

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth

A Foundation for Future Success

Goodwill operates the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth program for multiple Workforce Investment Areas in Virginia. The program is designed to provide training, employment, and educational opportunities to eligible, in and out of school, youth ages 16 to 24.

Youth Eligibility

Eligible youth must be low income and face one or more of the following challenges to successful workforce entry:

- Basic skills deficient
- School dropout
- Homeless or runaway
- Foster child
- Pregnant or parent
- Offender
- Need help completing an educational program or securing and holding a job



Goodwill's WIOA Youth program provides opportunities for individuals to receive training to further assist them in their job search.

Program Highlights

The WIOA Youth program will help youth access opportunities for work-based learning, industry-recognized credentials, and employment in demand occupations. Key components of the program are:

- Tutoring
- Adult mentoring
- Leadership development
- On-the-job training
- Career and academic preparation
- Paid and unpaid work experience
- Internship and training in demand occupations
- Pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship training



DJ became the man of the house at 16. During his senior year of high school DJ was forced to drop out of school to care for both his mother and grandmother.

DJ quickly realized that finding a job without a high school diploma was not going to be easy. He went to the Virginia Workforce Center in Lynchburg and was able to get his GED. While there, he learned about Goodwill and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for youth who are struggling to find employment. He met with a case manager, and DJ began to see hope for a brighter future.

Through the WIOA Youth program, which Goodwill operates for the Region 2000 Workforce Investment Board, DJ was able to begin training to become a Certified Nursing Assistant. In August 2013, DJ graduated from CNA class and found a job at Liberty Ridge Health and Rehabilitation Center in Lynchburg. In November 2013, he passed his state CNA board.

DJ's plans for the future include to further his education as a Licensed Practical Nurse while serving our country.

**For more information on
WIOA Youth:
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