

# HOW WAYNE COLLEGE CAN GET YOU THERE

## Why a career in Social Services/Social Work?

With a shortage of professional social workers, the need for social and human service assistants is projected to be 46 percent higher in 2014 than in 2004. In fact, the United States Department of Labor reports that social and human service assistants are among the fastest growing occupations in the economy.

Although some helping professions require advanced degrees even for entry-level positions, rewarding and challenging preprofessional employment is possible after completing our associate degree in Social Services Technology. Certificate programs offer the possibility of paraprofessional employment even earlier and enhance employability when completed with the associate degree.

WAYNE COLLEGE'S PROGRAMS CAN PREPARE YOU FOR DIVERSE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES LIKE THE FOLLOWING:

- Family Services Specialist
- Case Manager
- Social Service Specialist
- Outreach Worker
- Prevention Assistant
- Therapeutic Activity Worker
- Crisis Assistant
- Child Care Worker

## Salary Information

Your starting salary will depend on your level of education, skills and experience, the type of organization and geographic area. In the local area, salaries generally range between \$22,000 and \$26,000.

**"I really enjoyed going to Wayne College. My classes in activities and social work made it possible for me to have the job of my dreams."**

Sandy Pearce,  
Brenn-Field  
Nursing Center

## The "Step-up" Program

The "step-up" program offers many advantages for individuals interested in a social work career. It provides the opportunity to complete an associate degree in social services technology — *the credential needed to be registered as a Social Work Assistant in Ohio* — and then to use the associate degree as the first half of a bachelor's degree when transferring to The University of Akron's School of Social Work. The associate degree provides immediate employability, making it possible to work in social services while pursuing additional education. The "step-up" program offers more options more quickly than by simply completing a bachelor's degree.

The associate degree curriculum enhances employability by integrating classroom learning with meaningful practicum experiences. Some core social service courses focus on specific issues such as aging, addiction and poverty, while others provide a more general knowledge base, helping skills and workplace competencies. Additional courses required for certificate programs provide more specialized training.

Our certificates, which can be completed independently, maximize career opportunities when combined with the associate degree. Using a career ladder approach, many certificate requirements apply to the associate degree, and students can receive both certificates with the associate degree by taking only four extra credits.

## Certificate Programs

### Gerontological Social Services

The elderly are America's fastest growing group, yet there is a serious shortage of workers with specialized training in aging. The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" reports that most of the projected growth in social and human service assistant jobs over the next decade is due to the growing demand for services for older persons. The knowledge, skills and attitudes gained through this certificate will be invaluable. All social workers benefit from understanding changes that occur with aging, services that are available for older adults and their caregivers, and techniques for communicating effectively with older persons.



### Therapeutic Activities

With the completion of just 10 credit hours, this short-term certificate prepares individuals for activity positions in long-term care—an area that has frequent job openings. It combines three courses required for the gerontology certificate, including a hands-on course devoted to learning how to meet psychosocial needs through individual and group therapeutic activities, with a 90-hour practicum. The skills learned through this certificate are useful not only in nursing homes, retirement communities and senior centers, but also in programs serving children and teens, persons dealing with addictions, and individuals with physical and mental disabilities. Therapeutic activity skills also benefit social workers who work with groups.



## What is Social Services Technology?

Social Services Technology prepares individuals for preprofessional employment in social work. Exciting career opportunities exist in a wide variety of social service organizations to help families, children and adolescents, the elderly, persons struggling with addictions, and individuals with mental and physical disabilities. If you are interested in helping people function more effectively in their environments and in improving the quality of life in society, then social work offers a promising career. Take the first step by completing a certificate or by getting an associate degree through Wayne College's "step-up" program.



## What's Your Next Step?

Make an appointment to visit our campus by calling 330-684-8900 or toll-free 1-800-221-8308, ext. 8900.

During your visit, talk with one of our advisers, or the program coordinator, about your opportunities and how to get started. You can begin the application process by following these easy steps:

- Complete an application form (one-time, nonrefundable fee of \$30 required).
- Forward an official copy of your high school transcripts or GED.
- Take either the American College Test (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). These tests are not required for students age 21 and older.
- Submit official transcripts from any other accredited college or university you have attended.

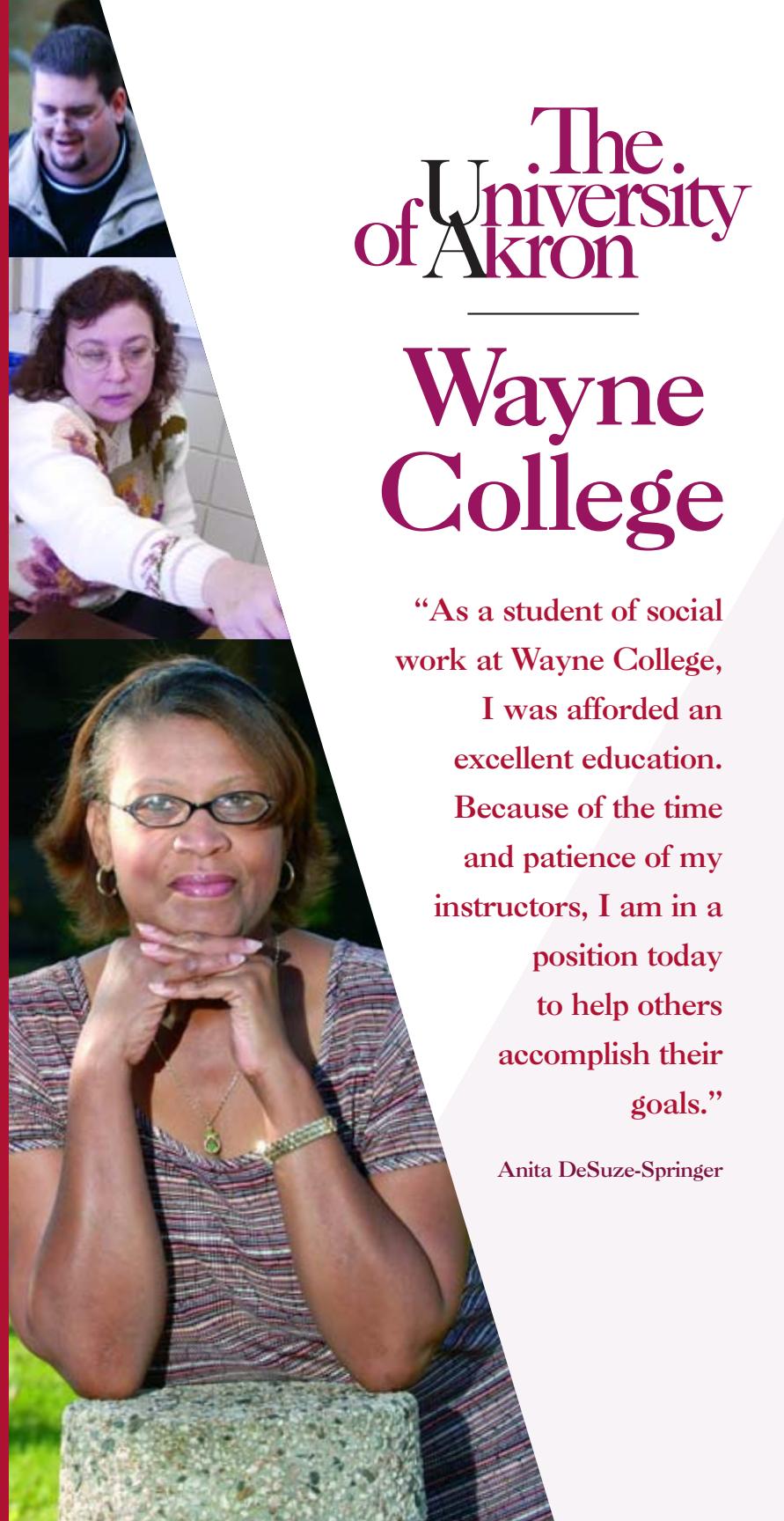
Fill out applications for scholarships, grants and loans. Applications are available in the Student Services office. Request financial aid information early to ensure you receive the financial help you need.

Jane Roberts, LISW  
Program Coordinator  
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## SOCIAL SERVICES TECHNOLOGY

**"Thanks to the courses and instructors at Wayne College, my associate degree prepared me to excel in the bachelor's and master's degree programs at The University of Akron's School of Social Work. The gerontology certificates and fieldwork were extremely valuable for the rewarding career I enjoy today."**

Shirley Ashbrook,  
Long Term Care  
Ombudsman



# The University of Akron

# Wayne College

**"As a student of social work at Wayne College, I was afforded an excellent education. Because of the time and patience of my instructors, I am in a position today to help others accomplish their goals."**

Anita DeSuze-Springer