



## **CREED'S 2013-14 FOCUS** **READING, READINESS, RETENTION, & RESEARCH**

Since beginning our work in spring 2010, we have strived to provide services to our young people, their families and community stakeholders that met their projected college planning needs.

During this time, we have learned three things.

- Our young people have the drive, potential, and support that we anticipated.
- Our services are both necessary and appreciated by the families we support.
- Our programs have to be further tailored to meet specific needs expressed by our constituency.

**With this knowledge, we have streamlined our efforts.**

CREED's **reading** initiative will distribute more books to elementary, middle school and high school students in Buffalo, Erie and Meadville PA. We are committed to developing a love of reading in our children, which we know will foster their interest in continuing their education after high school.

CREED's **readiness** workshops will focus on local churches and established community organizations. Parents and other stakeholders will continue to be guided through strategies to increase the success of their students in the college admissions and financial aid processes.

CREED's **retention** efforts with our undergrads will build on the early success of the popular mini-grant program. We hope to reach more students with mini-grants for college students provide \$50—\$100 for travel or emergencies.

CREED's **research**, a new priority, will compile and analyze the data collected about our work, and provide us with compelling information to share with local leaders. We will build reports that we will use to lobby for education initiatives that will contribute to improving access for all students.

Our supporters are an important component of our success and you are so appreciated. Contact Terrence Mitchell, CREED College Readiness Program for more information about the programs and services mentioned here.

Believing in our Youth.

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## DR. FLEMING OFFERS HER ADVICE ON AN EMERGING HEALTHCARE CAREER



Long-time CREED supporter, Dr. DaNine J. Fleming, wants our participants and their families to consider a career in the health professions, particularly Physician Assistant programs.

Dr. Fleming says “Physician Assistants (PA’s) play a critical role in delivering high-quality, affordable health care. Based on current trends, this career is poised for tremendous growth, as our population ages and the number of physicians decline. PA’s can essentially “write their own tickets” by balancing offers from numerous employers. There is also a critical need for PA’s in rural and urban areas.”

### About the Profession...

Working under the direction of medical doctors, Physician Assistant’s can:

- Provide diagnostic, therapeutic and preventive health care services in a team-based environment;
- Specialize in family medicine, internal medicine, women’s health, surgery, emergency care, and other specialties;
- Make diagnoses, perform routine care, and manage other team members; and prescribe medication.

She continues, “the role of the PA is truly diverse. Whereas one may work in a suburban clinic, another may spend long hours in surgery. Some provide home health services; while others gravitate to corporate settings. There is one constant thread that runs throughout the profession: patient-centered care.”

“Depending on the specialty, the average annual salary can range from \$70,000 to over \$95,000. According to a study performed by CNN on the best jobs in America (2011), the position of Physician Assistant was ranked #2. I encourage you to consider the Physician Assistant career as a possibility for your future. It has been my pleasure sharing some insight with you and I am available if you have any questions.”

*Dr. DaNine J. Fleming (flemid@musc.edu) is an Asst. Professor & Director of Training and Intercultural Education at the Medical University of South Carolina (<http://www.musc.edu/chp/pa/>).*

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**1 Employee. 2 Boards. 3 Years. 20 Workshops. 50 Donors.  
400 Student Participants.**

**Donate Now to the CREED College Readiness Program**

<http://www.creedonline.org/donate-to-creed/how-to-donate/>

**Believing in our Youth. Always.**

