

900 Royal Heights Rd., Belleville, IL 62226



SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SCSEP)

Our Mission:

Provide job training and placement for individuals age 55 or older with limited financial resources and to provide employers with trained, motivated workers.



SCSEP Newsletter

February 2018

An SCSEP Success Story—Loretta Knox!



Loretta Knox

For the past four years, if you entered the SCSEP offices in East St. Louis or Belleville, you would have been greeted by Loretta Knox, the Employment

Specialist who enrolled people aged 55+ into the program, helped them secure unsubsidized employment, and completed the paperwork to be entered into the Department of Labor's system.

Now, you read correctly "would have been greeted by," because we are pleased to announce that Ms. Loretta has accepted a position with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) in Belleville, where they help children navigate the foster care system. Ding, Ding, Ding!

Ms. Loretta, who holds a Masters

Degree in Social Work from Southern Illinois University, "[She] was a perfect fit for what we needed in a candidate to work with our program," said Mechiko White, Executive Director for CASA. Mechiko went on to say, "Loretta's experience working with SCSEP has proved invaluable because of the diverse people and situations she has been responsible for over the past four years. We're thankful to have her on our team."

The four years is important to mention because the maximum time a participant can be enrolled in the program is 48 months; and Ms. Loretta had just two days remaining in the program when she got the offer for employment from Ms. White. "It was a little nerve wracking waiting for the call after completing the two

interviews I had to go through in order to get the job," said Loretta. She continued, "I just stayed prayerful and feel blessed to have gotten the job."

For more information about SCSEP, contact 618-688-1180.

From the Manager's Desk

In 1976, the expansion of Negro History Week to Black History Month was officially recognized by the U.S. government.



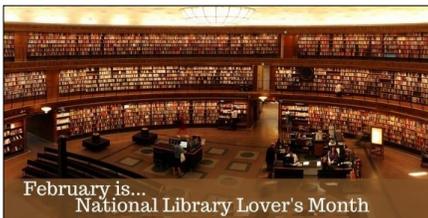
It is important to remember that "Black History Month is a time to celebrate, recollect and reflect on the important roles that African-Americans play in America.

While we celebrate accomplishments and share the rich heritage during Black History Month, it is important to embrace the diversity of people every day.

It is the collective contributions of all citizens that make the U.S. the best place to live, work and raise a family." Let's not just remember the past...let's continue the legacy...today, tomorrow, and beyond.



Gary D. Woods
Program Manager



February is...
National Library Lover's Month

The entire month of February is dedicated to the people who love whole buildings devoted to the reading, housing, organizing, categorizing, finding, studying and otherwise loving books. It's National Library Lover's Month!

For seniors citizens, libraries provide opportunities to engage with others and expose them to music, art and possible friendships. Many communities rely on their libraries for meeting space for public forums, socials, fundraisers and classes. "Libraries provide our SCSEP participants with resources for their job searches, including computer access, which is necessary when trying to enter the job market," said Gary Woods, SCSEP Program Manager.

www.caritasfamilysolutions.org/scsep

