

Success Spotlight: Johnny Brackenridge

Publish date: July 2023

Program: WorkOne services

Location: Hamilton County

Wage prior to services: unemployed

Wage after services: \$20 an hour

STORY

Johnny Brackenridge dropped out of high school after his junior year, and when he visited the Noblesville WorkOne office in the summer of 2022, he had been unemployed for almost a year.

His employment history was limited to stock work at a retailer and construction.



Johnny's career advisor at WorkOne referred him to the Hinds Adult Education class at a Noblesville church, where he would attend three mornings a week. There, his adult ed instructor worked with Johnny to improve his basic skills and prepare for the high school equivalency exam, along with assisted him in exploring career options related to his interests.

That led Johnny on a mission to earn his commercial driver's license after receiving his HSE.

In January of 2023, Johnny earned his HSE and found a CDL school, 160 Driving Academy. The WorkOne office provided funding to cover the cost of training. Three months later, he received his CDL A license and started driving at Midwest Logistics a few days later, where he is earning \$20 an hour.

"WorkOne has been an amazing experience for me," Johnny said. "My teacher was Jodi Peck. She was always positive and supportive! Honestly, she motivated me with her attitude to be more outgoing and try new things. Her teaching style was very interactive, and the other students and I were excited to attend classes every week. She was like a lightbulb walking in the darkness.

"[Daniel Bowen was not only] my Career Advisor, but he became a friend. Daniel always reached out to see how I was doing and how he could help me find a career I would love. Daniel was always very supportive and had a good sense of humor. Overall, Jodi and Daniel made my experience with WorkOne an amazing one. WorkOne helped fund the career I went into and gave me a sense of direction in life.

When I dropped out of high school years ago, I always wanted to go back to school and get my diploma. I pushed it off until my parents inspired me to return, but this time I'd leave school with a scholarship to trucking school. Now at the age of 21, I have my diploma and a promising career. I thank my parents, Jodi, Daniel, and the rest of the team at WorkOne."