

Meet Danielle

Well, I was staying home with the kids for about 6 years and I found myself going through a divorce and it was a pretty difficult time in my life.

I mean I have work history, I have an associate's degree, but I was not able to get a job, and it was really a scary time in my life.

I got emails through goodwill just for their promotional things and for the \$1.49 Tuesdays they had, and I just happened to read one day and there was a story one day about a lady that had been homeless and she had struggled a lot and had gone through the non traditional job of doing autos, working on automobiles.

So I decided to choose the medical office training program and it was very scary just taking that step forward.

My 21 year old daughter is a senior in college right now.

My son is 11 years old, he's a 5th grader over in St. Paul, and my youngest is 8 years old and she's something else.

As a mom you want to teach your kids to make it their own way and not rely on other people.

I really wanted to not only provide for them but let them see that you know we can do this, and we can move forward and move past this, and know that things are going to be okay.

Paul the instructor taught us not just about the medical office, I mean we had training for insurance, we had training for the medical terminology, we had tests every week, but he really got us excited about what the possibilities could be.

The more we were learning, the more empowered I felt, and the more hope I had, and just to have that extra part of, not just the medical training for the medical terminology but to have the extra you know faith from someone else to say you can do this.

Dana started as the employment readiness trainer. And, we formed a really good friendship at this point where I was able to get advice from her and she would send leads out. And, she really has been phenomenal, just the things that she's done and the way she's encouraged me.

When I first started with Fairview it was actually a temporary position and I was just ready to role the dice.

As a team coordinator the main job that we have is to take one patient and make sure that all of their care is coordinated as a flowing unit. So in other words if they're here for a

regular cold and they find out that they need specialty care, we take care of those appointments, we take care of forms.

Danielle though has been the person that I can completely trust, so um, any follow up that needs to be done, I can get it to Danielle and I know that I completely trust that she will follow through with it, get it done, and it'll be taken care of.

When I first started with Goodwill Easter Seals in 2012, it was a difficult time, and I look back at it now and I think, wow I'm in my own house with my children, I have one child who's successful in college, I have a new vehicle, I have gas in my new vehicle whenever I want it, I sleep through every single night, and I have found so much peace and happiness in the place that I'm at right now.

I think her level of motivation, her self-discipline, her tenacity. She doesn't give up no matter what she's faced with. She gives everything her all.

If I think about Goodwill and where I'd be right now I can't even imagine what it's be like, because its made that big of an impact on my life. It took me from being someone in need of help, to being in a position where I can help other people. And I can't imagine going each day without that.

But this brought me from point A to point L in no time at all, and I'm looking forward to the rest of the alphabet.