



STEPP PROGRAM

“A vision is not just a picture of what could be; it is an appeal to our better selves, a call to become something more.”
- Rosabeth Moss Kanter

STEPP Program Highlights

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Danielle Dietz,
Instructional Specialist/Academic Advisor

Danielle Dietz joined the STEPP team this fall as our Instructional Specialist. Coming from both a K-12 and Higher Education background, Mrs. Dietz brings a true passion for working with students with learning differences. While she has only been in her role for a few months, she mentioned “Working and teaching directly with students has been the most rewarding aspect of the position.” She is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Special Education and resides in Wake County with her husband, John, and dog, Max.

STEPP welcomes the vision and enthusiasm Mrs. Dietz brings to our team and looks forward to the impact she will have on the program!

As students return to campus this fall, the STEPP team is feeling a sense of renewed energy. Stronger, driven, and profoundly passionate in our efforts, we return with an ambitious outlook on our future as a program. We have learned a great deal about our students over the past year and a half, and through close collaboration, we have developed strategies to better support them in their educational journey. Our vision remains intact, but STEPP continues to evolve! We thank every friend, every family, our mentors, our tutors, our ECU colleagues, our students, and our alumni for their continued support! As we welcome a new year here at ECU, we welcome it with open arms and open minds!

A Return to Campus Bootcamp is Back!

The incoming 2021 Cohort experienced a hybrid Bootcamp this summer! Students and families were able to access materials and engage with staff earlier and often in the transition process, an approach honed over the past academic year. Hosting Bootcamp in a new and innovative fashion made it fun and meaningful for both staff students. Please help the STEPP staff in welcoming our 2021 Cohort!



Student Highlight

STEPP VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY BUILDING EVENT

A sense of community resonates deeply amongst students and staff of the STEPP Program. Thinking beyond the walls of the Cove, beyond the boundaries of ECU, STEPP is a member of a grander community that makes up Eastern North Carolina. This fall, STEPP gave back!

On September 11th and September 13th, STEPP students and staff partnered with Beast Philanthropy and an alumni representative that oversees volunteer coordination at a large-scale food pantry/warehouse to help distribute food to over 200 families. Students also visited the food pantry/warehouse to help package food boxes for future distributions. Service is a foundation of being an ECU Pirate, and our students exhibit those ideals at the highest level.



STEPP Family Weekend Tailgate

There is something special about Saturday evening games here at ECU. The way the sun sets over the stadium, those bright Purple and Golds in the sky, hoisting of our flags for “No Quarter”... When that first siren blares and Purple Haze kicks in, it is truly an unmatched experience. On September 25th, STEPP hosted our annual Family Weekend Tailgate and was able to share that moment with many of our students and families. Between the picture-perfect football weather, Eastern Carolina BBQ, and a Pirate win, you couldn't ask for a better way to spend a Saturday. STEPP will continue this tradition next fall and hope to welcome even more of our families and friends, and we promise we will bring the BBQ!



Need to contact STEPP?

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Be sure to follow STEPP on our social media platforms to stay up to date on all our events and announcements.



If you would like more information regarding endowments for scholarships, contributions to original endowment, and other contributions you can make to the STEPP Program, please contact ECU's Senior Advancement Officer, Melissa Adamson at adamsonm17@ecu.edu.