

## Alumni Spotlight

**CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER** 

## **Starr Wallace** Class of 2024



When Starr made the decision to return to school and earn her high school diploma, she researched her options thoroughly and discovered CVCC's Adult Diploma Program. The opportunity to earn her diploma while also gaining an industry-recognized credential at no cost was an easy choice for her.

"I was tired of working in a factory. I wanted something more stable, and to step into my 'big girl era,' I knew I needed my diploma. CVCC made that possible."

Now a graduate of CVCC's Adult Education State Tested Nurse Aide program, Starr is excited to pursue a career in healthcare, with hopes of working at a hospital or care facility, like Avenue at Macedonia Care and Rehabilitation Center, supporting people with disabilities. She's also looking forward to buying her first car, saving money, and traveling! Starr is deeply grateful for her STNA instructor, who was personable, honest, and shared valuable personal experiences from the field. Her advice for anyone considering going back to school is simple: "Study, work hard, don't overthink, and do your best. I was on an IEP as a kid, and there were times it felt discouraging, but my case manager/supervisor always reminded me not to give up—many people face similar challenges, and you're not alone."

Fun fact: Starr's younger brother is set to join CVCC's Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning program after he graduates this year. She's thrilled for him, and he's just as excited for the journey ahead! Congratulations Starr! CVCC wishes you all the best in your future endeavors.

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