

Rappahannock Goodwill Industries Success Story – George Washington

Kenneth entered the WIOA Adult program seeking employment and the required credentials to obtain his goal of becoming a plumber. WIOA staff supported Kenneth by coordinating the Plumbing Level I Apprenticeship training at Germanna Community College. Halfway through the course the training provider began providing Kenneth with potential job leads. WIOA staff supported Kenneth with resume assistance, provided additional job leads and workforce services. While working with the case manager in the center's resource room, Kenneth found a job opportunity related to his plumbing training. Kenneth immediately applied for the position and obtained a Maintenance Tech II position with Amazon Services LLC on December 17, 2023. Kenneth is now working full time, earning \$34.15 per hour, with benefits and with an opportunity to work overtime.

Rappahannock Community College Success Story - Northern Neck

20-year-old Neisha came to RCC in July 2023. She had just completed the PCT (patient care technician) program and wanted to enroll in medication aide training. Her ultimate goal was to apply to the LPN program. She was determined eligible for WIOA and was enrolled on 8/2/23. She did quite well with her training and completed it on 9/21/23. She will soon take her state exam. Meanwhile, Neisha was been accepted into the LPN program at RCC. She will soon begin those classes while also working part-time. I wish her much success and congratulate her on her hard work and accomplishments!

Rappahannock Community College Success Story – Middle Peninsula

Barb was a 19-year-old young woman who suffered with anxiety when she came to RCC. She was very interested in CDL training and was determined to overcome her anxiety and succeed. And succeed she did! She was deemed eligible for WIOA on 2/1/23 and started her training on 2/13/23. Barb's physique may have been petite, but she was big and strong at heart! She completed her training on 3/24/23, earned her credential and boosted her self-confidence. She accepted a job offer, started working on 5/15/23 and still works for the same company today. We wish her much success!

Eastern Shore Community College Success Stories – Eastern Shore

Story #1

Donna is a single mother who worked as personal care aide but wanted to increase her pay as well as do more in the nursing field. Donna was inspired to enroll in the certified nursing assistant program and got great grades in her classes. Donna took her CNA state board examination and completed both the theory and skills sections of the exam with certainty that she would pass, and she did! Donna currently works as CNA at a local nursing home facility assisting those who are unable to care for themselves and she loves it. The increase in pay keeps a smile on Donna's face as she is now able to care for her family without the financial stress as before. Now that her confidence is in full bloom Donna believes she will return to Eastern Shore Community College one day to study to become a licensed practical nurse, just not right now. WIOA is here to assist her on her nursing journey.

Story #2

Jonathan, a DW who was laid off from his job in April 2023, came to the Virginia Employment Commission (Virginia Career Works Center) to file for unemployment insurance. It was there that he learned about the WIOA program. Jonathan followed up on the referral and scheduled an appointment. After hearing about all career services and other opportunities, Jonathan inquired about funding again to make sure he understood that all training costs would be covered by the program. Jonathan was struggling

financially and just needed help to start a new career. Jonathan always had interest in CDL, but just never followed through. Now that funding was available Jonathan registered for the next available CDL course. Jonathan began the CDL program in June 2023, and was a great student who attended all his classes and had high scores in the classroom. Jonathan took the over-the-road the first time but didn't pass because he was extremely anxious. Jonathan took the over-the-road exam a second time and passed. Jonathan prefers driving locally rather than over-the-road as he feels that would create a hardship for his wife. Jonathan has earned two additional endorsements for his Class A license and is working in Maryland full-time. We are proud of Jonathan, and we wish him well as he pursues a local CDL position. We are keeping our eyes opened with Jonathan for available CDL positions on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

Rappahannock Goodwill Industries Youth Success Story – George Washington

Kelvonte entered the WIOA Youth program while experiencing homelessness. Kelvonte worked with WIOA staff to create a plan towards his goal to become a Barber. He chose the Barber Academy at Faded & Co. as his training provider. While in training, Kelvonte was able to travel with the academy's owner, Antoine Carey, and his class to Connecticut to attend a Barber Expo. Kelvonte bonded with his classmates and instructors and learned from the Nation's leading Barbers. Kelvonte worked hard to complete his training and the required hands-on hours. He passed his state licensing exams. He is now working as a Barber at Faded & Co. A graduation ceremony for Faded and Co. Barber Academy is scheduled at Germanna Community College on January 13, 2024. The WIOA Youth Case Manager will attend Kelvonte's graduation to celebrate Kelvonte's hard work and achievement.

Rappahannock Community College Youth Success Story – Northern Neck

Kendall came to the WIOA Youth program during the 2022 Summer Career Adventure Series which sparked a passion in him to explore cyber security. After completing a weeklong deep dive into the subject, he began classes at RCC towards a Cybersecurity Career Studies Certificate. During his studies, Kendall was presented with the opportunity to take an online course for COMPTIA A+, which he completed, and is now working towards official certification.

Rappahannock Community College Youth Success Story – Middle Peninsula

Jeffrey was a former high school welding student who was interested in being re-certified in order to find gainful employment. Throughout our meetings, I was able to learn from James that he had a small child as well as a live-in girlfriend who was in need of services. I connected Jeffrey with RCC's program coordinator in charge of facilitating services through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) grant. After being connected with TANF, Jeffrey and his spouse were offered the opportunity to become parent ambassadors for a new TANF program focused on parent education. Jeffrey began his first welding class at the end of October and completed it along with his re-certification in Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) in December.

Eastern Shore Community College Youth Success Stories – Eastern Shore

Kaleb began his on-the-job (OJT) training activity on October 2, 2023, and was an ideal employee in training. Kaleb displayed time management, communication, adaptability, problem-solving, teamwork, creativity, leadership, interpersonal skills, work ethic, attention to detail, networking, and conflict resolution skills, all of which are necessary to function as a valuable member of Sentinel Robotic Solutions, LLC. On October 31st Kaleb passed the FAA Part 107 examination. On Tuesday, January 2, 2024, Kaleb clocked in as a full-time Sentinel Robotic Solutions, LLC employee. We are so proud of Kaleb for being an astute learner and for exhibiting professionalism at his OJT site. We are looking forward to Kaleb growing even more as he continues to learn new skills on his selected career journey—

stating that he loves all things involving drones. The future is bright for Kaleb, and we are as excited as he is as he moves forward along the very broad drone career path.