WADI would like to recognize Maude Harrison as one of our WIOA success stories. Maude started the WIOA Youth Program in August 2013, she needed assistance with Occupational Training. WIOA helped Maude get her Early Childhood Degree, at Rend Lake College. Maude’s grades were excellent she was on the President List with honors and Phi Theta Kappa. The expense of a college education was beyond what her family could afford. She said, “She would not have been able to attend college if it wasn’t for WIOA.”

Maude is the first one in her family to graduate with a college degree. This was a huge accomplishment for her. Maude’s parents are hard workers and they instilled honesty, strong work values, and the desire to succeed.

After getting her degree, Maude was hired at WADI as a White County, Head Start/Early Head Start Home Visitor. I had the privilege to Supervise Maude, she was a dependable and compassionate employee. Percentage of HS visits were above standards, and she was resourceful for our WADI families. Maude’s involvement with Community events excelled and family’s needs were met following through with great outcomes.

Maude is now our LIHEAP Director! Her dedication to Community Action and hard work paid off. Maude credits the strong family support that helped her with her educational goals and the opportunity WIOA provided. The Career Planner played an important role as they built a working relationship and guided her through the program. Maude states, “Never be scared to reach out for help, that is what Community Action is here for.”

Kathy Dinwiddie, CSBG/WIOA Specialist