

New Beginnings' Success Stories

Employment & Education Goal



An immigrant from Nigeria came to New Beginnings to improve her computer skills. While at New Beginnings, she began talking with the staff about getting help changing careers. She had a degree in Bio-Chemistry, but unfortunately it was not recognized in the United States, so she was working in a low-wage job which had hours made it difficult to take care of her young daughter. She worked with an advisor from New Beginnings to identify a career that would have better hours and be more financially and intellectually rewarding. After some directed research, she decided to pursue a career in computers. New Beginnings worked with her to lay out a plan for getting into the field, which included identifying training options, securing financial aid, and laying out a study schedule to ensure success. After about 6 months she secured a student loan and enrolled in Boston University's A+ Certification training. Within a month of completing the training, she was employed in the field at a much higher salary, and with hours that were much more conducive to caring for her daughter.

Economic Goal



A past participant ran into one of our staff about a year and a half after attending New Beginnings Budgeting Seminar. The staff member asked her what she thought of the seminar, and if it helped her at all. She responded:

"It changed my life! For so long I felt that I was stuck in my current situation, and there really was nothing that I could do to move forward on the things that were important to me, but after attending the seminar, I realized that it was all about choices & priorities. Since then, I have made some changes, not all of them easy, but it allowed me to save enough money to buy a condo, finally start saving for retirement, as well as put some money away for my son's wedding. Your class made me realize where my priorities were, as well as that it was within my control to make changes that would allow me to pursue these priorities."



Crisis Management and Accessing & Understanding Resources



Shortly after we opened our doors a woman came into us because she had just lost her job, and was denied unemployment benefits. Her big concern was her medical insurance, since she had a liver transplant, and needed expensive medicines to prevent her body from rejecting it. She had lost her job, because she had gotten into a car accident and her car was totaled. Unfortunately she did not get any money for the accident, and could not afford to buy a new car. Without a car, she was unable to keep her job, due to the location of her job. We worked with her to appeal the Department of Employment and Training's decision. We helped her identify on what grounds she might be able to appeal, as well as helped her document the financial burden she would have been under to maintain that job. Then we worked with her to write and organize the material for her appeal, so she could rely on it in the hearing itself. She won her appeal despite the fact that her former employer brought a lawyer to the hearing to challenge her claim. She was more organized than her employer and had documentation to back up all her claims. The unemployment benefits allowed her to maintain her health, and gave her enough time to find employment at a location that would accommodate her transportation issues.

Computer Training, Resume Assistance & Employment

An immigrant from India came into us after being laid off from a manufacturing job so she could gain the computer skills she needed to obtain a job in an office environment. She learned Microsoft Word and Excel, and then took advantage of our resume-writing seminar. After the seminar she worked with a volunteer to pull out her transferable skills. In the process the volunteer identified the wealth of transferable skills and knowledge that she possessed and helped her pull this together in an effective resume. She worked briefly with a staff member to develop a job search strategy, and within a few months time had gained employment in an administrative temp to perm position.



What Our Participants Are Saying About New Beginnings

"I am grateful to you for the positive contribution you have made to the quality of my new lifestyle." Ethel

"I truly believe that New Beginnings has something to offer everyone and have seen it through my observation of the incredible variety of people that attend. It just amazes me that your program reaches so many people and I would recommend it to everyone." Suzanne



"It has been a pleasure being a participant in the New Beginnings program for the last six months. I would like to say that this program has helped me very greatly in achieving my goals." Esther



"As a human service worker for twenty plus yrs., I understand how difficult it is to operate a customer-centered program, and you folks at New Beginnings do it beautifully. You were not only there to teach but you also gave of yourselves by offering a compassionate ear, motivation and a lot of extra time.

"Well a year has gone by since I started your program and I proud to report that I have again... thanks in part to you... re-entered the workforce."

Janet

"As a result of losing my employment, I found myself in need of income and began selling collectible items through antique shops. This actually was more trouble than it was worth, and I was kindly told by one shop that I should learn how to do it myself.

"Because of New Beginnings, I have discovered a new line of work that is interesting and fun for me. In a time of financial hardship, my auction sales (enabled by New Beginnings) helped more than I can say. It could never have been accomplished if you and your staff did not provide the kind and generous instruction that you have for what has turned out to be a rather extensive endeavor." Joanna



Helping people turn their goals into realities...

**New
Beginnings**