

TRA Youth Program Success Stories!



Ashley Wiggins, TRA-New Bedford Young Parents Program

"Joining TRA was the best decision I could have made. At the age of 19 I had my son Legare. After becoming a mother I realized how important it was to further my education. I saw a flier for TRA and the next day I went to sign up. Everyone there was so nice and encouraging about helping me get my GED. I started that week and quickly grew to love going there. I was able to work at my own pace and ask for help as needed. In only a couple months I was ready to take my GED exams. A couple weeks later I had passed all of my tests. Now I am taking an online Forensic Science course at Ashworth College. None of this would have been possible without the help and support I received at TRA."

Jamal Mikell-Skinner, TRA-Quincy YouthBuild Program

"I'm so thankful for the second chance and opportunity that YouthBuild gave me, to learn and grow as a person. Today I can truly say I'm a better person than I was 10 months ago. I would never have gotten up here to talk. I had no confidence and I didn't like to make eye contact with people. YouthBuild gave me the chance to get away from the life I was chasing and I'm so grateful for that because I could have been dead or in jail. I just want to thank all the people that helped and supported me through it."



Suhei Vivier, TRA-Worcester Young Parents Program

"My name is Suhei Vivier. I am 20 years old. Three years ago I gave birth to my pride and joy, daughter Maniyah. During pregnancy I tried achieving my goal to get my diploma but it didn't end up happening. After having my daughter I tried to go back to school and because of having so many struggles during that time everything was hard and I just gave up again. I finally decided it was a good choice to go back to school, I found this program called the Young Parents Program for girls and boys that have children and need a GED. I signed up for the program and now after getting my GED, I am in the process of completing the medical assistant program at Salters College, and working full time. I would like to thank my teacher and mentor; without your guidance and the help of all the staff at TRA, I wouldn't be where I am today."



Jean Derenoncourt, TRA-Brockton ACHIEVE! Program

After earning his GED at TRA-Brockton's ACHIEVE! Program, Jean graduated from Massasoit Community College on May 29, 2015. He is now off to continue his studies at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Jean says, "These are the things that I will never forget as I move on toward my goals in life. I feel that TRA was a gateway in my life and I wish everyone could enjoy and benefit from all that TRA has to offer an individual. I hope that TRA will continue to provide and impart their knowledge and skills to many others forever. I want to wish everyone at TRA the best of luck life has to offer and (that they) will continue the wonderful work they do."



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Dillon Holmberg, TRA-Worcester ACHIEVE! Program

"The staff at Training Resources of America are some of the nicest people I have ever met. They never quit on me, and they always were patient with me. Doug and Leah are the best teachers I have ever had. One year ago I had no plan, and was just doing nothing. Now I have a full time job, I am a High School Equivalency Test graduate and I have an interview with the Carpenters Union. I love TRA, and I want to be a mentor in their ACHIEVE! Program for other students. I am lucky that they believed in me."

Ashley Blanchard, TRA-Fitchburg Young Parents Program

"Six months into my pregnancy, I was informed about the Young Parents Program and started to attend (classes at) Training Resources of America. In the middle of attending GED classes I gave birth to my wonderful son Connor! After my maternity leave I returned to class to continue my studies. Shortly after my return I obtained my GED! After completing that accomplishment, I then went on to get a full-time job at a restaurant called Superfans! I am now also taking classes to obtain my CDL (Commercial Drivers' License) so I can further my career! I am very thankful I was able to attend (TRA-Fitchburg's) YPP. It helped change my life for the better!"



Terrence Cameron-Remillard, TRA-Worcester YouthBuild Program

"YouthBuild taught me about life. It taught me that nothing comes easy, and that giving up isn't an option. I had to do YouthBuild twice. I had to take my math test 3 times in order to get my High School Equivalency Diploma. I felt what it was like to earn something, and I am proud of that. The staff in Worcester YouthBuild is great, and without them I wouldn't be in college today."



Amanda Ovalles, TRA-Salem Young Parents Program

"The YPP is a great program because it gives young mothers an opportunity to move ahead in their lives. Not only does the program help us to get our GEDs, it helps us to deal with everyday struggles." After achieving her GED at TRA-Salem, Amanda enrolled into a Medical Clerk Program and is now working as a medical billing secretary at a local hospital.



Eladio Delgado & Mariah Roe, TRA-Holyoke Young Parents Program

Eladio Delgado and Mariah Roe, along with their beautiful daughter, moved to Holyoke, MA from Connecticut to live with family and start a new chapter in their lives together. They enrolled in the TRA-Holyoke Young Parents Program in October 2014 and quickly showed staff that they were both very determined and good students. Within a few months, they had earned their High School Equivalency Diplomas, moved to a new apartment, and found full time jobs! They both currently are working at A&M Lithography as assembly factory workers, but both have plans to go back to school and become certified nursing assistants. According to Eladio, "TRA means everything. They helped us accomplish a lot of things in a short amount of time that we couldn't do in years (on our own)." And Mariah states, "TRA means the world to me because they helped me accomplish the goals I needed to give my daughter the future she deserves."

