

ADOPT-A- GRANDPARENT PROJECT – Sponsored with financial assistance from THE VERIZON FOUNDATION, COLLINS FOUNDATION, AND SPIRIT MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY FUND

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
FEBRUARY 1, 2010**

1.) What is the Center for Advanced Learning (CAL)

The Center for Advanced Learning (also known as CAL) is a high school in Gresham, OR—but it’s a whole new kind of high school. At CAL, students can take advanced courses in four technology-based fields: digital media & design, networking & programming, medical/dental sciences, and engineering/manufacturing. And when they are finished, will have a high school diploma, a start on college, and real-world experiences that they couldn’t get at any other high school.

At CAL, learning is hands-on. A student has access to state-of-the-art technology. For every successfully completed course students can receive college credit and also earn credits that count toward graduation from their home high school. Teachers at CAL come from local high schools and from the career field students may want to pursue.

CAL is a partnership between Gresham-Barlow, Centennial, and Reynolds High School, Business Partners and Mt. Hood Community College.

2.) Who else is involved with this project?

This is a collaborative project with nursing students from Linfield School of Nursing and partner agencies of the East County One Stop. Other supporters include IRCO, the YWCA Senior Services, Loaves and Fishes, East Portland Community Center and local churches.

3.) Why is this project being implemented?

The CAL Allied Health students need to have meaningful clinical experiences with members of the community. It is especially important for them to have interactive experiences with many generations. Often medical and healthcare students do not have much contact with vital older adults and this project addresses this.

Older adults in our community will benefit from interaction with health occupation students as well as other CAL students that can assist with small home repairs, maintenance and weatherization services.

4.) What can I expect from my involvement as an Adopted Grandparent to CAL students?

Each Adopted Grandparent will be assigned TWO Allied Health students as “adopted grandchildren”. The students will always visit as a team. These students have all been screened for participation in the program and are exceptional, high achieving students.

At the first visit with your students you will create a calendar and agree on dates and times for their scheduled visits. These will be planned well in advance. They will not visit you without making an appointment.

You can expect that students will ask you about yourself, your hobbies, and your routine. They may join you on your daily walks, assist with daily tasks, or just visit with you about your experiences and life. Students will ask you about your medical history and occasionally conduct routine tests such as taking your blood pressure and monitoring vital signs as part of their clinical learning.

Through your life stories, students will also learn about and relate to the historical periods in your life as they interview you about your life experiences and record your living history. You and your family will receive a copy of this work at the end of the project year.

If you were part of the pilot project, you will have a new set of two students beginning in February as their second school term begins. The first group will be introducing you to the second and you certainly may stay in touch with these first students as well. We expect that they will become friends whose presence in your life is valued.

The CAL re-engineering and mechanical students are involved to learn about how to conserve energy, weatherproof homes, conduct home safety checks and do small home repair. They learn. You benefit.

5.) What support do these students have?

A CAL Allied Health Instructor carefully monitors student activity. Their visits to you will be an important part of their student learning and clinical experience. Nursing students from the Linfield School of Nursing also support the CAL students.

6.) Why was I chosen to participate?

The project is seeking older adults who are living in their own homes who may enjoy interaction with student scholars. Some older adults might benefit from student support with health care issues, home maintenance, and physical activity. We expect this will be a pleasant experience for both you and the young people you are assisting.

7.) Who do I contact if I have questions about the project or student interaction?

Joan Pasco, Program Manager with the East County One Stop will answer your questions about the project and what you can expect from your participation. She can be reached at 503.661.3981. Her email address is: jpasco@eastcountyonestop.org Students report to the Allied Health Student Supervisor, Cathy Gibbs. She can be reached at: 503-667-4978. Cathy's email address is: Cathy_Gibbs@thecenterforadvancedlearning.org