

Harnett County Dislocated Worker Transitions to a New Career after 31 Years

Winter 2015

In 2013 Sharon Seagroves was laid off from Air Distribution Technologies where she had been employed for thirty one years as a supervisor of Shipping, Receiving, and Stockroom in the Crating Department. Even though Sharon had several years of experience and job skills, she panicked because she knew she would be considered an *older worker who did not have a college degree*. Sharon came into the Career Center seeking assistance in finding employment and guidance with suitable training. She was enrolled in the WIA Dislocated Worker program and entered into training at Central Carolina Community College in the Medical Office Administration Program.



In order to stay on top of her school work, Sharon had to learn to network with instructors and students who, in some instances, were much younger than she was. Sharon always submitted her work before it was due, and never lost focus of her career goals. She even completed a four month Internship at Performance Rehabilitation in Sanford, NC in the spring of 2015 in which she received outstanding remarks for her dedication and professionalism.

In May 2015, Sharon successfully completed her training and graduated with an Associate's Degree in Medical Office Administration with a GPA of 3.75 – an Honors Graduate!!!! Sharon also received an Academic Excellence Award in Office Administration; and she is Proficient in ICD-10 Diagnostic Coding.

Sharon obtained employment with Carolina Chiropractor in Southern Pines, NC as a front desk receptionist. Her duties include: Records management, greeting patients, scheduling appointments, insurance verification, processing payments, and general office duties. Sharon is doing an excellent job at her new position. Her pleasant personality and self-motivation make her an asset to her employer and her coworkers