

ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Bridget Anderson | Indiana



Adult education empowered Bridget to believe in her abilities. All throughout her life, Bridget was underestimated by her friends, her family, her teachers, her bosses, and her coworkers; but she was never underestimated by her mother. Bridget had dyslexia. She states that, “[everyone] has told me that I wouldn't succeed because I was stupid.” With everyone’s opinion against her, Bridget gave up on school and dropped out. “People told me I wasn't going anywhere in life, so I stopped caring. I was super depressed. However, looking back, I wonder why I listened to them.”

Bridget’s mother always believed she could achieve anything, and suggested that Bridget enroll in classes at Wayne Township Adult Education (WTAE). At the time, she was working as a daycare teacher and was ready for a change. Her math and English teachers at WTAE were very patient and supportive and showed her that she was capable of learning, even with her dyslexia. She states, “I have two amazing teachers that have helped me realize that whatever I set my mind to, I can and will accomplish. I can't thank them enough. [My English teacher] has helped me conquer my dyslexia. She told me that just because it's harder for me to learn something doesn't mean I can't do it. She also told me that I can do anything that I set my mind to. My mom tells me this all the time, but coming from someone else meant a lot. “

Today, Bridget is working towards passing her high school equivalency exam, and cannot wait to explore all of the career opportunities that await her afterwards. ■

Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive