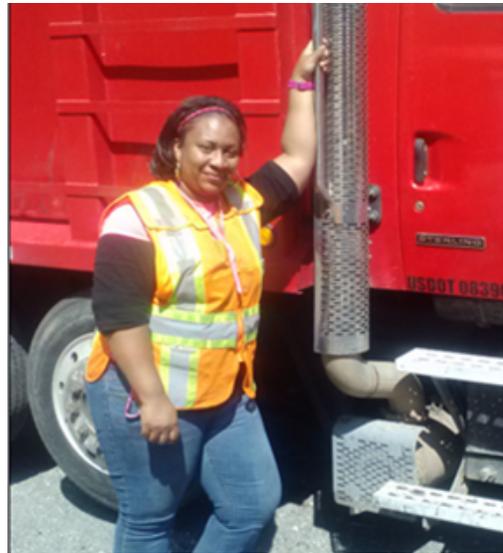


Sampson County Dislocated Worker earns CDL

Summer 2013

Ebony Parker is a single mother with two adult children. She previously worked as a Bus Driver for East Coast Migrant Headstart making over \$13 per hour, 40 hours a week. Unfortunately, in November of 2011, Ebony was laid off from her job, but was strong enough not to lose hope. She strongly believed that there would always be a need for truck drivers, and Ebony made it her goal to earn her Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and secure steady employment to help support her family. After she heard about the WIA program from a friend, Ebony stopped by the Sampson County JobLink Center and enrolled in the WIA Adult program under Case Manager Gloria Morrissey in October of 2012. She knew that with the changing economy, having a strong educational background was a must to be competitive as a truck driver, so Ebony enrolled in the CDL Program at Roadmaster Drivers School of Dunn, NC.



Ebony understood the importance of taking advantage of the unique opportunity that had been offered to her through the WIA program, even if Truck Driving is a male dominated profession. "I thought about the challenges, and I knew that it would be a difficult job being a woman in this field, but I felt that I could overcome those challenges," she stated.

Today, Ebony is working at Barnhill Construction and is thoroughly enjoying her new job. She loves the idea that she gets to travel, and has thanked everyone for their encouragement, support, and for giving her the opportunity to better herself. "Knowing that someone believed in me gave me the strength I needed," Ebony stated. "I am looking forward to the wide open road full of new opportunities."