

Greetings from the WIPA National Training Center at Virginia Commonwealth University!

Here is an inspiring success story, submitted to us by Dudley Stevens, a CWIC from Indiana:

This client was referred to me through Maximus on 10-1-10. He had been searching for a job the old fashioned way – he started applying for jobs on his own. He went on Title II benefits in January, 2009 after three back surgeries and an open heart surgery – hence the necessity for work that did not demand heavy labor. When we first spoke, he had applied for a job driving a van taking people to doctor appointments. That job would have been a 20/hr per week position that paid \$11/hr. I wrote him a BSA based on his current job offer. He called a week or less after I wrote to him to be sure that the work incentives I quoted to him were “real” – he could hardly believe it.

I reassured him about the TWP/EPE/EXR. With that information he ditched the \$11/hr job and obtained a full-time \$20/hr job – three months later. He is currently working full-time (40 hours/week) and is earning \$20 per hour. He is a shift supervisor and hopes he can sustain this employment since he will not have to be doing the really heavy work. He’s sure that within 6 months he will be earning at least \$24/hr. AND –believe it or not, this return to work effort is from a man who is receiving slightly over \$2,000.00 per month in SSDI.

He told me that he would keep in touch with me on a quarterly basis to let me know how he is doing. During our last contact, I directed him to the part of the BSA that instructed how to report wages to SSA and dealing with overpayment – if that occurs. He is very pleased with WIPA services and his determination enabled him to return to gainful employment. This 57 year old man is a “go-getter!”

If you have a success story that you would like to share with your fellow CWICs, please forward them to Gail Falk at gafalk@vcu.edu. Have a great day!