FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact Bethany Kendrick Director Public Relations Labette Community College 620-820-1280

## LCC December Student of the Month

Parsons, KS- Student Support Services, of Labette Community College, announces the December Student of the Month, Carrie Smith-Beery, of Parsons, KS. Smith-Beery is a Nursing major who anticipates admission to this Fall's nursing cohort and completion of her degree at LCC in May of 2017.



"I want to work as a hospice nurse," Smith-Beery said of her plans upon graduation from LCC. "I then plan to continue my education at Pittsburg State University to earn my Bachelor's degree in Nursing."

Carrie has four children whom she says inspire her to achieve her educational goals. "I want to show them that it's never too late to achieve your dreams," Smith-Beery said. "I came back to school after being out for 17 years!" Smith-Beery spoke candidly of the obstacles that stood in her way of returning to school as a non-traditional student and the role SSS and its advisors played in her success, saying, "I had been out of the loop for quite a few years, and didn't know much. SSS has helped me with tutoring, book loans, computer time, and the advisors have gone out of their way

to answer any questions or concerns I have had." Carrie had high praise for Sam Jack, Academic Advisor and Tutoring Coordinator for SSS, "SSS has been essential to my success because they have assisted me with so much, especially Sam for helping me through algebra."

Student Support Services is a TRIO Program funded by the United States Department of Education to improve the persistence, transfer, and graduation rates of first-generation and income-eligible college students at LCC. Student Support Services serves 215 students each year with an annual budget of \$300,916