

OSFA News for Guidance Counselors

July through September
2012

Getting to Know Your OSFA Outreach Team!

As most of you know, the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) has an outstanding team of representatives, whose purpose is to educate, train, and to provide support to educational facilities, civic organizations and our society at large. What you may not know is how much experience that the power team of eight has between them.

Did you know the outreach team has over 108 years of working within the financial aid industry? The team has spent the majority of their professional and personal lives dedicated to sharing information and providing training for college readiness and financial wellbeing.

Did you know the outreach team has worked in secondary education for 19 years? The team sympathizes with what you face as professionals; therefore it is a driving force to bridge the gap between high school and college success.

Getting to Know continued...

Did you know the outreach team has over 61 years of working within a college, university or technical institution? This kind of experience allows for a first hand view of the impact that early awareness has while transitioning from high school to college. The team is acutely aware of the long term impact that effective training provides and the need to identify available resources.

Did you know the Outreach Team has over 46.5 years of working within a financial institution? One of the team's key focus is fiscal responsibility by providing financial literacy training. Since the team is composed of professionals with strengths in varying backgrounds, OSFA uses this information to brainstorm so that our consumers can benefit from the most effective products and services.

Did you know nearly all of our team members have either used the financial aid process for themselves or for their dependents? The team understands the importance of the information from varying viewpoints, i.e. student, parent and education professionals. We bring these experiences with us into every event and training, keeping in mind we were once in the same position.

The Outreach Team is committed to providing the utmost in a broad range of products and services. We have passion for what we do because we want to see everyone realize their goals.

Visit our [regional assignment](#) to locate your dedicated Outreach Representative.

"For the 2011-12 academic year, we gave away nearly \$580M dollars in grants/scholarships in an effort to help students achieve their higher education goals and dreams. I truly love what we do"! -Lori

"I love assisting students fulfill their dream of higher education. This is my passion!!" - Gerri

Financial Aid Wisdom

Fastweb, one of the leaders in promotion of post secondary attainment, has created an eight-page quick reference guide that provides helpful tips on how to successfully pay for college. It includes tips about:

- ◆ saving for college
- ◆ scholarships,
- ◆ the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- ◆ negotiation and professional judgment,
- ◆ comparing financial aid award letters
- ◆ a list of financial aid equations
- ◆ tips about student loans
- ◆ about consolidating student loans

and so much more. Visit the [link](#) for the guide and additional information.

"I love helping people understand financial aid and realizing their dreams /goals of attaining a higher education"

- Pedro

We Want Mail

As secondary professionals, counselors have one of the hardest jobs of ensuring student are college ready. The Office of Student Financial Assistance, Outreach team wants to make sure you have the resources you need to prepare your students for what life has ahead for them. This is why this industry newsletter has been targeted towards what you need to know.

In order to better serve you, the team would appreciate feedback about what you would like to see in upcoming issues. Your voice is important to the success of Florida's students. Feel free to send us your comments by clicking on the [link](#).

“It is very rewarding knowing you’re helping students and families!”

-Robin

Early Awareness

New Academic Year!

New Faces!

New Opportunity for Early Awareness!

Contact your Florida Department of Education, [Outreach Representative](#) about offering one of our many presentations during your College Nights, Financial Aid Events and Career Fairs.

“I enjoy assisting others to meet their goals in life.”

- Isabel

The Florida Department of Education wishes to thank every secondary administrator that was instrumental in mentoring Florida's students resulting in a promising future.

Job Well Done!

“I discovered the industry by chance and stay because I love it! It’s a great avenue to help people realize their dreams. We are in the business of building people.”

-Reyonna

“I enjoy providing information to students and families...post secondary education is accessible to everyone.”

- Stephanie

National Training for Counselors and Mentors (NT4CM) Workshops

Coming Soon!

Courtesy of Florida Department of Education

Free

Training!

“I love working with students and parents – helping them navigate through the financial aid process and taking the fear out of it. People are overwhelmed and serving on the Outreach Team is a way to make a difference in people’s lives!”

-Jan

Upcoming Calendar Dates

- August 2012 – Welcome back students! Begin planning for your Financial Aid Nights for college bound students. Let us help!
- September 2012 – Encourage your students to earn community service hours for Bright Futures eligibility.

The NyFF E-News is available for your students.

[Sign up here](#) to receive E-News updates and other important financial aid information.

This month's issue addresses important topics like:

· Renting or Buying

- ◊ Housing
- ◊ Textbooks
- ◊ Furnishings

Have you missed an issue of the

OSFA News for Counselors?

You may visit the [archives](#) for prior editions.

Feel free to share our updates with faculty peers!

Contact an OSFA Outreach Representative
about your high school's needs.

OSFA's Outreach Team Contact information

Lori Auxier
Director of Outreach Services
561-357-6340, office/fax
Lori.Auxier@fldoe.org

Isabel Acevedo
Outreach Representative
South Florida
305-364-3062, office/fax
Isabel.Acevedo@fldoe.org

Robin Blank
Outreach Representative
Greater Palm Beach/Broward
561-357-4837, office/fax
Robin.Blank@fldoe.org

Pedro "Pete" Hernandez
Outreach Representative
Northeast Florida
850-245-1821, office
850-488-3612, fax
Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org

Gerri McCormick
Outreach Representative
Greater Orlando
407-207-4944, office/fax
Gerri.McCormick@fldoe.org

Reyonna Parrish
Outreach Representative
Northwest Florida
850-410-6830, office
850-488-3612, fax
Reyonna.Parrish@fldoe.org

Stephanie Rosh
Outreach Representative
Greater Tampa
727-738-6498, office
N/A, fax
Stephanie.Rosh@fldoe.org

Jan Smith
Manager of Outreach Services
850-245-1822, office
850-488-3612, fax
Jan.Smith@fldoe.org