

Rising STAR

STAR FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2007

MEET KRYSTAL ...

I am a single mother with 2 young children and before taking classes at STAR I was falling into a sink hole. I thought I was going to lose everything that I had worked so hard to get. I was getting further and further into debt with no money coming in.

I signed up for this class because I thought this would be a second chance to start over. It looked like an open door that I needed to walk through. I had no money and the fact that it was free made all the difference to me.

My first day at STAR I came in scared because I came into a room full of strangers. I have never opened up before, but I decided that this time I was going to be different. Very quickly I felt like I gained a new family – everybody was in the same position as me and I didn't feel like anyone was looking down on me. Everybody had their own problems but we helped each other. I gained a lot of confidence



Shortly after graduation from STAR I was hired to work at an insurance company. During the interview they asked me about my computer skills, what programs was I familiar with, and did I type – all things that I learned at STAR.

I really love my job because it is a grown-up job. This job is like a ladder because of the opportunities that come with it. I feel that I can become someone important – have a regular job and not just a fast food job. I feel that people may perceive me as more professional.

My kids can say, “My mother works at an insurance company” and not “Burger King”. My boss is already talking about giving me a raise and that I am a good candidate for going to school in Savannah for a week to learn to be an agent. I want to have a career with this company.

STAR gave proof to me that I could do anything... helped me get the confidence that I could go after things I didn't think I could. The teachers didn't give up on anybody because sometimes people need to be pushed.

Before I came to STAR I was on the edge of giving up; feeling like life wasn't meaningful to me anymore because of past disappointments and failures. And as for as learning new information, I thought I couldn't do better because I know learning is very challenging for me

As we started our lessons, I was very scared. When I was down, the hugs and smiles of my teachers lifted my spirits. When I felt like I couldn't learn the computer knowledge, they said I could. They took time with me, one on one, when I didn't understand the information and that made me feel special. They made me believe in myself.

Now I have a new outlook on life and my way of thinking has changed a lot. I have found Selenta again. I am not afraid to jump out into the deep and believe I can achieve. I will now further my education and advance in my job. The sky is the limit for me. Now there is nothing in my life I can't achieve as long as I keep my focus. STAR has put me on the right path to my future

... AND SELENTA



Dressed for Success



Amy and Anita model outfits purchased because of your donations.

While some people may not believe that clothes make the woman, the reality is that they can make the woman appear more hireable— along with interviewing skills. Good appearance can be the deciding factor between two equally qualified candidates. First impressions can often be made very quickly. Improving your appearance alone won't get you a job offer, but it will help to win positive attention and respect from your interviewer. It will give you a foot in the door so that the interviewer can then focus on your talents, skills, and positive attitude.

New outfits for our students mean they don't have to wear the same clothes three days in a row or wash their clothes every night while caring for kids. They can wear professional clothes instead of wearing a t-shirt and jeans to work, a scenario in which they would probably be sent home.

Looking your best makes you feel and function better and also helps boost your confidence. When you look sharp and pulled together you are more likely to feel that way and people around you will take positive notice.

STAR Report Card 2006 - 2007	
Percentage of clients who graduated vs. enrolled	88%
Percentage of clients who received a computer	75%
Percentage of clients who scored 80% or above on written computer	95%
Percentage of clients employed at time of registration	27%
Percentage of clients employed or in school 3 months after graduation	45%
Percentage of clients employed or in school 6 months after graduation	73%
Percentage of clients employed or in school 12 months after graduation	86%
Average salary 12 months after graduation	\$9.23

Be the change you want to see in the world. - Gandhi

STAR Foundation, Inc.

1907 Gloucester Street
Brunswick, GA 31520
(912) 554-0540

www.starfoundation.org

STAR 2008 Board of Directors	
★	Jett Lamkin
★	Wally Orrel
★	Paul Salter
★	Carlton DeVooght
★	Janice Applegate
★	Sandra Bunn

