



# Success Stories

November 2018

## Meet Susan

Susan is a grandmother who is supporting her grandchildren, battling cancer and was looking for work. Susan felt that all the resumes she submitted went unnoticed and that her age was holding her back from finding employment. Susan was unsure how to match her resume to the fields she was applying for, so her case manager set Susan up for the 50+ You're Hired! Workshop provided by Employment Services of Weld County (ESWC). Her Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) case manager enrolled her in the Subsidized Training and Employment Program (STEP), which included supportive services, ensuring her household remained functional. Susan attended other workshops offered by ESWC including the resume workshops and completed learning lab assessments. Susan pushed herself to be seen for who she is and what she has to offer. She never gave up the hope that she would be working. After attending the 50+ and resume workshops, Susan was more confident in herself than ever before, though she still had some struggles or hurdles that she felt she needed to jump through. Susan applied for jobs that she felt would help with supporting her grandsons by staying close to them in case they needed her. Between Susan going in for cancer surgery and applying for jobs, she was hired within a month's time, and is now working with

Greeley-Evans Weld County District 6 as a substitute teacher, in the office and kitchen.

## Meet Joe

Joe, a veteran over the age of 50, was recently laid off from his previous job. He attended the Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA) orientation, where he found out about the many services provided to unemployed members of the community and was referred to the Disability Veteran's Outreach Program (DVOP) and began job searching. Joe was referred to the 50+ You're Hired! Workshop series, which he attended until he was able to find employment. Joe is very excited about his new job, which is a Service Manager for a tire company.

## Meet Margii

Margii, an out of work elementary school teacher, was having difficulty obtaining employment for several years and her teaching license had expired. Margii registered for a Budgeting and Finance class, Resume Workshop, and Transferable Skills Workshop through ESWC. Once assigned a case manager, Margii's was enrolled in the WIOA Adult Program where she explored the career option of Office Administration. Together, Margii and her case manager developed

a Training and Employment Plan that focused on job search and seeking out work-based learning opportunities. Margii was placed in a Work Experience (WE) position with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)/Employment First (EF) Unit at ESWC. When her original Work Experience hours exhausted, WIOA extended her hours to participate in a Work Experience with the Registration Unit, also at ESWC. A full-time position for a Client Services Technician in the Registration unit opened and Margii applied, interviewed, and was offered the position. She continues to work for ESWC's Registration Unit, is eager to learn the job inside and out, is gratified to be in a position where she can serve others and continue to offer workshops and services to Spanish speaking clients.

### **Meet Antonio**

Antonio has worked in construction for the past fourteen years. After being laid off in early 2018 he struggled to find work. Antonio supports his wife and two children, including paying for college expenses for his oldest child. Antonio discovered that his lack of a Class A drivers license was inhibiting affected his ability to gain employment. Other barriers affecting him were a language barrier and a lack of education and lack of a High School Diploma or equivalent. Antonio was referred to ESWC as a RESEA client by the State Unemployment Office. Antonio was then referred to the WIOA Dislocated Worker Program where he received tuition assistance and supportive services related to CDLA training. Antonio completed skill assessment testing and was enrolled in Aims Community College CDLA program, which has a reputation for working well with students with language barriers. Antonio passed his CDLA test on May 2, 2018 and obtained employment immediately with a construction company

in Fort Collins. When Antonio was selected as part of a government audition process of Aims, he was required to retake his CDLA test. To assist Antonio, his training provider offered refresher training that worked with his availability at no additional cost. On October 15th, he passed his retest! Antonio remains successfully and happily employed and is grateful for the assistance he continues to receive at ESWC.

### **Did you know case management continues after employment?**

Clients continue to receive support through a variety of services once programs are complete or employment begins for a minimum of 90 days. Case managers follow up with their clients regularly to ensure they have maintained employment, offer advice, additional services when eligible, and to request success stories. Stories like the ones you are reading here.

Interested in seeing your story appear in the newsletter or have an issue arises after you have received employment? Please reach out to your case manager for assistance.

## **Employment Services of Weld County**

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Veterans and eligible spouses are entitled to priority access to Department of Labor funded programs.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Dial 711 for Relay Services. Funded by WIOA.

