

ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Charlene Lull | Arkansas



Recently divorced and looking for ways to support her three children, Charlene came to Northwest Arkansas Community College's (NWACC) Adult Education program with high hopes. She had moved from Phoenix where she had experienced an excellent support network, and suddenly found herself very alone.

NWACC helped Charlene to enroll in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to aid her in earning a Criminal Justice credential with the hope of working with the Homeland Security Cyberterrorism Unit. Unexpectedly, sickness struck her family, and she missed many days of class. Through it all, however, Charlene worked hard to catch up in her classwork and even made the Dean's list in her second semester.

In the end, Charlene completed a Tech Certificate in Criminal Justice in the Spring Semester of 2022. After being connected with the Career Pathways program, Charlene discovered her love for the legal system and has adapted her degree to study law in the fall with hopes of becoming a lawyer in the future.

Charlene had the freedom to pursue higher education and create financial stability for her and her family due to the hard work of NWACC's staff as well as her own perseverance. Adult education gave her the ability to pursue the course of study she enjoyed and allowed her to support her three children throughout the process. ■

Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive