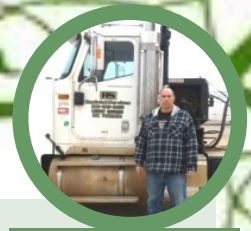




Success Story for CDSA



Raul Benavidez

When Raul Benavidez first came into the Enid Workforce office in November of 2016, he was in desperate need of help. He had recently been fired from his job in October of 2016 in quality control with a local oil field company. At the time, prospects for other oil-field related jobs were bleak. He was also an ex-offender and was concerned that this might prove to be a barrier for future employment. To make matters worse, he and his family of six were going to be evicted from the house that had been provided to them by his former employer due to his termination. Raul and his family were also receiving SNAP benefits and qualified for WIOA training services based on his income. Shameka Campbell his WIOA Career Planner the Enid Workforce office and Diedra Williamson, the WIOA One Stop Operator, worked together with Raul to help him come up with a plan. Since Raul wanted to get his CDL license, he was asked to start contacting companies who may potentially hire him in spite of his background. Raul took to the task immediately and began contacting employers and got several companies to consider hiring him after training. He also was encouraged by the WIOA staff to find a stable place for his family to live while in attended training. Raul was able to make arrangements for his family to stay in Elk City with the help of extended family. Raul completed the WIOA application process and was approved for training on 12/2/16. The CDSA staff noticed that Raul was highly motivated to improve his circumstances if given the help and resources that he needed to succeed. Raul started his training on 12/5/16 at American Truck Training School in Oklahoma City. He stayed with his sister on the weekends and received her support and encouragement as well. He obtained his class A CDL on 1/11/17 and immediately shared the good news with the CDSA staff that had helped him through the entire process. He found a job within the next two and a half weeks and started working with Resistol Services in Elk City on 1/31/17 making \$16.50 per hour. Even through the tough times, Raul kept his goal in the forefront of his mind so that could resume his role of providing for his family and step into a stable career with many opportunities. He is extremely pleased with the help and services that he received through CDSA and the WIOA program and is happy to share his success with others.



Christina Whitmore

CDSA SUCCESS STORY

In December of 2016, WIOA Youth Service Specialist, Rachel Harris, met with Christina Whitmore, resulting from a TANF referral by DHS. Christina was an agreeable young lady who shared that she had just moved from Del City, OK with her 3 small children and was living with her grandmother in Enid. Although she had dropped out of high school, following the birth of her first child and subsequent marriage, her TABE scores showed that she was a bright young lady. Eventually, Christina opened up that during her marriage, she was not allowed to work or have friends. When her husband lost his job and eventually abandoned the household, she made the move to Enid, looking for a brighter future. It was clear to her YSS that she had definite potential but lacked confidence. Upon enrollment, there was a quick move to place her in a work experience. Christina received a Pre-Employment/Job Readiness workshop where they worked on a resume, discussed ways to highlight her abilities, and participated in some mock interviews. The Enid Workforce Office was more than willing to afford Christina an opportunity to gain some work experience. The WIOA Youth Program provided her a supportive service to purchase work attire. In no time, a confident young lady emerged. During her first month, Christina attained a GOLD CRC, received excellent ratings on all 3 of her work experience evaluations, and was referred to the Youth Build Program. In an effort to help her and her children transition to Enid, a supportive service referral to the YMCA and Leonardo's Children Museum were submitted. Christina was given scholarships to both. Moreover, she has been able to utilize CDSA's Baby Basics Diaper Program to get free diapers for two of her children. Currently, Christina has been accepted to the Youth Build Program where her goal is to graduate at the top of her class, have perfect attendance, and make the most of every opportunity afforded to her.

Want Help finding a job or getting a better job? Call a WIOA worker listed below:

Theresa Carrillo
(580-338-8521 Guymon)

theresa.carrillo@oesc.state.ok.us

Cathy Meritt
(580-256-3308 Woodward)

Cathy.Meritt@oesc.state.ok.us

Shameka Campbell
(580-242-6131 Enid)

Shameka.campbell@cdsaok.org

Peggy Shouse
(580-765-3372 Ponca City)

peggy.shouse@oesc.state.ok.us

Stephanie Akins
(405-624-0939 Stillwater)

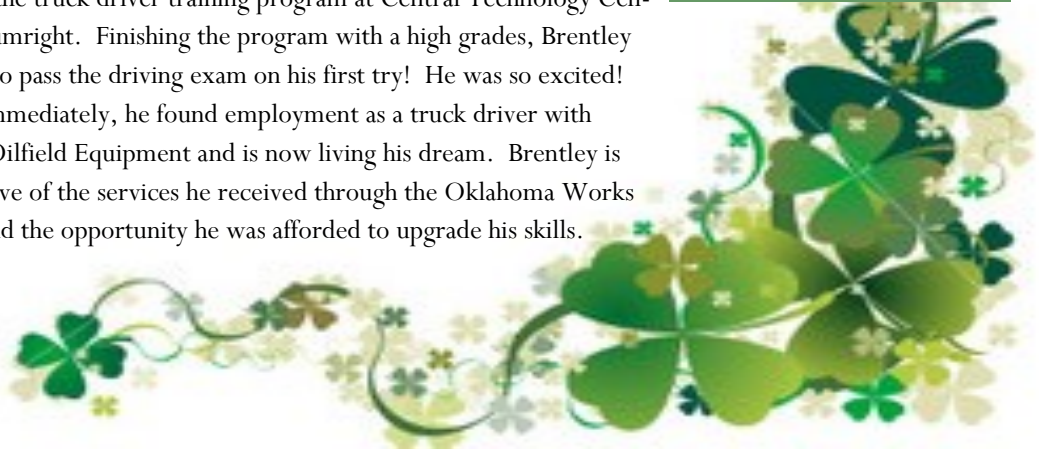
Stephanie.Akins@oesc.state.ok.us

CDSA Success in Woodward, OK

When the oil industry experienced a sharp decline, Brentley Wood found himself in a position like many others. Brentley was laid off from his oilfield job, but was unsure how to move forward with few jobs available in the industry where he was familiar. He filed for unemployment and began to job search, but was unable to find a good job. It was then that the Woodward Workforce Center staff referred him to the WIOA program for individualized career services. Brentley had a dream to become a truck driver and he knew if he could just get that CDL, he wouldn't have to worry about finding a job again. He attended the truck driver training program at Central Technology Center in Drumright. Finishing the program with a high grades, Brentley was able to pass the driving exam on his first try! He was so excited! Almost immediately, he found employment as a truck driver with Journey Oilfield Equipment and is now living his dream. Brentley is appreciative of the services he received through the Oklahoma Works System and the opportunity he was afforded to upgrade his skills.



Brentley Wood



A proud partner of the
americanjobcenter
network

FREE Workshops
(Open to the public)

OKLAHOMA
WORKS

When: Every other Wednesday

Time: 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Location: Woodward Workforce Center, 1117 11th Street, Woodward, OK 73801

Upcoming Topics:

- 04/05/17 – Interview Skills
- 04/19/17 – Resume Writing

Contact Person: CATHY MERITT 580-256-3308 for more information