

MTI receives Manatee Community Foundation grant

Grant will provide scholarships to displaced homemakers seeking economic self-sufficiency

(Bradenton, FL—May 8, 2009) Manatee Technical Institute's New Options Program received a \$2,637 grant from the Manatee Community Foundation's Unrestricted Fund and the Cliff and Susie Walters Fund. Grant funds will be used to provide scholarships to displaced homemakers who are currently enrolled in a career preparation program and have an unmet financial need that must be met to finish their education.

According to New Options coordinator Dr. Dianne Perry, "The need has been so great this year that New Options has run out of money to support these students who are working towards economic self-sufficiency. This grant will make a big difference."

The community foundation grant will help students buy books and uniforms; it will also provide three students tuition assistance.

The Displaced Homemaker Program is funded by the Agency for Workforce Innovation and is designed to address the job training and educational needs of Florida citizens age 35 years or older who have been dependent on the income of another family member and no longer receive that support. The primary goal of the Displaced Homemaker Program is to assist program participants in attaining independence, economic security and self-sufficiency.

Recent major accomplishments of the MTI New Options program include receiving an award from the state for the best annual report, meeting program goals at 100 percent or more consistently for the past five years, and enrolling more participants than ever before (169) this year.

The mission of Manatee Technical Institute is to meet and exceed our community's training and educational expectations. MTI is a 2007 Tampa Bay Business of the Year and has won more SkillsUSA medals than any other school in the nation for the past five years.