

Rappahannock Goodwill Industries Success Story – George Washington

Keisha’s prior work experience was primarily in fast food. She was determined to make an employment change in 2023. Keisha’s goal was to have a career in healthcare. Having a background made it difficult for Keisha to enter this industry. Keisha enrolled in the Phlebotomy Technician and Intravenous Therapist training. She was very motivated throughout the program and completed training in five weeks. WIOA staff assisted Keisha with updating her resume and during job search. Within two weeks Keisha received a call back from an employer to schedule an interview. WIOA staff assisted Keisha with reviewing interview skills prior to the scheduled interview. The employer made a job offer to Keisha. Supportive Services assisted Keisha with purchasing work uniforms (scrubs, nursing shoes and warming scrub jacket). Keisha is now employed full-time at Any Lab Test Now in Fredericksburg, VA, earning \$16.00 an hour with opportunities to work overtime as needed.

Rappahannock Community College Success Story - Northern Neck

In May, 2022, Trey came to RCC to inquire about CDL training. He applied to WIOA, was determined eligible, and was then enrolled. He had earned his CDL learner’s permit and started training on May 31st. In July, he passed his exam and received his license. He accepted a job offer from Schneider and went over-the-road. Typical success story, right? NO, there’s more. Trey has responded to all of my follow-up requests during this last year. He just completed his last follow-up this quarter. As usual, he completed the email questions I sent him and attached a copy of his recent pay stub. But there was a short message at the bottom of his email that says it all: “I would like to thank you for everything you have done for me. You really changed my life. I’m still with Schneider and I’m now a training engineer and take new drivers on the road and teach them how to be successful on the road.”

Rappahannock Community College Success Story – Middle Peninsula

In March, 2023, Eugene inquired about CDL training after being referred by a friend. He was 27 years old and had worked at a local restaurant for 8 years as a busser. He carefully considered and planned how long he needed to work before starting training. He was enrolled in WIOA. He began his training in June and completed it in August. An unusual incident happened when Eugene attempted his first test. He and the inspector got into the truck, but the truck would not start. Once the problem was resolved, the inspector was going to allow him to re-try. Eugene decided he would rather wait until the next time, as this was not what he had expected that day! He never lost his confidence. He returned to test again and was successful. Shortly after, he started a job driving over-the-road. It has been a pleasure working with Eugene, and I wish him much success!

Eastern Shore Community College Success Stories – Eastern Shore

Story #1

Keyauntae is an Adult who has completed her Medical Assistant Certificate and finished with the Medical Administrative Office Specialist certification as well. Keyauntae was working a job that she did not care for and was also dealing with health issues that did not require her to stand much. Keyauntae enrolled in her training back in 2021 and had good grades throughout her college career. She finished her classes in Fall of 2022 and participated in graduation. Keyauntae, with her two certifications, is now currently employed at Shore Health & Rehabilitation Center as the front desk manager.

Story #2

Jonathan is a dislocated worker who was laid off from his job in early April and visited the Virginia Career Works Center and asked to enroll in the CDL training. Jonathan had years of experience in carpentry, electricity, and HVAC. Jonathan wanted to do CDL because he had experience in driving

trucks from his previous employer. Jonathan enrolled in the full-time class in June and passed the in-class portion. Johnathan completed enough hours at the practice range to do his over the road exam. Unfortunately, the first time around Jonathan did not pass his over the road examination, but he practiced and passed on the second attempt. By attaining his license, Jonathan also obtained multiple other endorsements that will help his opportunities as a commercial driver. Currently, Jonathan is working at Absolute Plumbing in Fruitland, Maryland until a commercial driver job becomes available locally as he prefers to return home each night to be with his family.

Rappahannock Goodwill Industries Youth Success Story – George Washington

John's career goal was to become a CDL Class A Truck Driver. John entered the WIOA Youth program prepared to train with his Virginia CDL Learner's Permit in hand. John completed training for his CDL Class A at CDS Tractor Trailer Training in Woodford VA. John spent additional time in training to master his skills in backing up the truck and finished his training and earned his CDL Class A license in five weeks.

John obtained a full time over-the-road CDL Class A Truck Driver position at Schneider Trucking earning \$29 per hour with benefits. John is currently participating in Schneider's 5-week new hire training. This training consists of 1 week in the classroom and 4 weeks on the road with a driving mentor. John's motivation, hard work, and WIOA support helped John reach his vocational goal in the transportation/supply chain industry.

Rappahannock Community College Youth Success Story – Northern Neck

After a successful participation in the Summer Career Adventure program participant Erika went on to pursue certification as a Personal Care Aide along her journey to becoming a nurse. Erika completed the 40-hour certification training with ease and made the decision to keep her momentum going by applying to RCC. Erika has since started her first semester of college, working on her general education courses with plans to apply to RCC's nursing program.

Rappahannock Community College Youth Success Story – Middle Peninsula

After graduating high school in the Spring of 2022, Tyrece came into the program with the desire to earn certification in Welding. A driven young man, Tyrece chose to take on training on Saturday mornings in order to free up his time during the week to go to work and to fix up his truck. He hopes to prepare himself for a career in Welding and is weeks out from completing his training in Shielded Metal Arc Welding at the Glens campus.

Eastern Shore Community College Youth Success Stories – Eastern Shore

David completed the Summer Career Adventure drone camp hosted by STEAMBridge. The camp was held at Eastern Shore Community College and captured David's natural inclination for building, assembly, operations, programming, and coding. After completing drone camp, David enrolled in the information technology support training at Eastern Shore Community College.

Recently, he was a candidate for Rothe Enterprises' metrology and calibration on the job training offering on Wallops Island. David will be notified within the next two weeks if he is chosen. If selected, he will work full-time and earn \$21.00 per hour for the six-month OJT. This company will employ out of school youth in the area as part of their partnership with Eastern Shore Community College's agreement with Wallops Island filling positions with local talent. Our fingers are crossed, and we hope for the best for David.