Susanne Yarmer began her experiences with the Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center (CKEOC) in 2007 as an employee through a Temp Agency. Susanne was and remains a great asset for the CKEOC program due to her compassion of helping others to better their lives. Realizing Susanne’s skills early on as a Temp Employee she was encouraged to apply for the CKEOC Secretary Data Specialist open fulltime position. During her tenure with CKEOC, she was encouraged to continue her education and made the commitment to enroll in classes at Barton Community College. Susanne worked diligently balancing work, school and home schooling her children during her employment with EOC. Sadly for CKEOC, Susanne resigned from her position to focus on spending more time at home to educate her children.

A few years later Susanne was back working in the educational field as a Test Proctor/Assistant for Barton Community College’s Center for Adult Education (CAE), a close working partner with our Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center. From the very beginning of her employment she felt confident in her position as she had worked with CAE partner staff and potential students needing a High School Diploma while employed with CKEOC. Susanne’s passion for the CKEOC program compelled her to personally walk students on a continual basis to the CKEOC office inspiring them to seek services. CKEOC staff having the ongoing opportunity to work with Susanne prompted the conversation encouraging her to return to school. She was already having those exact thoughts herself but was somewhat apprehensive due to her work schedule and the many miles she drives each day. After prayers and deliberation, she made the decision to
CKEOC Participants Susanne Yarmer and Son Justin White Graduate Together (Cont.)

return to school enrolling in online classes with CKEOC staff assisting her with the educational processes. All of the hard work and time management paid off and Susanne first completed Barton Community College’s Medical Terminology Certificate program and continued her education graduating with an Associate’s Medical Administrative Technology degree.

While Susanne was employed at CKEOC, her children frequented the office and became familiar with the educational services and assistance offered. Eight years passed and her son, Justin White, was involved in an accident and suffered a brain injury. Through healing with the encouragement of his mother, Justin made the decision to complete his high school diploma at Barton Community College’s Center for Adult education. Of course this step seemed it could be a difficult task for him, however he persevered and completed his goal. With this accomplishment, Susanne’s husband and family encouraged Justin to continue his education. Susanne urged him to reach out to the CKEOC program to assist him with choosing a program of study, enrollment, and financial aid processes. Although Justin was still healing from his injury and working two jobs, he chose the Natural Gas and Transmission curriculum that is one of Barton Community College’s more rigorous programs. Justin accomplished his goals earning his Barton Community College’s Natural Gas Transmission Associate’s Degree. His plan after graduation was to secure a position in a field that he would enjoy working in and that transpired immediately. He is currently employed at Ron’s Pipeline & Welding in Russell, KS!

Mother and son supporting one another through it all shined together at Barton Community College’s Commencement on May 11, 2018 with their proud family present supporting and cheering them on! Susanne commented, “I wouldn’t have been able to navigate through the financial aid and student enrollment maze without the help of EOC over these few years.”

CKEOC Staff congratulate Susanne and Justin!!
Alyssa Graben, one of this quarter’s outstanding participants, relocated from Tennessee to Kansas in 2017 after her husband was assigned Fort Riley as his duty station. After graduating from Rossview High School in Clarksville, she started a program of Biology at Austin Peay State University in pursuit of an ultimate goal of becoming a pediatric physical therapist. Since then, she has had to stop and resume her college education multiple times as various circumstances prevented her from finishing. Once she arrived in Fort Riley, completing a degree was a primary focus.

Alyssa realized this goal when she completed her Associate of Science in Liberal Studies from Barton County Community College in December 2017. When asked if her college experience has been positive, she replied, “Yes! Every college campus is different and holds its own unique values, but I can say that the teachers, students and overall atmosphere at Barton County Community College was by far the best. I made the most friends, received the best grades, and had the best instructors while at Fort Riley!”

It was the drive to complete her associates degree that connected her with TRiO Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center (CKEOC). Alyssa relates, “When I signed up for classes at the Education Building on Fort Riley, there were plenty of signs around offering services and information to prospective and current students. From there, it was easy to connect with the right people. TRiO CKEOC assisted with filling out my first FAFSA after becoming a military dependent. I had taken a year off from school and felt very nervous about trying everything over again, but the process was so much smoother and less stressful when I found the right support system. I wish I would have had this kind of guidance when I first started college!”

Now that Alyssa has achieved her goal of attaining an associate’s degree, she sees many potential opportunities ahead of her, stating, “I really want to find a unique way to help people and society; this may be by creating a gray water recycling system using aquaponics, possibly by following through with my high school goal of becoming a pediatric physical therapist, opening a dog daycare/boarding/grooming/training/rescue facility, or all of the above! Having this associate’s degree from Barton has certainly laid a solid foundation for me to continue reaching for the stars!”

Though those goals may be realized in the future, Alyssa indicated that her degree has already paid off in the present by helping her succeed in securing an exciting employment opportunity, explaining, “After finishing my degree at Barton, GTM/Champion, a Hanes affiliate, has picked me up as a full-time graphic artist intern! This is by far the best job I have ever had, and I am certain I would not have qualified before attaining my degree.”

In her free time, Alyssa enjoys spending time with her husband of four years and their four fur-babies (two Great Pyrenees and two Australian shepherd mixes). She also went on to say “Road-trips and trail runs are my favorite family activities! I also get a little carried away with crafting, researching anything/everything, and journaling.”

When asked if she had any parting advice to those seeking to start or resume their education, Alyssa stated “Life is so much easier and more enjoyable when you surround yourself with the right people that are supportive, positive and genuinely caring. I found that with TRiO CKEOC.”
Outstanding Participant: Alicia Keenan

Alicia Keenan met with CKEOC staff in Fall 2016. This was during a time of transition for her and she was looking at going back to school to obtain the skills needed for a new career. In spite of this change, she was motivated by her father’s advice of “move forward, never let for tomorrow what you can do today.” Alicia has been hearing her father’s words throughout her life. She came to the U.S. from Mexico in 1995 and soon after sought out English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. Next she attended Barton Community College, and then Johnson County Community College where she received an Associate’s Degree in Hospitality Management in May 2001.

Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center was available to help Alicia when it was again time to move forward in life. She said that “when I decided to go back to school in 2016, (CKEOC) was my first stop.” She worked with CKEOC staff to research schools, and ultimately decided on attending the Hays Academy of Hair Design in Hays for Cosmetology. CKEOC assisted in a variety of ways including with completing the FAFSA, submitting the application for admission, and accompanying her on a campus visit. She views the staff at CKEOC as a “group of angels, working to make their clients’ dreams come true,” and who are “very dedicated to helping prospective students in every way.”

Attending school required Alicia to drive back and forth daily between Great Bend and Hays in all kinds of weather. However, holding on to her belief that “nothing worthwhile comes easily,” she made it her “practice to always get to the school each day because when you want to reach a goal and believe in yourself, there is really no obstacle which can stop you.” Alicia expressed that she gained a great deal of self-satisfaction through the Cosmetology program and describes her experience as very positive. She feels her education at Hays Academy augmented her knowledge as well as improved work and life skills. Alicia also values the relationships that she fostered with her classmates, clients, and the Hays community.

Alicia graduated from the Hays Academy of Hair Design in November 2017 with a certificate in Cosmetology having acquired skills with hair, pedicures, manicures, and facials. Her success can be attributed to discipline, consistency, determination, and courage, which she says “are a must.” Her goals now include making the most of her work and personal life utilizing her newly acquired skills.

Alicia cherishes spending time with her daughter Rachel, who is a student at the University of Kansas, other family members and her “cute” dog Mocca who she considers family. She also enjoys music, movies, cooking and gardening.

By applying the words of her father, Alicia has consistently moved forward in life. Through her own perseverance she has accomplished many things and has become an inspiration to others. CKEOC is privileged to have had the opportunity to assist Alicia in her success and is pleased to name her an Outstanding Participant.
Graduating members of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), the world’s largest and most prestigious honor society for two-year college students and Alpha Sigma Lambda (ASL), a national honorary that celebrates the scholarship and leadership of adult students, are being recognized for their accomplishments. CKEOC would like to recognize its participants that count themselves as members of these prestigious organizations.

CKEOC Congratulates ASL and PTK Graduates

Alesha Brown
Janet David
Skylar Heiss
Timothy Kohls

Caroline Brankley
Amber Carlson
Janet David
Kendra Jones
Timothy Kohls

Princess Pabalan
Maurice Powell
Maria Ramirez Balderrama
Melissa Stout
Liyu Williams
Central Kansas Educational Opportunity Center

2018 CKEOC GRADUATES

Barton Community College
Lossa Adogle
Kamila Almeida
Kadella Anderson
Chase Ash-Carson
Caroline Brankley
Aleesha Brown
Luis Carollo
Antonio Carrasco
Zachary Clothier
Nicco Cousins
Robert Cox
Jose Crespo
Yaizanet Cruz
Janet David
Andrea Davidson
Dalton Floyd
Kyle Ford
Alyssa Graben
Nicholas Hasbrouck
Skyler Heiss
Josie Hickey
Alicia Hollenbeck
Dalton Floyd
Kyle Ford
Emily Johnson
Kendra Jones
Whitney Kane
Chelsea Kaundart
Julie Keller
Timothy Kohls
Shayla Lamartina
Elizabeth Lancaster

Austin Livingston
Jesus Luhan
Julia Martin
Iban Martinez
Murissa McCoy
Torrin McDougle
Eden Mulligan
Cassandra Musinski
Sydney Niemeyer
Princess Pabalan
Lesidia Parkmon
Tony Pena
Tiffini Perez
Maurice Powell
Anahi Prieto
Joshua Prieto
Antonio Quiroz
Maria Ramirez Balderrama
Jasmine Reyes
Symone Rippy
Victoria Rodriguez
Paul Shaw
Lauren Smith
Quadre Spratling
Shana Stephenson
Melissa Stout
Zachary Studna
Omar Talamantes
Santiago Talamantes
Jessica Torres
Olivia Trevino
Hypatia Wallis
Justin White
Liyu Williams
Raymundo Ziad
Central Texas College
Norberto Anzures, Jr
Mashavu Cassells
María Maldonado
Scott Tobin
Erik Wallace
Michael Williams

Cochise College
Nina Hindsman

Hutchinson Community College
Omar Barragan
Timothy Oliver
Lacey Scales
Christian Payne-King
Andrew Allwood
Tanner Belden
Jasmine Dales
Lorena Donzé
Hannah Jones
Patrick Ly
Shane McCarthy
Adrain Rosario
Marybeth Valoaga

Kansas State University
Christopher Burley
Greg Burley
Cody Hughes
Christian Matthews
Christian Renfro

Manhattan Area Technical College
George Alexander, IV
Christopher Anderson
Amber Carlson
Robert Jackson
Joshua Reid
Thomas Remily

North Central Kansas Technical College
Sammual Klaus
Kaylee McGann
Harley North
Acey Richmond
Daniel Stephens
Lindsey Villarreal

Southwestern College
Robert Sanchez, Jr

University of Kansas
Alyssa Graben

Upper Iowa University
Ki’Era Coleman
Janet David
Stephanie Hartman

2018
Only as high as I reach can I GROW,
only as far as I SEEK can I go,
only as deep as I LOOK can I SEE,
only as much as I DREAM can I BE.

~Karen Raun
### ACT Test Dates

If you or someone you know are planning to attend a post-secondary college in 2018-2019, it is time to mark your calendar for the following dates for the ACT test.

The following ACT test centers will provide the ACT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Test Center</th>
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<td>Fort Hays State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hoisington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junction City</td>
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<td>Kansas Wesleyan University</td>
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<td>Salina High School South</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wamego</td>
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You may register online or by mail. The online address is www.actstudent.org and you can request a registration packet from ACT.
MAIN CAMPUS PLANNING CALENDAR

Aug 6-10  Fall Late Registration
Aug 15    Fall Classes begin
Sept 3    Labor Day (Campus Closed)
Oct 5     1st 8-week Classes End
Oct 8     2nd 8-week Classes Begin
Oct 30-31 Spring 2019 Registration Starts
Nov 4     Daylight Savings Time Ends

BARTonline Classes:
Fall Session 1 (8 Wks) Aug 13—Oct 7
Fall Session 2 (17 Wks) Aug 20—Dec 9
Fall Session 3 (6 Wks) Sept 10—Oct 21
Fall Session 4 (8 Wks) Oct 15—Dec 9
Fall Session 5 (6 Wks) Oct 29—Dec 9

FORT RILEY CAMPUS PLANNING CALENDAR

LSEC CYCLE 7 SEPT 18 — OCT 30
LSEC CYCLE 1 NOV 2 — DEC 18

Check with CKEOC for Forthcoming Enrollment Start Date
1st Day of Class—Last Day to Enroll (All)

COLLEGE PROGRAM CYCLE 5 AUG 8 — OCT 2
COLLEGE PROGRAM CYCLE 1 OCT 10 — DEC 4

Check with EOC Staff for Forthcoming Enrollment Start Date
1st Day of Class—Last Day to Enroll (All)

CENTRAL KANSAS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER IS PROUD TO BE A PART OF
BARTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE WHO SUPPORTS OUR PROGRAM AND SERVES AS
OUR HOST INSTITUTION

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE:

Barton Community College is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
Visit equal.bartonccc.edu for more information.
## GED CLASS ORIENTATION

Contact Information for GED class orientation:

<table>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BCC/Great Bend</td>
<td>September 10-13</td>
<td>620-793-5794</td>
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<td>November 5-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cloud CCC – Geary County Campus</td>
<td>October 16 &amp; 17</td>
<td>785-238-8010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hays</td>
<td>August 13</td>
<td>785-460-5486</td>
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<td>October 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manhattan</td>
<td>August 21</td>
<td>785-320-4585</td>
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<td></td>
<td>September 4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>October 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Salina</td>
<td>Sept 4-7</td>
<td>785-309-4660</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oct 29-Nov 1</td>
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## CKEOC Staff and Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Project Director</th>
<th>Coordinator/Academic Advisor</th>
<th>Secretary/ Data Specialist</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great Bend</td>
<td>Susie Burt</td>
<td>Ray Kruse</td>
<td>Mary Shane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1025 Main St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>620-793-8164</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Advisor</td>
<td>Mark Ricketts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandview Plaza</td>
<td>100 Continental Dr.</td>
<td>785-238-5200</td>
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<td>Ray Kruse</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Secretary/ Data Specialist</td>
<td>Mary Shane</td>
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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 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.

33 Counties Served by CKEOC

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<tr>
<th>Barton</th>
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