

BRANDON DESPER

Nominated by: Wabash Area Development, Inc.
Case Manager: Paula Black

In July of 2012 Brandon entered the Wabash Area Development, Inc.'s WIA office, as a dislocated worker who was seeking answers as to where to go with his life and career. Having full custody of a six year old boy to raise and provide for Brandon was in a state of fear, low self-esteem and very little confidence. After speaking with Brandon, he entered the Automotive Technology Program at Frontier Community College.

Once in the program Brandon excelled beyond his expectations, making excellent grades his confidence improved. Impressing his instructor, Brandon was asked to assist with teaching the Fairfield Community High School's automotive class.



Brandon continued to accelerate in his learning earning nine certifications in the automotive industry. These certifications helped Brandon gain full time employment at a local Ford Dealership, while in training full time. This was a great boost for Brandon because his unemployment benefits had expired months earlier leaving him without income, as a result he and his son had to move in with his Mother.

With a new outlook on life, able to stand on his own two feet, Brandon and his son were now able to live on their own once again. I observed the transformation of this young man and father turning into a confident, self assured and happy individual with the ability to hold his head high once again.

Brandon graduated in May of 2014 and was honored with the Automotive Technology Program Award. Brandon continues to work at the Ford Dealership, he and his son are doing well.

Authorization to Release Information

I, _____, hereby authorize any State of Illinois department, Southern 14 Workforce Investment Board, any contracted service provider or agency benefiting from or contributing to my activities to use information regarding my involvement with programs delivered through the workforce/economic development system. Information which may be used includes, but is not limited to, the written summary of achievements; awards banquet videotape; and photographs. These materials may be used in publications, award nominations and/or on the Internet. I hereby waive any claim arising out of such release, dissemination or use. Information, videotape, and photographs shall not be used for any for-profit commercial purposes.

Brandon Disper

Signature

11-6-14

Date