

Veteran receives LPN Training



Jason Kennedy

Jason Kennedy began his medical career while serving in the US Navy. Jason attended a 14 week school for Hospital Corpsman Class A and was assigned to National Naval Medical Center's Department of Medicine in Bethesda, MD. Sometime after Jason and his family's relocation to Stillwater, he took an evening class for a basic certification as an EMT. Jason was unable with these trainings to provide adequately for his family, especially with his wife, a stay-at-home mother of their young children. Jason was receiving assistance through the Department of Human Services for SNAP benefits, soonercare, and WIC prior to training. Jason sought assistance for the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program at Meridian Technology Center with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Jason also needed supportive assistance with the program requirements, such as medical scrubs, stethoscope, and medical shoes. Jason was an excellent student committed to his training. During his training, class instruction and clinicals, Jason maintained a full-time job with Stillwater Medical Center in the ICU department. Jason completed his training recently and was licensed through the Board of Nursing in Oklahoma. Jason is still working full-time with the ICU department at the Stillwater Medical Center. His pay has increased \$3.65 per hour since the completion of his training. Jason has had several featured photographs and an article produced by the Career Tech to highlight his progress in their training program. Jason reports that LPN is just a step in his career path.

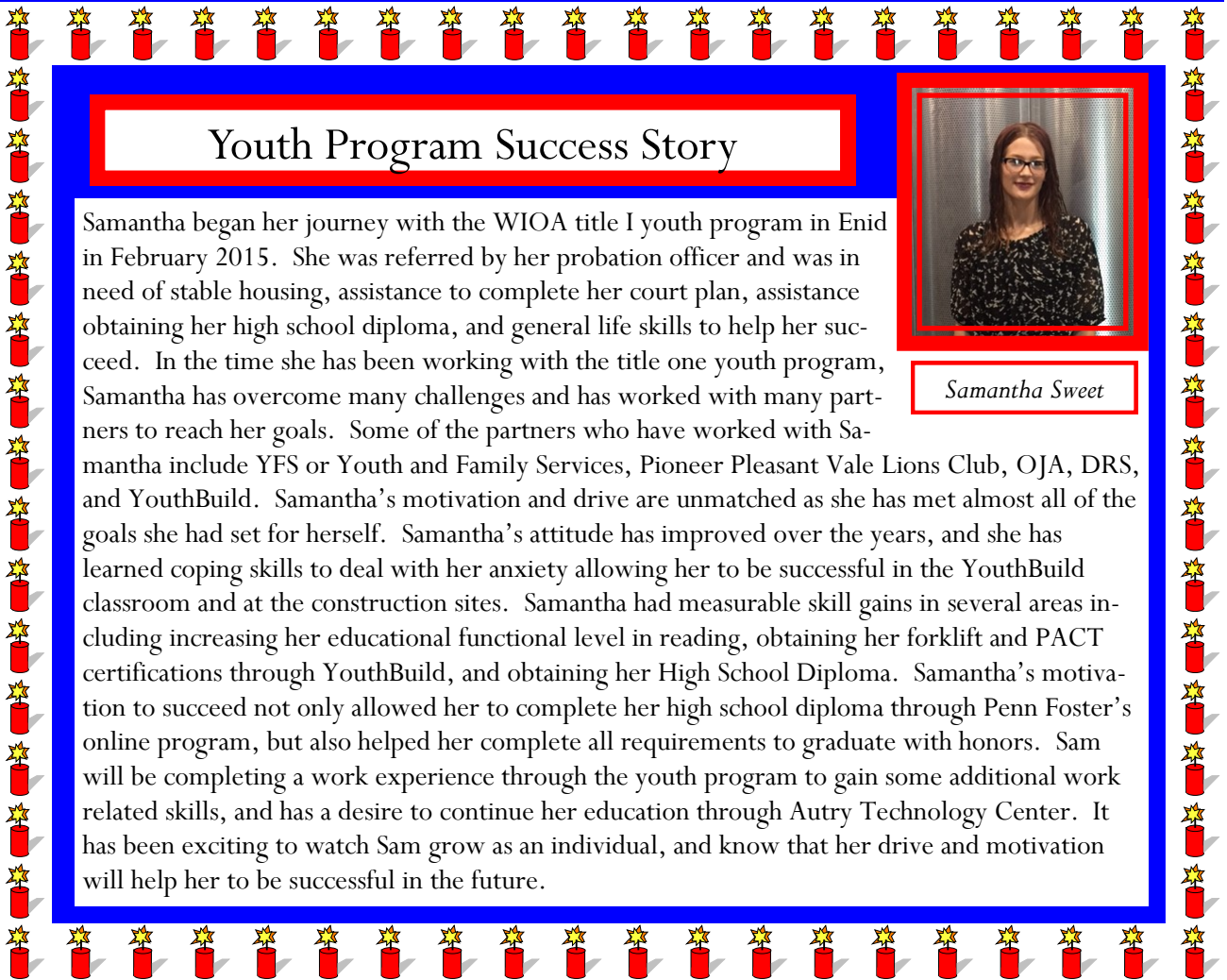


Youth Program Success Story



Samantha Sweet

Samantha began her journey with the WIOA title I youth program in Enid in February 2015. She was referred by her probation officer and was in need of stable housing, assistance to complete her court plan, assistance obtaining her high school diploma, and general life skills to help her succeed. In the time she has been working with the title one youth program, Samantha has overcome many challenges and has worked with many partners to reach her goals. Some of the partners who have worked with Samantha include YFS or Youth and Family Services, Pioneer Pleasant Vale Lions Club, OJA, DRS, and YouthBuild. Samantha's motivation and drive are unmatched as she has met almost all of the goals she had set for herself. Samantha's attitude has improved over the years, and she has learned coping skills to deal with her anxiety allowing her to be successful in the YouthBuild classroom and at the construction sites. Samantha had measurable skill gains in several areas including increasing her educational functional level in reading, obtaining her forklift and PACT certifications through YouthBuild, and obtaining her High School Diploma. Samantha's motivation to succeed not only allowed her to complete her high school diploma through Penn Foster's online program, but also helped her complete all requirements to graduate with honors. Sam will be completing a work experience through the youth program to gain some additional work related skills, and has a desire to continue her education through Autry Technology Center. It has been exciting to watch Sam grow as an individual, and know that her drive and motivation will help her to be successful in the future.



**VETERAN
REPRESENTATIVES
ARE LOCATED AT ALL THE
OKLAHOMA WORKS
OFFICES**

Enid Works:
114 S. Independence
Enid, OK 73701
(580) 234-6043

Guymon Works:
304 NE 4th Street
Guymon, OK 73942
(580) 338-8521

Ponca City Works:
1201 W. Grand Ave.
Ponca City, OK 74601
(580) 765-3372

Stillwater Works:
3006 E 6th St.
(HWY 51)
Stillwater, OK 74074
(405) 624-1450

Woodward Works:
1117 11th St.
Woodward, OK 73801
(580) 256-3308

**Call or come by
for assistance
with employment
services.**

Veteran Gets His CDL

Ray Baugher worked as a Fleet Manager for Pacific Ag in Hugoton, Kansas when his company saw a decline in work, he was laid off. While Ray's resume proved he had great work experience, and he was a US Navy Veteran, he was having trouble finding a job due to his specific skills no longer being in demand. After weeks of unemployment with no job prospects, OESC Guymon staff referred Ray to WIOA Title I Career Planner Theresa Carrillo for employment assistance. After interviewing Ray, it was evident that he would enjoy driving a truck for a local company. Even though there were several truck driving jobs available, Ray did not possess a CDL and was in need of truck driver training to upgrade his skills. Ray attended Truck Driver Training through Central Technology Center in Drumright, Oklahoma. He graduated from the program and obtained his Class A CDL! Ray is now employed fulltime driving a feed truck for Seaboard Foods. When Ray was asked how he enjoys his new career field he stated, "I really love the people I work with." Ray and his lovely wife had several obstacles to overcome while dealing with his unemployment and the WIOA dislocated worker program helped alleviate one of the biggest challenges. It's great to see Ray back at work and back to his happy self!



Ray Baugher

LINDSEY ELSTON JOINS THE TEAM AT CDSA



Lindsey Elston

Lindsey Elston joined CDSA Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act team in April 2017. She works in the Enid Workforce Office as the Youth Service Specialist. Lindsey has worked in the Non-Profit world for over 8 years. Prior to her employment with CDSA, Lindsey worked at YWCA Enid as the Executive Assistant. She has a passion for helping others in need and seeing them succeed in life. Lindsey's hobbies include the outdoors and watching her three year old daughter Linley grow up. Lindsey is married to her husband Lamar and has lived in Enid for over ten years. We look forward to working alongside her and know she will be a great addition to the team. Her prior knowledge and experience in the area will prove to be beneficial as she works with the WIOA partners in helping local youth succeed with their goals. Welcome to the team!



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