

Horizons

WHAT'S COOKING?

The pristine natural environment, clean air and water, and ubiquitous recreational opportunities in the Lake Tahoe area make for a truly wonderful place to live.

Unfortunately, the relative scarcity of job and career opportunities here often presents a serious obstacle for families and individuals to call this place home. The challenge of finding fulfilling work that provides a livable wage and a path to upward mobility means that many people are forced to leave the area in a constant drain on our labor pools, on our schools, and on our community itself.

Enter ADVANCE's Culinary Skills Boot Camp. Based on Lake Tahoe Community College's culinary curriculum, and refined with the input of chefs from numerous South Shore kitchens, resorts and casinos, this forty-hour workshop is intended to provide participants with the skills, knowledge, and certification needed to immediately embark on a career in the kitchen. Topics covered include knife skills, various cooking methods, butchery, kitchen organization and terminology, and sanitation and safety. The workshop is open to anyone eighteen years of age or older that intends to apply for or is currently employed in a position in the culinary industry. The workshop costs are sponsored by ADVANCE's funding; our learners pay us with their time, energy and commitment.

ADVANCE piloted this new program in the fall of 2016, with 16 students completing the course and ten earning their Certificate. The impact of this experience was immediate, with individual participants receiving a raise, enrolling in credit culinary courses at LTCC, or using the certificate to find a new job.

Programs like this will provide the opportunity for motivated participants to go straight to work, improving their employability and/or education, and their livelihoods and those of their families. Raising the skill and service level of our local industries enhances the South Shore's reputation as a resort destination, elevating the area's prosperity and employment prospects.

COMING UP

Check out the schedule on the right for dates and times of upcoming offerings from the ADVANCE network. **For more information on any event, service, or program contact:** [Nicole Davenport](mailto:Nicole.Davenport@advance.org) 530-541-4660 x189



Materials laid out for initial assessment



Eddie Oliva approves his work...

Four Guiding Principles

Your Personalized Pathway

Identify your goals and map out the steps to moving forward.

Ease & Accessibility

Setting aside time to work on your goals can be hard. We work with you so that your plan meets your needs and fits your schedule.

Low or No Cost

Cost is never a barrier if you are committed and ready to improve your job, skills, or education.

An Integrated Network

You don't have to do this alone. A Network of services, programs, and employers are here for you.

Event/Service Schedule:

Culinary Boot Camps

May LTCC

Additional offerings coming soon

Guest Services Boot Camps

Coming Soon

LTUSD HOME Parent Program

5-7 pm

April 25, Bijou School

May 4, Magnet School

Learn Earn Grow Workshop

10-11:30 am LTCC

April 12

May 10

June 14

2-3:30 pm County Library

April 26

May 24

June 28

DID YOU CATCH THIS?

The Helping Parents ADVANCE Workshop Series had its kick-off event on March 8. This series is presented through the Lake Tahoe Unified School District (LTUSD) and made possible by ADVANCE. District parents participated in a “Homework without Headaches” workshop that can be applied to any age or level of learner.

The focus of the HOME program is parent education on a personal, academic and a family level. Community partners such as El Dorado County Library, Community Connect, Family Resource Center, and Lake Tahoe Community College came out to show their support of the program and LTUSD parents.

Get Involved— pick your interest, join a workgroup

First Wednesdays (LTCC)

Industry Focus	10 am -Noon
Participant Focus	12:30—1:45 pm

Second Thursdays (LTCC)

Outreach Focus	8:30—9:15 am
Full Network	10 am—Noon

HOME Program
powered by **ADVANCE**

See the Event/Service Schedule on page 1 for information on future programs..

A LOCAL BRIDGE FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE

“I wanted to return to school and complete my High School Equivalency. I was able to pass the test [s] in September 2016.”

Marcela Rodriguez



Marcela proudly displays her California Certificate of High School Equivalency with instructor Lucy Sandoval



“Advance Learn Earn Grow”

One year ago, the number of South Shore residents that had completed their High School Equivalency (commonly known as the GED) here in town was easily calculated: zero. While Lake Tahoe Community College has long offered GED preparation courses, individuals that were ready to take the test had to drive to Placerville or Carson City to actually do so.

Now, that has changed. A new adult education program, ADVANCE, is offering the HSE test here in town monthly, at the LTCC campus as well as at the Family Resource Center (located at the Bijou Community School campus). ADVANCE uses the TASC test, which costs roughly half the price of the GED test, while fulfilling the exact same purpose, granting an adult learner a High School Equivalency certificate.

South Lake Tahoe resident Marcela Rodriguez was the first person to pass the HSE in her hometown, an empowering achievement for the mother of two, who had dropped out of school twenty years before to raise two children here in town.

“I want you to know that, as a mother, it is not easy to complete education rapidly; it takes time,” Rodriguez said. “In January 2016, with my son doing very well in his junior year, I spoke with my husband and son, and said that I wanted to return to school and complete my High School Equivalency. I was able to pass the test in September 2016.

“I appreciate so much this education program for adults as the ESL classes have helped me so much.

I want to share with you that in January 2017 I will begin my formal education at LTCC. I am thinking of getting my Associate’s Degree in Spanish.”

Earning an HSE allows completers to enroll in college courses, to expand their resume, or simply to fulfill an important educational step, the lack of which can keep an individual in low-paying jobs with little or no opportunity for career growth and expanded earnings.

By the Numbers...

163—individuals who have received services

1300+ - hours of direct service provided by staff

18% - boot camp completers who enrolled in at least one credit college course

22—adults who have taken at least one high school equivalency test in South Lake Tahoe in either English or Spanish

38— agencies, organizations, industry partners actively engaged

1000+ - partner hours invested