

CTC

College Transition Connection, Inc.

“Learning is for everyone”



www.collegetransitionconnection.org

Winter Newsletter 2010

First off we would like to congratulate the College of Charleston REACH program on their being awarded a grant from the United States Department of Education in the amount of 2.3 million dollars, which will help to fund and grow their program. For more information and details on their grant award, please watch the news story on Channel 5 News at <http://www.live5news.com/Global/story.asp?S=13371978>.

For this issue of our semi-annual newsletter we have interviewed students from all five programs throughout the state on their experiences at their respective schools. We also interviewed some traditional students and we think you may be surprised at how similar some of their responses are.

What has been the highlight of your college career, so far?

- “Making new friends.” Clemson LIFE student
- “Learning about myself.” Coastal LIFE student
- “The highlight of my college career so far has been all the opportunities I’ve been given within my major – especially the REACH program. It is extremely exciting to be a part of such a unique and fully inclusive program.” College of Charleston traditional student

What are your dreams/plans for after college?

- “I want to get a job and get married and have kids.” College of Charleston REACH student
- “I want to be a teacher’s assistant.” USC LIFE student
- “To live independently.” Winthrop Transition to College student
- “Start teaching, get married, have kids.” Winthrop traditional student

What has been the greatest challenge and how have you dealt with it?

- “Living on campus is a challenge because I am used to living at home and staying at school from 8 to 3:30 and not used to the college schedule and time to do other activities outside of class.” USC LIFE student
- “Time management, drink a lot of coffee, stay motivated, and plan out my day and week.” Coastal LIFE student
- “Well the great challenge for me was to leave my parents and talking about my disability.” Clemson LIFE student
- “Learning to manage my time, adjusting from being away from home and missing parents, getting use to cooking all my meals, washing all my clothes, etc.” Winthrop traditional student

There are several programs in SC. Why did you apply to this one?

- “Because I wanted to live far away from home.” College of Charleston REACH student

- “The reason I chose to come here was because of my major and the opportunities to meet friends.” USC LIFE student
- “Winthrop is close to Charlotte and my family lives there.” Winthrop traditional student
- “Um ain’t it obvious? I have an orange and white Bronco. I’m a Clemson fan and have been since I was six months old.” Clemson LIFE student

What is your favorite class/activity that you have taken?

- “I love my Theater acting class, I get a chance to learn and practice different things that I learn.” USC LIFE student
- “Transition to College.” College of Charleston REACH student
- “At Winthrop of my favorite classes was rock climbing.” Winthrop traditional student
- “Beginning karate.” Coastal LIFE student

What are some of your favorite after school events or activities that you enjoy participating in or going to?

- “Time with my parents, Tiger Rama, football and basketball games.” Clemson LIFE student
- “Going out to dinner with different friends once a week.” Winthrop traditional student
- “Hanging with friends, playing basketball, Greek life.” College of Charleston REACH student
- “I like going to Broadway at the Beach on the weekends and going to the movies or various local events.” Coastal LIFE student
- “Sports activities, games.” Winthrop Transition to College student

How do you feel about being a college student and what is your favorite thing about being on a college campus?

- “It gives me a chance to be more independent.” USC LIFE student
- “I really enjoy being a college student! I love having freedom to make my own decisions, which I know will help me in the future. I have become extremely self-sufficient, and I hope to have an easy transition after I graduate.” College of Charleston traditional student
- “I feel great about it, its going to open new doors.” Coastal LIFE student
- “Get away from parents and surrounded by girls.” Clemson LIFE student

What is one of the most challenging things that you have encountered at college?

- “Time management and maintaining a high GPA.” Coastal LIFE student
- “Learning to manage my time, adjusting to being away from home and missing parents, getting use to cooking all my meals, washing all my clothes, etc.” Winthrop traditional student
- “Learning to live with new people.” Clemson LIFE student
- “Choosing classes.” Winthrop Transition to College student

Is transportation an issue at school?

- “Yes because it is hard to walk around campus.” College of Charleston REACH student
- “Not really but parking is.” Coastal LIFE student
- “Yes! As of today I was late for school. Next semester I want to get a license and my car from the Clemson airport.” Clemson LIFE student

How you can help!

Please consider a donation to CTC so we can continue helping South Carolina’s colleges and universities create model programs for our young adults with intellectual disabilities. We are a 501-c3 non-profit organization. We are most appreciative of any consideration.

Our mailing address is P.O. Box 31656, Charleston, SC 29417 and our phone number is 843-763-4169. Thank you.