

ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Megan Shelton | Iowa



Adult education empowered Megan to be the example of success she had always wanted to be to her boys. Megan dropped out of high school during her senior year. She always told herself that she would go back and get her high school equivalency diploma, but life was not easy, and a good time never presented itself.

Years later, and now a mother to four boys, Megan became determined that she would go back and earn her diploma. She enrolled in the Bridges to Success program, an adult education initiative funded through a partnership between United Way of Central Iowa and Des Moines Area Community College's Adult Education and Literacy Program.

The path was not an easy one. She studied hard and worked to pass the exams, but had several failed attempts. Finally, on her very last try Megan passed all sections of the exam and earned her high school equivalence diploma. She says, "I feel relieved to be finished. It's a way to show my kids that no matter what you go through, you can still do anything you want."

Today, Megan works in the healthcare field and dreams of becoming a registered nurse. She plans on attending nursing school soon. She is excited and grateful to be pursuing a career path that fulfills her. "I work in health care right now with Mercy [Hospital]," stated Megan, "and it's truly where my heart lies. I love health care." Megan's success story serves as a shining example to her boys and to others around her in the community. ■

Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive