



Baton Rouge DRC Update



JULY 2021

WELCOME



Torrey Williams
Case Manager

This past quarter, staff at the Baton Rouge Day Reporting Center received training on our ATLO computer system, which participants will use to study for their HiSET high school equivalency test. We currently have 16 individuals studying for their GED, and we're very excited for them to use this computer program, which can teach full lessons and has everything they need to prepare for the test.

In addition, we have had a math tutor visit the DRC regularly to help participants with their quantitative skills, while staff members continue to work with participants one-on-one on English, writing, science and social studies. Several of our participants studying for HiSET also did very well on their recent placement tests, especially in key subjects like math and reading. We also continue to offer extra reading lessons after class for participants who have literacy issues. It's been exciting to see so many of our participants making positive moves toward an education, a stronger career path and a more promising future.

Thank you for reading our July update, and please stay safe!

SPOTLIGHT ON... PARTICIPANTS ILLYA C. AND TYESHA S.

Illya C. and Tyesha S. are two DRC participants who recently bought their first car with money they earned from a job they secured after making use of our employment assistance and job readiness classes and resources at the DRC! Posing here with their Case Managers, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Butler and Ms. Rosenberger, the two were able to buy their cars completely on their own, saving their money, planning with their case managers, and then making it happen.

Their achievement is a great example of how participants who take advantage of the DRC's help to secure gainful and steady employment can work their way up to a more financially secure position, using the skills and lessons they learned to enact positive change in their lives. Congratulations, Illya and Tyesha!



DID YOU KNOW?



In evidence-based practice, **providing feedback** builds accountability and maintains integrity, ultimately improving outcomes. Research indicates that a ratio of four instances of positive reinforcement for every one instance of negative reinforcement is optimal for promoting lasting behavior change. This does not mean that swift and real responses to negative and unacceptable behavior should not happen; offenders with self-control problems usually respond well to reasonable and consistent structure and boundaries. People generally comply in the direction of more rewards and less punishment, and this extrinsic motivation can be helpful for beginning the process of behavior change.

By Wendy Dressler, GEO Care Research Analyst