

Area Youth Setting Higher Goals for Themselves



*Tyisha (left) and Kassandra (right) with CMWIB
Youth Workforce Investment Council Chair, Robin
Hooper*

Kassandra D.

Age 23

Last summer Kassandra was homeless with two young daughters, and she was struggling with the recent death of her brother. Kassandra realized that she did not want to live the street life, and in order to make this shift, she needed to make some major changes in her and her daughters' lives. Kassandra moved into a local shelter and while living there she heard about the Worcester Community Action Council's (WCAC) HiSET program. Kassandra enrolled into the program in November, 2016, and in February, 2017, she obtained her HiSET certificate. While attending HiSET classes, Kassandra also obtained a part-time job as a Tax Greeter at WCAC's free tax assistance program. Presently, Kassandra is attending Quinsigamond Community College's Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) program. Upon completion of the CNA program, Kassandra plans on enrolling into QCC's Phlebotomy and EKG training program this fall. Kassandra is not going to stop her education there however -- she plans on becoming a Registered Nurse.

Kassandra's advice to anyone looking into bettering their life is to be motivated and stay positive.

Tyisha E.

Age 23

The most significant time in Tyisha's life is occurring right now. Last month Tyisha obtained her High School Equivalency Diploma. This was a big accomplishment for her as three years earlier she had taken the steps to enroll into WCAC's HiSET program but she just wasn't ready. During that time Tyisha realized that the best way to change her life and accomplish her dreams was to obtain her HiSET certificate and enroll in college. While Tyisha was attending HiSET prep classes, and working nights as a hostess, she also worked at WCAC's front desk as a receptionist as part of a work experience program. Upon completion of the work experience program, Tyisha obtained a second job as a retail clerk. Recently, she was accepted into the Quinsigamond Community College Future Focus program where she plans on studying business. Tyisha has learned that she can accomplish the things she sets her mind to and is looking forward to entering college this fall.

For more information regarding WIOA youth programming or the CMWIB's Youth Workforce Investment Council, please contact Ed Gagne at 508.373.7657

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