

Success Stories: Vocational Rehabilitation



Claudia Ramos



OCCUPATION:

Medical Assistant, Revere Health

COUNSELORS CENTRAL UTAH DIST:

VR Counselor: Cristiane Lundgreen,

Employment Specialist: Dustin Townsend

VR PROVIDED ASSISTANCE:

- Vocational counseling and guidance
- Individualized Plan for Employment
- Tuition assistance
- Clothing for training and employment
- Transportation assistance
- Job development and placement (Choose-to-Work)

Seeking a better life in Utah for herself and her unborn child, Claudia was ready for a fresh start. After navigating difficult choices, she embraced change and applied for vocational rehabilitation (VR) services, determined to become a medical assistant but needing support to achieve her goal.

VR counselor Cristiane Lundgreen provided that crucial guidance. With Cristiane's support, Claudia enrolled in the medical assistant program at Mountainland Technical College in Lehi. Funding from a Pell Grant and the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation (USOR) helped launch her healthcare career journey.

USOR assisted with essential costs, including scrubs, supplies, transportation, certification exams, and her Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) membership. Claudia thrived, excelling in HOSA competitions at both state and national levels.

Following her academic success, she connected with Choose-to-Work specialist Dustin Townsend for resume assistance, job development, and placement. This collaboration led to an internship and subsequent full-time employment with Revere Health. Now a promoted Medical Assistant, Claudia earns \$19.50 an hour.

"I am here today because Cristiane believed in me and gave me this opportunity," Claudia shared. "Thanks to her and Vocational Rehabilitation, I received everything I needed to be successful."

Claudia's journey is a powerful "school to scrubs" story. With her drive and expanding medical knowledge, she's not only building her future but also making healthcare a little brighter.