

SPOTLIGHT

on the *Corridor*

Issue 14 November 2016

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Romoan Robinson Story: A Career, Not Just a Job.

Ward 4 resident, Romoan Robinson, just like many other young men and women in their twenties; loved working out, playing sports and spending time with his family, specifically his infant daughter. Another common similarity was that he did not know exactly what he was destined to do with his life. He was hard-working, willing to learn and motivated, he just couldn't figure out his career plan. He worked various odd jobs over the years, but nothing seemed to work out as planned until he heard about an opportunity to work with his uncle as a laborer in his construction company. Unbeknownst to Mr. Robinson, this experience became the foundation of his profession. Despite being a laborer, Mr. Robinson strived to take advantage of this opportunity. He aspired to learn as much as he possible could in this role.

Mr. Robinson excelled in this role for several months until an unfortunate incident outside of work resulted in him being injured and having to take a leave of absence. He didn't let this stop what was destined for his life. His initial exposure into the construction field enticed Mr. Robinson to inquire about other opportunities to learn and grow. This is when he learned about a 3-week training program to be certified as an operator and have an opportunity to join the Local 18 union.

Mr. Robinson defied many odds, by not only being accepted into the program after a competitive registration process, he excelled within the class, by finishing as one of the top students. This success led to Mr. Robinson gaining employment with Great Lakes Construction Company. He quickly realized that this

opportunity was not just some odd job, but a career. "I encourage all of my friends and family to take advantage of the many opportunities out here to work in the construction field, it's not just a job, but a career."



Great Lakes Construction Company is currently working on Section 2 of the Opportunity Corridor Project which happens to be in Mr. Robinson's community. He has the opportunity to now work, build, and improve his own community by working on this project. "It feels good to be able help my own community," said Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson's journey started with a job as a laborer. Through hard work, dedication and taking advantage of opportunities; he is currently an operator, but more importantly he has a career. It may not have been a traditional route, but Mr. Robinson overcame obstacles and now is proud to say that he is working in construction and currently working to improve his community on the Opportunity Corridor Project. The Opportunity Corridor Project is more than just a road, it's providing opportunities for residents just like Romoan Robinson to work in and improve his community.

For more stories like this one and to find out additional information about the Opportunity Corridor go to <http://opportunitycorridor.transportation.ohio.gov/>.

