

## Amy Newberry

Nominated by: Shawnee Development Council, Inc.

Case Manager: Sharon Voelz

When Amy Newberry of Union County first came to Shawnee Development Council, Inc. in July 2010 she was a 29 year old single mother of two small children. She was working part-time as a hair stylist and the family received food stamps. She and her children had been living with her mother. Amy knew she had to obtain training that would help her achieve self-sufficiency and build a better life for her children.



Amy had tested and was accepted into the nursing program at Shawnee Community College with plans to become a registered nurse. Her assessment and test scores indicated that she could succeed in this program and she began her classes in the fall semester of 2010. During the course of her training, Amy learned that she had used her maximum Pell Grant. She had utilized her Pell Grant for living expenses during her training and her limited resources would now be further stretched.

Amy's grandmother was her strongest support system and she kept her children while Amy attended classes. She offered emotional support and was her most ardent cheerleader. While Amy was attending classes her sister became very ill and was hospitalized for an extended period of time. Amy also took on the added responsibility of caring for her sister's two children as well as her own.

During the course of her training Amy had to take a break due to complications from a difficult pregnancy and childbirth. Although this set her back in achieving her goals, she persevered and managed to complete the Associate Degree Nursing Program in May 2013 with an accumulated grade point average of 3.179. Amy began work at Petersen Health Operations in July 2013. She is currently working as a registered nurse in Cobden and will be interviewing for a job with Southern Illinois Healthcare which she hopes to begin early in the year.

Amy worked diligently to obtain her education. She overcame many obstacles and has achieved a very rewarding career which will provide well for her family in the coming years. Her children can truly be proud of their mom!

# ILLINOIS WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP

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## Authorization to Release Information

I, Amy Newsberry, hereby authorize the Illinois Workforce Partnership to use information regarding my involvement with programs delivered through the workforce/economic development system. Information that may be used includes written information, program information, photographs, Success Stories and videotapes. These materials may be used in publications, press releases, and/or on the Internet. I hereby waive any claim arising out of such release, dissemination, or use. Information, photographs, Success Stories and videotape shall not be used for any for-profit commercial uses.

Amy Newsberry  
Signature

11/13/13  
Date