



601 Laclede, Neosho, MO 64850 www.crowder.edu

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CROWDER COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM RANKED NATIONALLY

Neosho, MO – The Crowder College High School Equivalency Program (HEP) was named one of the Top 10 HEP projects in the nation. Crowder's HEP project ranked 6th overall in efficiency and tied for 6th highest performing program.

The efficiency rankings are based on cost per GED graduate. Crowder's HEP project had a cost of \$4,979 per GED graduate, nearly \$1,000 less than the national average of \$5,842. The rankings for the highest performing program are based on the percentage of GED graduates who go on to postsecondary education, upgrade their employment, or enter the military. Crowder's HEP had an 87% success rate with 52 graduates continuing their education, 21 getting better jobs, and 1 enlisting in the armed forces.

The director of HEP, Graciela Meilij, commented, "It's very nice to be recognized in this way, but my staff and I try to remember that we've had a great deal of help to get here. Crowder College has always been dedicated to improving the community through education and their continuing support for HEP is just one facet of that commitment."

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Please feel free to contact Graciela Meilij at (417)455-5553 or e-mail: gracilameilij@crowder.edu

Cindy Brown
Director of Public Information
Crowder College
phone (417)455-5540
e-mail: cindybrown@crowder.edu