

ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Stacie Ford | Kentucky



Adult education classes changed Stacie's life and showed her the true potential that lay within her, however, her life had not always been filled with promise.

When Stacie was a senior in high school she dropped out. Soon after, she became an alcoholic and everything else in her life was pushed off to the side. She knew she needed to make something of herself and began taking GED® classes, yet each time she tried, seven times to be exact, she never finished. Stacie states, "For a long time, I put everything else ahead of my education. I was lost in the world." After years of disappointment, mental health issues, and cycles of substance abuse, Stacie lost custody of her three children.

In 2022, she entered a six-month rehabilitation program, named Shepherd's House, in Kentucky. Her peer mentor, Olivia, gave her encouragement to join adult education classes and pass her GED® exam. This time, Stacie resolved that she would complete the program and use her new support network to accomplish her dream. Her adult education program assisted her in reaching these aspirations and allowed her to break the cyclical chain that alcoholism and lack of a support system had created. Her dedication to study, along with the unshaking support of her teacher, Ms. Gail, pushed her onward to pass her GED® exam. Stacie stated, "It filled my heart with so much joy and accomplishment to know I could do anything I set my mind to." ■

Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive