**Secure Jobs Initiative FY16 Progress Report-December 2015**

**Average Wage FY15:** $10.46

**Current Average Wage FY16:** $11.50

**Hampden County Goals versus Outcomes:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Proposed Outcomes** | **DHCD** |  **Fireman**  |  **Total**  | **Current** |
| Assessments |  71  |  65  |  **136**  | **158** |
| Enrollments |  35  |  32  |  **67**  | **80** |
| Placements |  28  |  26  |  **54**  | **40** |
| Retain Employment 1 yr. |  22  |  21  |  **43**  |  |
| Retain Employment 1 yr. AND maintain stable housing |  14  |  10  |  **24**  |  |
| Retention Rate | **79%** | **80%** | **79%** |  |

**Berkshire County Goals versus Outcomes:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Proposed Outcomes** | **Goal** | **Current**  |
| Enrollments | 25 | 26 |
| Placements | 20 | 8 |

**Success Story:**

James and his wife were in a shelter and found themselves going through many situations that seemed to prevent them from moving forward. He was in the US NAVY and during his time of service he received an Associate’s Degree in Electronics and took other trainings to increase his level of expertise. Although he had landed a job as an order selector in a warehouse, he felt that he was wasting potential and wanted to explore other jobs that would relate to the field of electronics.

On October 2015, James was referred to Secure Jobs by his housing counselor, as he had become unemployed and was having difficulty sustaining his household. Since the beginning, James was very eager and motivated to learn. He showed great interest in becoming what he had always dreamed about. He set goals and was extremely motivated. Secure Jobs staff met with James, assessed him, and helped him build a resume that reflected his skills, developed a cover letter, gathered his credentials, prepared him for possible interviews and worked on his networking skills. In early December we were working with James in a targeted employment search, SJI matched his qualifications to an electronics technician position at Chuck E’ Cheese in Springfield. After passing two interviews, James was hired.

Secure Jobs was also able to assist him with his transportation to the job and with the required apparel. James expresses his gratitude in the following way:

“I was in a shelter last year and have been on public assistance. What better Christmas gift than having obtained a job with a promising future? Thank you, Johnny (Secure Jobs)!”-James.