

# Rising STAR

STAR FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 2

## MEET CHERI...

Cheri is a single mom of 2 little boys, ages 4 and 5. After her marriage dissolved, she found that she desperately needed to update computer skills in order to get a higher-paying job. She also wanted to attend Coastal Georgia Community College but she didn't see how she could manage it all. With very tight scheduling and a dream of what "could be", she graduated from STAR's Employment Training program, enrolled as a full-time college student, and is managing 2 part-time jobs, Flexer Industries, embroidering shirts, and Village-By-the-Sea as a waitress. Cheri writes:

*This class has been such a beneficial experience for me in so many ways that I would never have imagined. Twelve women, in one class, together for ten weeks! We have become a family. We adore and love one another so much you would think we have known each other for years. We have all pulled together to help each other in any way possible. The staff have become our additional parents. STAR has taught us an amazing amount of computer skills, job skills, and life skills. We are twelve women and we will succeed!! I love each and every one of you! I will be back to share all of my upcoming success stories that I know I am going to continue to have because of you. Thanks so much!"*



## MEET MARY...



*"I got a lot out of this computer class. This class was educational and very fun for me. I feel that I am a positive person already, but this class has caused me to push myself more and go for what I want. Sometimes when things are not going as fast as I would like them to go, I lose my confidence and feel I can't accomplish the task. This class has been good for me in letting me know not to give up."*

Mary's goal is to become a chef. She likes to cook and would like to have her own restaurant one day. She realizes she has to take baby steps to get there, but she keeps her dream clearly in sight. In May 2006 Mary will graduate from the Culinary Arts program at Coastal Georgia Community College.

Mary calls frequently to update us. She says that she loves college – even business math. She invited all of the STAR staff to her graduation. And you can bet we'll be there – maybe on the front row!