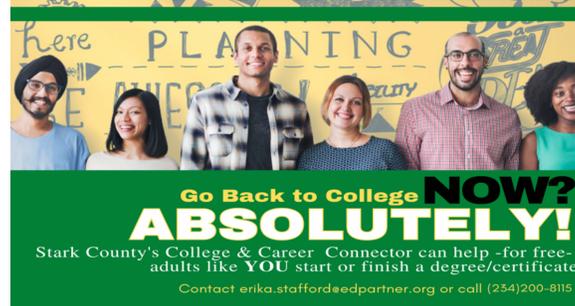


Looking At The ISSUES

Stark Education Partnership

September 11, 2020 [View as a Webpage](#)



Adults Restart College and Upskill Stark County

Adults who want to upskill or explore finishing a degree/certificate have an additional ally to support them in their quest. Stark Education Partnership AmeriCorps College and Career Connector, Erika Stafford, is working with potential students to find solutions to the roadblocks. Adult students may have incurred college debt; may have one time expenses; may not have system knowledge about returning to college; or may not know how to apply existing credit to a new interest. Erika's new role is to assist adults to and through the process.

"My experience in admissions at the University of Akron Wayne Campus provides me with a rich background in college admissions and financial aid," Erika explained. "I am very interested in connecting with the Stark community to support adults who want to upskill in order to earn a higher wage or salary; who were unable to complete a certificate or degree due to life circumstances; and/or who haven't had an opportunity to attend in the past."

Grant funding from the Strive Partnership and KnowledgeWorks Foundation enabled the Stark Education Partnership to recruit Erika for the position. Collaborating with Stark State College and Kent State University at Stark, the project's goal for this academic year is to reach 200 potential students. Each campus received a grant to help students address a roadblock. Additional funds are also available at each campus.



SEP's Pivotal Partners in Adult Outreach Efforts:

- Adult Education Programs
- Canton Community Health Workers
- Canton Urban League
- CARE Teams
- Chamber(s) of Commerce
- Goodwill
- Ohio Means Jobs
- Stark County District Libraries
- Stark Economic Dev Board
- StarkMentor
- Stark Metropolitan Housing
- Strengthening Stark
- United Way of Greater Stark

Erika may be reached at [\[email protected\]](#) or at (234) 200-8115. Spread the word!

The Stark Education Partnership (a 501(c)3 non-profit organization) collaborates with education, business, civic and community members across the entire spectrum - cradle to career - to create and respond to opportunities that will provide ALL students with education and career success.

