

Massasoit Community College Gateway to College Ceremony Held at Massasoit Conference Center

June 18, 2013

Brockton, MA (June 18, 2013) – The theme was “Never Give Up” and for the 24 graduates of the Massasoit Gateway to College program this has been their mantra. For a variety of reasons, these students ranging in age from 16 to 20 years old have dropped out of school or had one foot out the door when they decided to change their path. They are a diverse group of young people who have faced many challenges. Samantha Jacobs was selected as the student speaker for the Gateway Class of 2013. “I was bullied in high school and faced many obstacles, but my guidance counselor worked hard to help me find this alternative. I am getting my high school diploma and will have my associate’s degree a year before my high school peers. I plan to continue my education and transfer to a four-year school,” she said. Donned in caps and gowns, the color of their hometown high school, the students marched in to a packed room of family and friends cheering, clapping and celebrating their achievement. This achievement was obtaining their high school diploma while also earning college credits as they move forward in their educational journey.

Massasoit Community College is among 43 colleges in 23 states nationwide, which has been selected to replicate the original Portland, Oregon, Gateway to College program. Massasoit has partnerships with Brockton and other area school districts to provide the Gateway to College Program to students who have dropped out of high school. The program is funded in part by the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation and its funding partners, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Ford Foundation, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and also uses K-12 education funds to pay for college tuition, fees and books, since students are completing high school at the same time they are earning college credits.

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Founded in 1966, in the heart of southeastern Massachusetts, Massasoit Community College is a public two-year college in the Massachusetts Public Higher Education System. It is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), one of the six regional accrediting bodies in the United States. Many departments carry additional accreditations. The College offers a full spectrum of associate’s degree programs in arts, sciences, and applied sciences as well as one year and short term certificates across a variety of occupations and interests. In addition the College offers corporate and job skills training courses.

gateway



Gateway Grad Samantha Jacobs

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Friends, family, staff and faculty write notes of support.

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Gateway graduates move their tassels signifying that they have graduated!