



Pathways to Success

April-June 2011

Meet the new Barton Adult Education Center Director:

Luke Seitz

Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center



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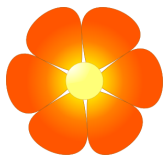
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Luke Seitz is the new Director of the Barton Adult Education Center. He is also an instructor of Language Arts at the Center. Some of you may remember Luke as he used to be an Advisor here at the Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center.

Mr. Seitz attended Ellsworth High School where he graduated from in 1978. He graduated from Bethany College in 1982 with a Bachelor's Degree in Education and Health and Physical Education K-12.

Luke has been happily married for almost 24 years to his wife Kim. He has 2 sons Austin and Jordan and 2 step sons, Joshua and Timothy. Luke is a proud grandfather of 3.

Mr. Seitz would like to let

everyone interested in obtaining their GED that the Center may be able to assist you in paying for the Official test.

He explains, "We can do what is called the fast track. A student would pay for the \$40.00 fee to take two timed tests. If they do well in those tests we will get them testing



on the Official Practice Test (OPT). The OPT's are half the size and half the time length of the Official GED."

If the student scores high enough on the Official Practice Tests they can sign up for the Official GED test. The student will need to fill out a Foundation Application. When they are ready for the Official GED Test the Center will pay for the \$68.00 Fee.

This sounds like a great incentive for those who are interested in obtaining their GED.

Anyone interested in getting signed up please call our offices and we will assist you!

Going to School Next Fall?

Just a reminder to those that will be attending school in the Fall. Get your taxes done once you receive your W-2s. Once your taxes are completed call our offices to schedule an appointment to get your 2011-12 FAFSA completed. This is the information that we will need.

Filing as an Independent:
You must be 24yrs of age or older,

married, have a child(ren), be a ward of the court, be in the military, or emancipated from your parents.

You will need your tax information and W-2s.

Filing as a Dependant:
If you do not meet any of the above criteria you will be considered dependant.

You will need your tax information, W-2s as well as your parent's tax information and W-2s.

If you are unsure of your filing status please feel free to ask when making your appointment and we will assist you with determining your status.

Financial Literacy Tips From Kristin

First off, I would like to start with a friendly reminder that NOW is the time to start applying for the FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid). Once your 2010 taxes are filed (unless you are not going to file) bring your tax form in along with your w2's and we can help you with the FAFSA form! If you are under the age of 24 we will need your parents tax information as well, unless we determine you are independent of your parents (please talk with an EOC advisor to see where you fall).

This being said, we are trying to push our participants to lead a more financially responsible life. Not only will this help during any kind of

schooling or training you pursue, it will follow you in your life with your new career and beyond.

*First, start with a plan! Get organized and set some goals. Do you have a credit card that you would like to have paid off by a certain time? Put that into the plan!

*Know your Net or "take home" pay. This is what you actually get after taxes, insurance and everything is taken out.

*Track your expenses for a month. Where are you spending your money? This will also help you avoid over drafts. You want to make sure you are spending less in a month

than what you are making.

*Where can you cut some spending? What are you spending your money on that is an actual NEED vs. something you just WANT.

*Keep in mind hidden expenses during the year. Like tags, taxes and insurance on a vehicle.

*Make a budget! How much are you making a month and subtract your expenses. Don't forget to add in a little for unexpected expenses.

*Try and keep a savings account if at all possible for emergencies!

*Pay bills on time to avoid extra fees for late payments.

*If you get into financial trouble, seek help as soon as possible. Talk to your financial aid officer if your financial situation changes, like a loss of job.

*If you are getting financial assistance for school, understand what types of financial

aid you are getting!

*Always keep an eye out for other financial aid opportunities like scholarships.

*Be aware of scholarship scams! NEVER pay a fee to apply for a scholarship!

*Use student loans as a last resort and use sparingly. Sometimes stu-

dent loans are unavoidable, and they are a great investment in your educational future! Just remember that you are going to have to pay these back when you are out of school.

This is just a few quick tips on becoming more financially responsible. If you would like more information or a workbook to help with the

process just let your EOC Advisor know!

*This information is based on the Consumer Credit Counseling Service workbook as well as www.smartaboutmoney.org/40moneytips.

Check out these tips!

CKEOC Staff and

Locations

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Interested in Health Care?

Are you a person with a desire to be employed in the high-demand health care field?

Are you low income?

Currently a recipient of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families?

Currently a recipient of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program?

If you answered yes to the above questions you may be eligible for the Kansas Health Profession Opportunity Project (KHPOP). "KHPOP will help pave the way to self-sufficiency and employment in high-demand, well-paying health care jobs including:

- Certified Nurse Aid
- Home Health Aid
- Licensed Practical Nurse

- Registered Nurse
- Dental Assistant
- Health Support Specialist
- Pharmacy Technician
- Health Information Technician
- A dozens of other health care occupations.

If you are wanting to enter one of these careers call us today to talk to one of our advisors about these programs. We will work with you and the local Workforce Center to see if you are eligible!

** Information for this article was provided by the flyer for the KHPOP grant from the KansasWorks Center.

GED Orientation

Great Bend:

Day Classes:
April 4-7

Fort Riley:

April 18-20th for orientation. Classes begin April 25th.
ESOL Courses are on the same dates.

Manhattan:

April 5th-7th

Salina:

No start dates available at this time. Please call our office if you are interested and we will assist you with finding out this information.

LSEC Cycle

Fort Riley:

The next LSEC cycle runs April 12th-May 26th.

Reminders



2011 ACT Testing

Dates: Mark your calendar for the following dates: (2011) April 9, June 11. Please keep in

mind regular registration dates require the regular fee. Late registration will require a late fee. You can register online at www.actstudent.org.

Financial Aid Submission:

Contact our office for assistance in completing your FAFSA.

Services We Offer:

Whether you are a current participant enrolled in classes, or a past participant, you may or may not be aware of all the services we offer.

We can also assist anyone needing to obtain a GED. If you know anyone needing a GED or needing to

enter a High School Diploma program please contact our office and we can assist them.

Our free services include:

- ◆ Scholarship assistance.
- ◆ Assistance with FAFSA completion.
- ◆ Career exploration and advising.
- ◆ Information about vocational/technical schools, colleges, and universities.
- ◆ Assistance with applying for admission.
- ◆ Transportation to campus visits.

- ◆ Career networking with professionals currently working in your field of interest.
- ◆ Reference library including career, educational, financial, and self-help topics that include books, videos, and audio tapes available for check-out.
- ◆ TI-83 Calculator program for participants enrolled full-time. (subject to availability)
- ◆ Assessment of academic skills and financial needs.





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<http://www.bartonccc.edu/eoc/>

About CKEOC

The Educational Opportunity Center is 100% funded by the U.S. Department of Education and is one of the TRiO programs. TRiO began with the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, in response to the administration's War on Poverty.



TRiO programs include eight outreach and support programs targeted to help disadvantaged students progress from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs.



32 Counties Served by CKEOC

Barton, Clay, Cloud, Dickinson, Ellis, Ellsworth, Geary, Graham, Jewell, Lincoln, Marshall, Mitchell, Morris, Ness, Norton, Osborne, Ottawa, Pawnee, Phillips, Pottawatomie, Republic, Rice, Riley, Rooks, Rush, Russell, Saline, Smith, Stafford, Trego, Wabaunsee, and Washington.