

# CalWORKs Connection

*Coordinator's Corner—Kimberly Tomlinson*

<http://www.laspositascollege.edu/calworks>

Dear CalWORKs Students,

It's been quite a busy spring this year! I know when the lull in the office drops down it only means that you are working hard to complete mid-terms, finish homework projects, and meet the demands of your busy lives. I am reminded that the warm glimmer of spring cries out for each of us to take notice of the ways that we are changing, growing and transforming. Each of us is a work in process, slowly unfolding into the natural rhythm of our lives and moving into places that are sometimes uncomfortable, sometimes delightful and always transformational. Some of you will finish that math class that has taught you much about perseverance and pride; others will decide to participate in student leadership. One will share the podium with our new President, Dr. Pollard, as she speaks about her experiences with diversity. Still others will work on campus and learn a different face of the community college. Some will graduate this May and walk across the stage having earned the first degree in their family and others of you will simply show up to class to do the best you can. Whatever you are called to participate in this spring personally, professionally or academically, do so with some recognition of the blossoming of your own life and the value of each step along the way. Life is our greatest teacher and all we need to become our best self.

The CalWORKs Program has undergone its own transformation this year as we prepared for a program site review and evaluation. This was a wonderful opportunity to share what we do well with our students and also receive feedback on how to improve our program to better serve you. A special thank you to Adrian Williams and Denise Rogers who participated and met with our evaluation team. A special thank you to Jessica Bias, our new Student Assistant who helped us prepare for the visit and a special thank you to Zina Rosen-Simon, Leslie Gravino, Vince Hamilton, and Jill Oliveira who came out to support our categorical programs during this Site Review. It was a wonderful experience for each of us, especially as there were many commendations for our programs and its collaborations with the campus.

Our program attempts to be aware of and respond to the needs of our students through its support services. In the last year and a half in collaboration with the Hume Center we have offered personal counseling services for our CalWORKs students. We are seeking feedback regarding this program from each of you as we consider moving forward another year with a dedicated CalWORKs Counselor. We have included a survey with this newsletter and will have them available at the CalWORKs office. Please return the survey to the Box in Bldg. 900 so that we are able to determine if these services are of benefit to you.

In closing, please be aware that this is your CalWORKs program and we are here to serve you. If you have questions, ideas or suggestions, please let us know how we can improve our program to serve you better. The CalWORKs staff is here to help you succeed. We are proud of your success. Best wishes as you complete this semester.

**SPRING 2008**



## *Pueblo Blessing*

Hold onto what is good, even if it is a handful of earth.

Hold on to what you believe, even if it is a tree that stands by itself.

Hold on to what you must do, even if it is a long way from here.

Hold on to your life, even if it is easier to let go.

Hold on to my hand, even when I have gone away from you.



## *Continuing Communications from the CalWORKs Office*

### *CalWORKs Counselor—Jill Oliveira*

Happy Spring All! I know everyone is looking forward to registering for Summer and Fall of 2008. I just want to remind you that you need to register for both Summer and Fall on your priority registration date. If you're unsure of what to register for please come in for a progress check and we'll figure it out together. Remember that I can also help you with any counseling related tasks such as probation paperwork, degree checks and general education certification for transfer. In other news, in Fall 2008 I will once again be teaching PSCN 40, Life Skills: Personal Finance. In this class we discuss credit, loans, budgeting and other financial concerns. We will be meeting on Wednesdays from 1:50-3:55 beginning October 22. The CRN number is 22586. I hope to have you join my class!

### *Student Assistant—Jessica Bias*

Hello Everyone! My name is Jessica and I am currently a full-time student, full-time mom, and the new part-time assistant here in CalWORKs. I'm very excited about being here to help with all your needs for county and college requirements. I too know how challenging life can be here as a student and parent in CalWORKs so please let me know how I can make your CalWORKs experience easier.

### *Counselor Assistant—Vince Hamilton*

I just want to remind everyone that in addition to regular paperwork, I am also available to assist with employment matters. I can help with resumes, cover letters, interview techniques, and job hunting. As the new school year approaches, we will be actively working with students who want to use CalWORKs work-study to meet their core participation hours. Feel free to stop by or give me a call!

## *Books and Supplies—Summer 2008*

Please be aware that the CalWORKs office must have documentation of eligibility before we are able to process your Books and Supplies forms. While we realize that this is often cumbersome, it has now become a program requirement. This semester you must meet with CalWORKs staff to review Books and Supplies forms and verify eligibility before paperwork will be sent to the county. **It is your responsibility to provide recent eligibility documentation to our office.** Please take advantage of the workshops that will be offered by Vince to facilitate this process. The sooner you turn in your Books and Supplies forms the sooner the County will be able to reimburse you for summer classes. In addition, if you need assistance with registration and course selection, please see Jill Oliveira. She is in the office on Mondays from 10am-4pm.

**Week of May 12th...**We will start collecting Books and Supplies forms for the summer.

Make sure you bring in your information early for the best chance of getting book money before summer classes start.

We will not be collecting Books and supplies forms for fall until July.

### **Workshops for completing Books and Supplies**

Monday May 12th, 2-3 p.m.

Wednesday May 14, 11-12pm

Thursday May 15, 9-10am

**Reminder :** We will not process any book money requests until recent verification is received indicating that the student is still on cash-aid.





## CalWORKs Office Reminders

### Fall/Summer Early Registration for CalWORKs students!

April 24-25, 2008

Class schedules available online

### Are You Graduating?

Let us know so we can celebrate your success in the next newsletter: (925)424-1459

### Personal Counseling Survey

Included with this newsletter is a survey regarding student use of the CalWORKs counseling services offered on campus.

Whether you have used our counseling services or not, please complete the included survey and return to the survey box in Bldg. 900 by **May 6th**.

### Transportation Resources

Unfortunately CalWORKs has spent the last of its auto repair funds for the school year. Check back early in the Fall for assistance.

We still have gas cards for those who have not taken two this semester. Bus passes are available as well.

### School Supply Packs

We still have school supply packs left for students who did not pick one up at the beginning of the semester. Stop by the CalWORKs office or contact Vince to be sure you get you backpack!

### Tutoring Available

Tutoring services are available to all students in the tutoring center in Bldg. 2400.

If you feel that you need extra help, the CalWORKs office can provide two additional hours of tutoring per week. Please contact the CalWORKs office for more information.

### Progress Reports

Monthly progress reports are due to the county by the 5th of each month. Bring your reports to the CalWORKs office for signature and sending. Also bring in a copy of your **mid-term progress report** to verify your current academic progress (EOPS progress reports ok).



## CalWORKs Womens' Group

Multi-Disciplinary Building

Reading Room - Study Room 2401L

12:30—2:30p.m.

May 2nd      May 23



## Parenting Classes

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Class Name</u>	<u>Adult School</u>	<u>Cost</u>
4/25	The Power of Parental Expectations	Las Positas College	\$10
5/9	Understanding and Improving Child Behavior	Las Positas College	\$10
5/16	Clearing out the Roost (Enabling your child's independence)	Las Positas College	\$20

For more information, go on-line contact Tom Dozier at 925-371-1576 or 925-570-5095

## CalWORKs Student Successes & Celebrations



### CalWORKs Scholarship Award recipients:

Heather Clark \* Patrice Roof \* Adrian Williams

### Portraits of Student Success

CalWORKs is also very pleased to announce that three of its students will be featured in the statewide CalWORKs publication *Portraits of Student Success*. The following students will be featured:

Heather Clark \* Christina Compton \* Stephanie Dunham

### Holiday Party Committee

The CalWORKs and CARE programs would like to send a big thank you to the CalWORKs Student Recognition Committee! Our special thanks goes to:

Heather Clark

Diana Lopez

Juhandryn Dessames

Jill Oliveira

Peggy Egan

Patrice Roof

Latoya Jackson

Rashelle Rouzer

### Special Shout Outs!

Juhandryn Dessames danced in a Black History Month performance and participated in a panel discussion for the Campus Change Network.

Heather Clark passed her tax preparation test.

Joy Hawkins is graduating!

Patrice Roof's pursuit of TIG Certification was profiled in the first issue of LPC's student magazine *Naked*.

### TANF-CDC Participants

The following students are participating in a program designed for CalWORKs student who are aspiring early childhood educators:

Jessice Bias \* Kim Gilmour \* Andrea Griffin \* Joy Hawkins

Ashley O'Callaghan \* Melissa Ott \* Dawn Wallage

### Spring 2008 CalWORKs Work Study Students

Jessica Bias—LPC CalWORKs	Lakisha Neal-Chatmon—Jack-in-the-Box
Brigitte Bridgeman—LPC Tool Room	Melissa Ott—LPC DSPS
Heather Clark—LPC Business Services	David Papazian—LPC Main. & Ops.
Christina Compton—LPC Counseling	Jennifer Powell—Excavating Svcs.
Juhandryn Dessames—LPC Mass Comm.	Denise Rogers—LPC LaPTechS
Mary Diaz—LPC Academic Services	Patrice Roof—LPC Tool Room
Eleni Fanopoulos—Riata Diner & Tavern	Celestine Rowe—LPC Counseling
Kim Gimour—New Horizons Preschool	Ronald Scheid—LPC Tool Room
Leticia Herrera—LPC LaPTechS	Robyn Sodbinow—Berg Senior Svcs
Diana Lopez—LPC DSPS	Adrian Williams—LPC Career/Tran

Would you like to share any successes or shout outs for yourself or someone else?

Shout them our way: 925-424-1459 \* vhamilton@laspositascollege.edu

<http://www.laspositascollege.edu/calworks>

Las Positas College \* Bldg. 900 \* 3000 Campus Hill Drive \* Livermore, CA 94551

## Staff & Hours

### CalWORKs Office Hours

Monday: 8:00am—4:00pm

Tuesday: 8:00am—5:00pm

Wednesday: 8:00am—6:00pm

Thursday: 8:00am—5:00pm

Friday: 9:00am—1:30pm

Kimberly Tomlinson

CalWORKs Coordinator

925-424-1432

ktomlinson@laspositascollege.edu

Jill Oliviera

CalWORKs Counselor

925-424-1432

joliviera@laspositascollege.edu

Vince Hamilton

CalWORKs Assistant

925-424-1459

vhamilton@laspositascollege.edu

Jessica Bias

CalWORKs Assistant

925-424-1459

