

Finding a Beacon of Light and Hope

Growing up in Virginia, David found himself lost and disconnected at an early age. Broken family relationships impacted him throughout his teen years leaving him uncertain as to what the next chapters would hold.



David graduated high school and was enthusiastic to attend a local community college. College meant he had an opportunity for a fresh start. But after three years of college, he realized he enjoyed working more and dropped out.

A relationship and a desire for change brought David to San Antonio. He obtained a full time job at a community bank where he obtained both technical and soft skills. However, the constant demands and stress associated with working in a call center environment became more than he could manage. The stress of his job coupled with the desire to be back in Virginia closer to his mom triggered severe anxiety.

David eventually left the company, but at the cost of his mental well-being and damaged self-confidence. He struggled to find employment. With only a high school diploma in hand, he received phone calls from only three out of one hundred applications he submitted. Financial burdens were piling up. Unsure of his future, David discovered the Administrative Assistant program being offered at Goodwill San Antonio's Good Careers Academy. He registered and began classes with the simple notion that earning a certification meant he would have actually completed something.

Although David had already acquired many of the skills being taught in the class, the Administrative Assistant program taught him more than he ever expected. For David, the class was not so much about the content, but rather the accomplishment and experience. He and his fellow classmates became a family. They supported one another both in and out of the classroom. Organically, David became a mentor imparting his knowledge to others who needed additional assistance. David completed his externship and graduated Valedictorian of his class.

Following completion of his certification, David was hired by Goodwill San Antonio's Business Services division where he works at Randolph Air Force Base as a Records Management Support Associate. It was a call he never expected, but one he is extremely thankful to have received.

“Since I started working for Goodwill, I wake up excited and ready to go to work. I finally have the opportunity to show my true, passionate self.”

Appreciative for the opportunity to realize his potential through meaningful employment in a supportive work environment, David now has everything he needs to lead a successful and stable life.