

## **TIFFANY HICKS**

Illinois workNet Center - Harrisburg  
Case Manager: Valerie Potter

Tiffany Hicks, age 23, came to Illinois workNet Center in Harrisburg, IL for assistance to attend Southeastern Illinois College, for the practical nursing program. After completing an intake and assessment, we found she was facing many obstacles she could not complete on her own. She was a single parent, with no income. Tiffany's mother helped her with her daughter, Heaven, age one at this time, and also with her living expenses. She also received a medical card and food stamps from the Department of Human Services.



Tiffany Hicks with So. 14 LWIB Chair Chris Howton

After presenting her application to the selection committee, we thought she would be a potential client that would successfully complete her training. Our services and referrals would be beneficial in helping Tiffany reach her goal. Tiffany had already completed her pre-requisite classes, toward the LPN program.

While attending college, Tiffany relied on the Pell Grant and MID-5 helped with tuition, fees, books, supplies, transportation, and childcare. Also, Tiffany received help from Child Care Resource and Referral, John A. Logan College. Tiffany received help through Critical Skills for mentoring, and transportation, while attending Southeastern Illinois Junior College. We enrolled her in the Practical Nursing program and she received her certificate, July 2005. Tiffany worried about getting into the RN program at Southeastern Illinois College.

Meanwhile, Tiffany continued to persevere holding two part-time jobs, prior to enrolling in classes at Rend Lake College. January 2006, Tiffany enrolled in the Associate Degree Nursing program at Rend Lake College and completed the program December 2006. January through March 2007, Tiffany was hired at Carbondale Memorial Hospital, Making \$11.79 Hourly as an RN, license pending. At time of exit, She got a job closer to home making better money at Harrisburg Medical Center as a RN making \$19.83 an hour and working full time. She also started a job June 2007 for Wexford Health Sources, working at Big Muddy Correctional Center, working eight hours each week and making \$28 hourly as a RN.

While attending both college's Tiffany's grades were A's and B's She was a very dedicated and exceptional student. Personally I don't know how she did it being a single parent. Never did she ask for extra assistance. Tiffany is really appreciative and grateful for all the help she received from all the organizations that helped her. We are very proud of you Tiffany!