

Sampson County Dislocated Worker earns a 4.0 GPA, becomes a Teacher

Fall 2015

Mrs. Wanda Parker was laid off from her full time job in May of 2013. To make ends meet, she began working as a substitute teacher and discovered her passion was working with children. In August 2013, she enrolled into the WIA Dislocated Worker Program to earn an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education from Sampson Community College.

Being an Adult Learner poses many challenges, and it would have been easy for Wanda to give up after losing her full time job. However, she did not give up; instead she worked hard and maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout the course of her studies. In addition, the president of Sampson Community College invited her to become a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and she was inducted in April of 2015. She completed her Associate's Degree, and graduated with honors in May of 2015.



Mrs. Parker was nominated for this award because of her dedication, diligence, hard work, professionalism, and tenacity in accomplishing her goals and objectives. A wife, mother, and grandmother, Wanda loves spending time with her family and loves singing in her Church choir. In November of 2015, Wanda became employed with Johnston County Schools as a first grade Teacher's Assistant at West Smithfield Elementary School; and due to her credentials and work experience, Mrs. Parker has received an increase in her starting salary in addition to receiving full benefits.