

SPOTLIGHT on the Corridor

Issue 10, July 2016

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Seeing the Opportunity Unfold in the Journey

On any given Saturday afternoon you could catch Najader Dunlap and his kids out by the lake or a local pond having a good time, joking, laughing and casting their rods in search of the next big fish. These experiences truly motivate Najader Dunlap to keep going and never give up on the search for a career. Despite a few setbacks throughout his life, Mr. Dunlap has maintained focus on what's important. "My kids keep me focused and motivated," said Mr. Dunlap.

Although he was inspired and driven, Mr. Dunlap was unclear of the next chapter in his life journey. It wasn't until Mr. Dunlap heard about an Asbestos Abatement Certification program funded by the Opportunity Corridor Project, that he figured out the next potential step in his voyage through life. He envisioned this program to be the start of a new career opportunity.

Offered by Maurice Stevens of Career Development and Placement Strategies, the Asbestos Abatement Certification program is designed to instruct individuals in a 36-hour course created to obtain Asbestos Abatement certifications and licenses. At the conclusion of this program, participants are certified in the procedures to control and remove asbestos fibers in buildings and homes.

This course is opening the door for more potential opportunities within the construction field for Mr. Dunlap. "I went to this class to learn and I got a lot out of it. This could be my career," said Mr. Dunlap.

Mr. Dunlap truly excelled in this program, scoring 98% on the final exam; he is now prepared to take on the asbestos of the world. Since the completion of the course, Mr. Dunlap has worked on 12 jobs and is currently waiting to start his next big opportunity.



Najader Dunlap

Maurice Stevens of Development and Placement Strategies with the help of the Opportunity Corridor Project wants to give every resident the support and inspiration needed to figure out their next chapter in life just like Najader Dunlap.

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

