

“Naomi Johnson, A Success in the Making”

Success is rarely a matter of chance, and as with Naomi Johnson, it was a matter of her hard work, concentration on personal goals and her involvement with the Northeast MN Office of Job Training that paid off.

In May 2007, Naomi graduated from a medical laboratory technician (MLT) program at Hibbing Community College, but couldn't afford the test fee to become Minnesota State certified. Instead, Naomi began coursework at the U of M, Duluth, MN, majoring in biology. After 3 semesters, Naomi was out of funds and through necessity, needed to move back home.

In October 2010, Naomi attended a job fair in Hibbing, MN, and heard about an opening for a receptionist at the Virginia Workforce Center, MN. Naomi was invited to apply for the temporary position funded by the Office of Job Training adult program. Naomi was excited about the possibility of finding more work to supplement the part time job that she had as a guest room attendant at a local hotel because, out of necessity again, she needed to work both jobs for a while.

Working with an Office of Job Training Career Counselor during this time, Naomi's past educational accomplishments were identified and together, they explored how the agency could possibly help with her education and the completion of her MLT certification. Funding from the Office of Job Training paid for a study course and test fee she wasn't able to pay for in 2007. In February 2011, Naomi successfully completed her exam and received her MLT certification. Congratulations Naomi!

Naomi's job search included attending the annual East Range Job Fair in Virginia, MN in March 2011. She met with human resource officials from the Fairview Regional Medical Center, Hibbing, MN. With the help of Office of Job Training Career Counseling staff, Naomi was armed with a high-quality resume, and a fresh MLT certification. She impressed the human resource people, who called her for a job interview only one week later!

Naomi then prepared for the interview at the Virginia Workforce Center and *“credits the staff of professional career counselors”* for her subsequent job offer. Naomi currently holds a MLT position at Fairview earning \$16.83 per hour with a full package of fringe benefits. Naomi has also been able to purchase a reliable car, which she so desperately needed to get to and from work.

You might think that this is a final chapter in Naomi's success story, not so. Naomi has now applied to the University of Cincinnati for a Bachelor of Science degree in Clinical Lab Supervision. Go Naomi!

The Office of Job Training is truly proud to have played a part in the

“Success in the Making” of Naomi Johnson.

Let us help you with your story!

Contact an Office of Job Training location near you today.