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**Secure Jobs Initiative FY16 Progress Report-Fiscal Year 2016**

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| **Total Numbers-Hampden County** |
| **Total Placements (FY16)** | **Total Program Placements (All Years)** |
| 120 | 381 |

**Average Wage FY15:** $10.46

**Current Average Wage FY16:** $11.35

**Hampden County Goals versus Outcomes:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Proposed Outcomes** | **DHCD** |  **Fireman**  |  **Total**  | **Current** |
| Assessments |  71  |  65  |  **136**  | **370** |
| Enrollments |  35  |  32  |  **67**  | **215** |
| Placements |  28  |  26  |  **54**  | **120** |
| Retain Employment 1 yr. |  22  |  21  |  **43**  | **111** |
| Retain Employment 1 yr. AND maintain stable housing |  14  |  10  |  **24**  | **n/a until year end** |
| Retention Rate | **79%** | **80%** | **79%** | **93%** |

**Success Story:**

We would like to tell you about a client of ours, Gloria T. She has 3 children ages 13, 16, and 18. Gloria served as her mother’s PCA until her death in 2014. After her mother died, she found herself with no income and ended up losing her apartment because she could not afford her rent. She went into shelter and could not see beyond that “Front Door.”

Once in the shelter she was quickly taken care of by the HAP Housing staff. “I knew that I wasn’t alone. They helped me get on my feet,” she says. While she was there, she was found a job as a home health aide then used her Home Base assistance to move out of the shelter and into her own apartment. She felt safe and proud that she was able to afford her children the stability of a home of their own. After a few short months in her new job, her car broke down and she was having trouble getting to work. She ultimately ended up losing this job but was quickly referred to the Secure Jobs Program. She was able to repair her car and obtain her state licensure as a Certified Nursing Assistant thanks to the flexibility of the Secure Jobs funding. Two weeks after graduating with her certification, she became gainfully employed with Handz-On, a healthcare company that Secure Jobs has a great relationship with. “I love my job. I love taking care of the elderly.”

With this job, she has been able to maintain her car, pay her rent, and take care of her kids. Gloria says: “I can’t be any more thankful for having been referred to Secure Jobs. I know that I am not alone, I will always have the great people at HAP and Secure Jobs to back me up. It takes time to stand on our feet, but having the comfort of their support gives me security. I want to keep going because I want to be a registered nurse. I raised my kids alone and it was really hard. I want to have my kids follow my road of being a hard worker. I’m so proud of myself and I want to continue being an example for my kids. I’m so glad that my children and I have our own home.”

The entire Secure Jobs team has been able to witness Gloria’s growth over the past year. She has gone from being unsure of herself and her path, to a proud mother who is caring for her children, working full time, and also serving as a vocal supporter and advocate for the Secure Jobs program. In March, we had the honor of hearing Gloria’s story first hand at an event attended by the supporters and legislature members involved in the Western Mass Network to End Homelessness. We are excited to see what Gloria’s future holds.