



We've created a certification program that supports student success by building parents' career paths. Help us keep the momentum going.

Dual Generation Workforce Initiative

A way to unravel the cycle of generational poverty in our community.

Guilford County has one of the highest poverty and food insecurity rates in North Carolina — and one of the lowest median family incomes*. Without a doubt, financial instability affects student achievement. We see it every day. So when an infusion of pandemic recovery funds gave us the agility to be innovative and action-oriented in addressing one of the biggest threats to student success, the idea for the Dual Generation Workforce Initiative (DGWI) took root: ***What if we offered parents and caregivers working two to three low-wage jobs a path to a high-skill, high-wage career? And how might that completely change the game for our students?***

Critical partners joined us. **CompTIA**, the world's leading IT certification provider, became our first teaching partner. **GuilfordWorks** provided career navigation along with resources like transportation and childcare. Guilford Technical Community College brought additional certification and career advancement opportunities.

We began with two cohorts — 40 GCS parents or caregivers whose highest level of education was a high school degree or GED — and we offered a course in cybersecurity. Parents attended every night. They learned new skills, faced challenges and rallied together. When they passed the test, they did more than earn a certificate. They changed the future trajectory for their families. That's how we know this work must continue.

The Dual Generation Workforce Initiative touched a nerve in our community.

Families want and need this kind of opportunity.

900 people expressed interest.

More than 300 attended info sessions.

228 applied for **80** spots.

Dozens more have asked about certifications in other industries like nursing and truck driving.

* 2022 NC Child report



Free certification courses offer our families a way out of low-wage work and into a rewarding career.

The ultimate goal — helping our students thrive.

Hire GCS parents and caregivers!

Do you have resources to help us expand workforce development programming? Or, are you an IT employer who wants to hire GCS parents or caregivers, including as interns and apprentices?

**Contact Guilford Parent Academy
336.279.4924
parentacademy@gcsnc.com**

ABOVE Members of the first cohort graduated in February 2023 poised for new career opportunities.

FRONT Brenda Aviles takes pride in the way she cares for her family and her sister's children. Now she can take pride in her ability to begin building financial security.

Student success is our mission, and because students are part of a family, being there for them means being there for their parents and caregivers. Free training in high-skill, high-wage fields means GCS families are able to earn more money, work fewer jobs, embark on a career and begin to build the kind of generational wealth that changes future outcomes for their children. Through the Dual Generation Workforce Initiative (DGWI), we can interrupt the cycle of poverty, fuel our workforce and give our students more solid footing.

Join us in this exciting work and help us reach more parents with more programs by becoming a DGWI partner or donor.



Go online.
Watch our video story.

See how DGWI is working — for our parents, for our students and for our community.

