

Conversation Partners Program...



Established in 1992, the **Volunteer Corps** at WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE has over 550 volunteers from all over the county contributing their time and talents to help our students make the most of their educational and career opportunities.

The **Conversation Partners Program** is one of the primary volunteer assignments on campus. It is a wonderful way to help students who are studying English as a Second Language integrate into their new environment.

There are more than *5000 students* from countries all over the world studying at WCC for whom English is a second language. Many of them are eager to practice speaking English in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. Conversation Partners help these students **build confidence** in the use of the English language.

Make a Difference....Conversation Partners will typically spend one hour per session with a student once a week at a mutually convenient time. Meeting places can be arranged on campus on the Valhalla campus at the Gateway Center or the Harold L. Drimmer Library during school hours. In addition, limited programs exist at our **extension sites** in Mt. Vernon, Peekskill, Ossining and Yonkers. Meeting times at these sites as well as the main campus can also be arranged for evenings and weekends.

Conversation Partners typically choose topics for conversation that build English vocabulary and help students understand cultural differences. Areas of discussion may include family, culture, current events, employment, vocabulary for course work, idioms and slang, and areas of interest that you have in common.

The **rewards** of the program are reaped by both parties! You will meet people of different cultural backgrounds and help them become more acquainted with life in Westchester County while improving their proficiency in English. You will also have the opportunity to learn about life in their home country and *share their experiences*.

For additional information, please contact the **WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE Volunteer Office** at 914-606-6506 or you may view our web site at:

www.sunywcc.edu/volunteer

