forward Center umbrella. Each program is different, and serves a different type of student. Allowing the student to choose which program or school they want to attend, not only empowers the student, it also helps them maintain interest in the educational process. In developing a similar program, it would be wise to provide students with many different educational choices.

Taylor Scholars



John N. and Connie Taylor

John N. and Connie Taylor, local philanthropists, established the Taylor Endowment Scholarship at Sinclair Community College to benefit the graduates of Fast Forward Center partner high schools. The Taylor Scholarships allow outstanding graduates of Mound Street Academies, ISUS, Miami Valley Career Technology Center Youth Connections, and Life Skills Center of Dayton to continue their education at Sinclair.

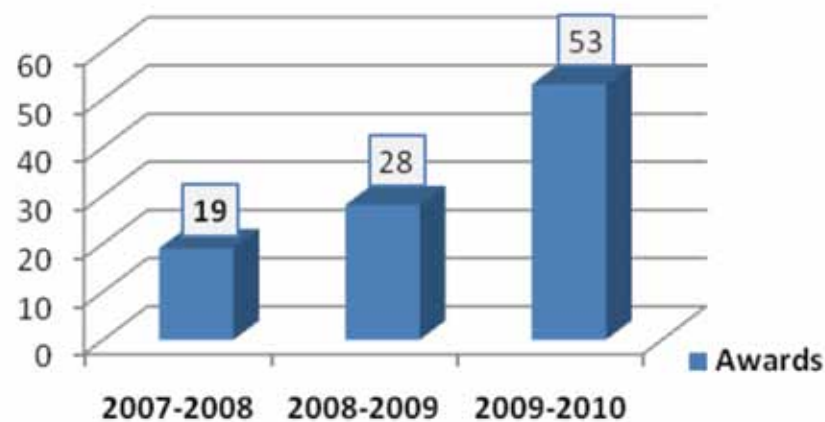
The scholarships provide \$2,000 per recipient, or \$3,000 in combined federal, state, and other scholarship funds, each academic year to assist a student in earning an associate degree or a certificate from any of Sinclair's disciplines.

A Sinclair Enrollment Services counselor is assigned to work with scholarship recipients to guide them through the transition from high school to college.

The Taylor Scholarship program is administered by the Fast Forward Center.

A total of 137 nominees were candidates for 2009-2010 scholarship which is an 87% increase from 2008-2009. There were 53 new awardees for the fall 2009 school year and 70 total disbursements (newly enrolled and returning). Total disbursements from inception to date are 100 awards. The retention rate for fall 2008 to fall 2009 is 68%. Taylor recipients have completed a combined total of 710 college credit hours.

Taylor Scholars



Taylor Scholars *(continued)*



Precious Robinson's Graduation Speech 2009

Hello and Good Morning to
Everyone!

My name is Precious
Robinson.

I would like to quote F. Scott
Fitzgerald, "You don't write
because you want to say
something; you write because

you have something to say."

I stand here today because I have something to say. I
came to Mound Street with only five credits and I didn't
believe I would ever graduate from high school.

Today I am proud to stand before you at the age of
17, with a high school diploma from Mound Street
Academies.

I remember when I needed help with my work and
everyone was there to help me. At Mound Street, if you
struggle with anything, I will guarantee you there will be
someone to help you.

Mound Street has enhanced my knowledge because I have
learned so much. When I first came I didn't even know
what a scholarship was, and now I am a candidate for a
full Taylor Scholarship. My plans are to attend Sinclair
Community College to become an EMT paramedic.

And with that being said: I would like to thank the
Mound Street staff, because without them this would
have not been possible for me. Just to name a few: I would
like to thank Mr. Mack, Mrs. Lynn, Mr. Jacobs, and Mr.
Hurbanek.

But most of all I would like to thank my Paw Paw, Mom
and granny and everyone who has come to support me on
this wonderful day.

I would also like to thank everyone for all of their help
in helping me to achieve my educational goal of a high
school diploma.

Last but not least, I want to wish all of my fellow
classmates the very best in the pursuit of a job or
furthering their education.

As I graduate I would like you to remember these words
from Aristotle, "The roots of education are bitter, but the
fruit is sweet!"

Thank you and I wish you all a great summer!

Taylor Scholars *(continued)*

Personal Statements 2009-2010 Taylor Scholarship Recipients

When asked what they wish to gain from their education at Sinclair Community College

Mound Street Academies Graduates:

Attending Sinclair will provide me the opportunity to not only gain educational and vocational skills, but also will enable me to network with fellow students and professors. I may be able to gain opportunities for employment through networking. I can also learn from others and their experiences and successes, which can help provide me with assets to become more successful. It is an opportunity that I want to take full advantage of.

—Ryan Jennings

I wish to gain training in a career that I love. These days, in order to be successful you must have secondary education and a college degree. I know that Sinclair can offer me such education to be successful. The training Sinclair offers will prepare me for my career as a firefighter/EMT.

—Matt Miller

I wish to gain more self respect and self pride by proving to myself that I am capable of doing something productive and worth my time to help in my future. I wish to later on in my life be able to look back and think that Sinclair really helped change my life around and gave me a second chance at a better life for myself.

—Jessica Jones

Life Skills of Dayton Graduates:

I wish to get an education that leads me into a career that could last me a lifetime.

—Whitney McGary

Sinclair will help me learn more about starting my own business. It will help me learn the skills I need to read and write professionally so that I can be the best at running my business. It will help me learn computer skills and help me start a better future for me and my daughter and help me earn more money.

—Kierra Hutchinson

I hope to gain skills to pursue a career in computer networking and specialize in network security. I also hope that it helps me to mature and learn to be my own man. I hope to gain assurance and know that I'm doing what is right for my life.

—Matthew Digby

Miami Valley CTC Youth Connections Graduates:

Besides a great education I hope to develop a greater sense of responsibility and independence. I also hope to make new friends and gain exposure to diverse new people. I hope to expand my knowledge through the academics and expand my interests with the extracurricular activities offered on campus. I plan to earn my two year degree and then transfer to a university to continue my journey.

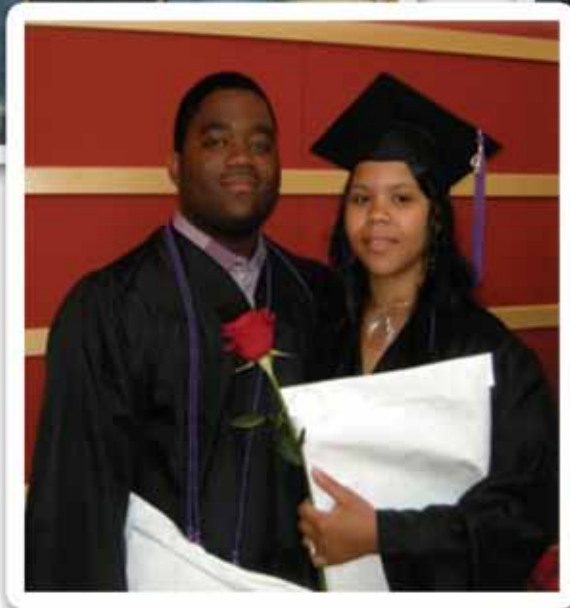
—Sarah Harris

I hope to gain newfound responsibility, a degree and hopefully a well paying job. Having a lot of odds stacked up against me I believe Sinclair can help me beat the odds and find my place in the world.

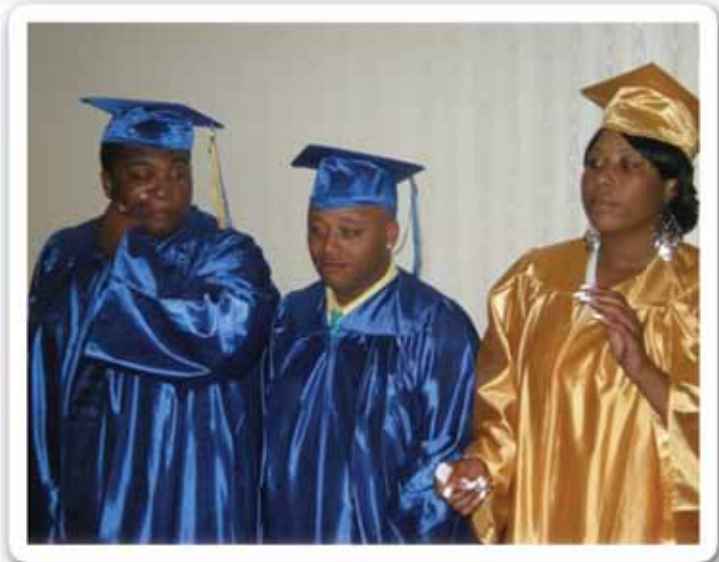
—William Buttery

I hope to learn more about myself, improve my self esteem and build up my confidence. I hope to learn about others too, different cultures and races which will improve my people skills. I also look forward to learning about my career choice and how to do my job.

—Danielle Allen









Out-of-School Youth Advisory Board Members



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Out-of-School Youth Financial Supporters

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