

Lee County resident Named TSWDB Outstanding Older Youth

Winter 2013

Anthony Mitchell was a young man on his way to successfully completing high school and starting college, until his mom became disabled and was no longer able to work and provide for her and Anthony. He dropped out of high school with one semester left, and began working full time at a fast food restaurant. His hard work and dedication, led to a quick promotion as an Assistant Manager, but he was still unable to make ends meet and relocated to Sanford to stay with relatives.



Anthony's sister told him about the Lee County Department of Youth and Family Services, and her WIA Case Manager Geraldine Meadows. He enrolled in the program in hopes to complete his high school education, and to gain work experience in the field of business, the career field he wanted to pursue. Once he re-enrolled in the Adult High School program at Central Carolina Community College, he was assigned as an Office Intern with the Administrative staff of the Triangle South Workforce Development Board.

Life in Sanford for Anthony was not without setbacks and adversities, but even when times were tough for him and his family, he never let the circumstances he faced put a damper on his attitude or his professionalism. During his time as the office intern, Anthony exuded excellence with every task he was given. He went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure every task he was asked to do was completed correctly and in a timely manner. He never spent time idly, but was pro-active, always looking for his next assignment.

"Anthony is the definition of dedication and hard work," Ms. Meadows stated. "He went above and beyond the expectations of the WIA Youth program and the Adult High School program at Central Carolina Community College."

Just a few weeks into his internship, Anthony completed his Adult High School Diploma, and set his sights on attending college. He plans to begin attending Chowan University in January, and will be studying Business Administration.

"As Anthony's Case Manager I am extremely proud of the young man that he is becoming," Ms. Meadows stated. "He accepts constructive criticism well and is always looking for a way to improve himself. Anthony made a personal investment in his own future and that is why he has accepted to numerous colleges in the area. He plans to attend Chowan University this spring to embark on the next part of his journey towards becoming a Business Administrator and Accountant."