

Susan Craver's Bio

Susan Craver received a double bachelors/honors degree in early childhood education and psychology from Hood College in Frederick, MD. She received an M.A. in Human Development from Merrill Palmer Institute and Wayne State University in Detroit, MI. Her master's thesis was published by the Detroit chapter of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Ms. Craver directed four preschools between 1972 and 1986, and served on the management staff of the International Institute of Cultural Affairs, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, from 1977-78.

Ms. Craver served as Secretary of the Board of Directors and Trainer and Director of Job Development for 16 training groups until 1994 at Training Inc., a clerical skills job training program for adults on public assistance. Her network of 10 urban programs was chosen for a Ford Foundation study on the long-term impact of quality job training. She created successful Internship and Toastmaster Club programs in addition to curriculum and was named DC Soroptimist Woman of the Year in 1992. Ms. Craver has served on the boards of the Foundry United Methodist Church Preschool and Peace Links International (Program Chair.)

In 1996, Ms. Craver opened Training Futures with Marla Burton in Springfield, VA, as a program of Northern Virginia Family Service, where she modified the Training, Inc. model and re-wrote curriculum to adapt to Northern Virginia regional geography and expansion of the population to include diverse cultures and working poor, as well as those on public assistance. Ms. Craver was awarded the first annual Oasis Award in 1998 by the Northern Virginia Coalition of Non-Profits for "outstanding achievement, sustained initiative and service on behalf of disadvantaged residents of Northern Virginia."

Ms. Craver was a member of a team that designed and funded a second-site expansion to Tysons Corner in 2000. She served as Training Coordinator and Trainer at Training Futures Springfield from 1996-2006 for 20 training groups, and as Co-Training Coordinator and Trainer at the Tysons Corner site from 2006 to present.

Ms. Craver was part of joint team that pioneered a partnership with Northern Virginia Community College in 2001, which resulted in accrediting two Training Futures' courses for 6 transfer college credits.

From 2004-2005, Ms. Craver served as a consultant to Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) to expand community outreach and conduct college access events for nonprofit organizations. She medicalized curriculum after conducting information interviews with the medical community and designated a medical office training module in partnership with NVCC's medical campus. She launched the first medical office cycle in August 2005 at Springfield Training Futures with 97 % graduation and job placement.

Ms. Craver was the member of a team that redesigned curriculum in 2007 to qualify for 15 college credits and facilitated unique Training Futures/NVCC collaboration to deliver both job skills and college education launch. She has maintained 13 years of cumulative statistics for more than 1,200 graduates at 90% completion and graduation and 90% job placement.