



Where Are They Now? Tales of Past TANF Clients

Administration for Children & Families

Office of Family Assistance

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Arkansas
Career  **Pathways**



OVERVIEW

ARKANSAS CAREER PATHWAYS INITIATIVE

1 OUR PARTNERS

Division of Human Services receives federal TANF funds and contracts with **Division of Workforce Services** to provide case management services for TANF recipients. DWS contracts with **Division of Higher Education** to deliver services through the **CPI** program. DHS determines eligibility; DWS defines the scope of the contract; DHE implements the program.

2 OUR MISSION

To end the dependence of low-income parents on government benefits.

3 OUR GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Enhance basic skills to increase employability so that clients increase self-sufficiency and reduce welfare recidivism:

- Increase enrollment in postsecondary programs
- Increase completion of postsecondary credentials
- Increase job attainment and retention

4 OUR OUTCOMES

College Count\$ Research: *Analysis of Evidence of Impact of the Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative*

- Graduating from college with a degree or certificate at >twice the average of college peers.
- African-American and Hispanic students completing degrees or certificates at almost 4 times the rate of fellow students of color.
- Employed and earning higher than similar low-income parents in their communities.



STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

W H O W E S E R V E

1 CHILD IN THE HOME

Custodial parent/caretaker of child under the age of 21 who lives in the home, and

2 CATEGORICAL

- Is a current or former TEA recipient, or
- Is a current recipient of SNAP, ARKids First, Medicaid, or

3 INCOME

- Is a family with household income less than 250% of federal poverty level
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SERVICES PROVIDED

Educational Expense

- Tuition/Books/Fees
- Supplies/Equipment
- Certifications/Licensure

Financial Assistance

- Childcare
- Transportation
- Technology

Support Services

- Case management
- Coaching
- Employability training and certification
- Career development services

Charletta

CPI Class of 2019

Then: Single parent living in the projects and working as restaurant hostess

Now: RN, homeowner, and nurse/weekend supervisor at rehabilitation facility

<https://www.asumidsouth.edu/career-pathways-success-story/>



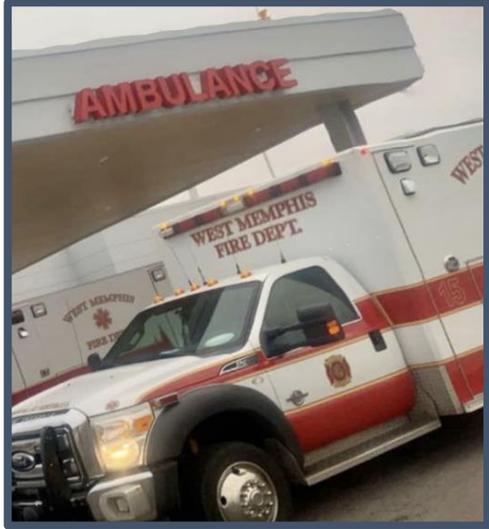


Candice

CPI Class of 2012

Then: 19-year-old with infant and sole guardian of four siblings with an incarcerated mother

Now: BSN-Doctor of Nursing Practice, working in UAMS cardiovascular intensive care unit



Willie

CPI Class of 2017

Then: Trash man looking for a change

Now: Paramedic with fire department and urban hospital, children now thinking about college





FaSeeia

CPI Class of 2007 and 2016

Then: Teenage mom, taken few classes here and there

Now: LPN 2007 and RN 2016, RN for Department of Health and role model for her three daughters



Mikee

CPI Class of 2018

Then: Supporting daughter on a dead-end job

Now: Long-haul truck driver earning upwards of \$2,000/week



Common Threads

Internal desire

- ✔ Motivation to make life better for family
- Persistence
- Need

Relationships built

Financial barriers eased

- ✔ Stress reduced
 - Connection to resources
 - Personal attention
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Arkansas Career Pathways

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