

"Things that I didn't think I could do, I can do it. Math, reading. And I'm just grateful. I feel like I'm getting somewhere. I feel like I'm going to be somebody. I'm going to get somewhere."

Calandra – Student GED Academy

The Learning Center

The Learning Center is a Christ-centered ministry dedicated to transforming lives and building a community of hope for future generations. Our mission is to break the cycle of generational poverty by empowering adults through education. Our vision is to see students become self-sufficient and experience a better quality of life for themselves and their families. The Learning Center provides a strong foundation of faith as students interact with instructors, tutors and mentors that are committed to serving the spiritual and academic needs of the community as they strive to make a positive impact in the lives of others by living out Colossians 3:23, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men."

Education affects every aspect of individual lives and communities as a whole. The health, crime rate, advancement, and poverty of a community are all impacted by its citizens' education levels. In Jefferson County, 13% of adults are functionally illiterate, reading below a sixth-grade level and 12% never graduated from high school. The Learning Center was created to bridge the gap between functional illiteracy and literacy, offer

quality GED preparation classes, and prepare workers to be successful in the job force. These tasks are completed through four programs: Adult Basic Education program, The Literacy Academy, GED program, and Ready to Work program.

As a joint effort between M-Power Ministries and the Dawson Family of Faith, The Learning Center seeks to provide students with a safe environment in workplace competencies. Our desire at The Learning Center is that every person who walks through the doors will experience God's Christ. In addition, our goal is for every student to become self-sufficient and, in turn, experience an enhanced quality of life for themselves and their families. Our programs are individualized to ensure that each student receives what he or she needs to be successful. It is our belief that the education of adults will directly impact the development of family units and advancement of communities. Further, we maintain confidence that our programs offer what individuals need to break the cycle of poverty.

GED Program

The GED program offers continuous instruction for invested clients. Volunteers provide inclass instruction of Language, Math, Science, Social Studies, Computer, Bible Study, Writing Workshop, and various life skills courses. Additionally, students who test above a certain grade level are offered a place in an online GED preparation program, GED Academy.

Ready to Work

Ready to Work is a nationally-accredited program offering invaluable career readiness skills to its participants. Alabama's Ready to Work program provides a career pathway for individuals with limited education and employment experience. Clients who complete the program receive an Alabama Certified Worker certificate and National Career Readiness certificate (ACT Workkeys Assessments). Instructors walk participants through each phase of the program and assist them in preparing their career portfolio so they can maximize their skills and be successful in the job force.

The heartbeat of The Learning Center is to break the cycle of generational poverty by empowering people through education, to such an end that only God could receive the glory.

Randy Poe Go Love Tell Ministry Associate Dawson Family of Faith



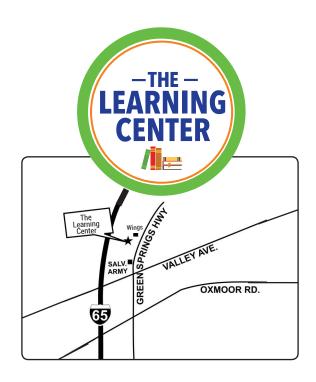
The Literacy Academy

The Literacy Academy is a bridge into the GED program that supports individuals with specific literacy needs by offering in-class instruction and supplying students with their own literacy tutor. The Literacy Academy maintains a strong emphasis in fundamental grammar, vocabulary, reading, and pre-writing skills.

If you would like more information about The Learning Center and our programs, please contact Ryann Mitchell, Program Manager at rmitchell@bhamlearning.org.

The greatest barrier to economic development and growth is the absence of a literate workforce with 75% of unemployed adults having reading or writing difficulties.

Ryann Mitchell Program Manager



Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.

Colossians 3:23

THE LEARNING CENTER

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