

Narrative Item 7.1 - Story of Student Success

Provide a brief story of student success that illustrates the power of ABE programming to make positive change for the individuals and communities served. (Student's permission must be obtained for any personal information or work included.)

There have been numerous stories of students who have achieved success as a result of their enrollment and attendance in ABE programs. Let us share a few examples:

Rozalia (Rosie) Stuhhay came to the Warroad/Roseau Adult Education from Tanzania. She was working at the care center in Roseau, as a CNA. She started attending ABE classes regularly in 2019. Rosie worked hard over the period when classes were virtual as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and later in person, to achieve her GED in September 2021. She then enrolled in classes at Northland Community and Technical College (NCTC) in Thief River Falls, MN. During her classes at Northland, Rosie worked closely with the NCTC Developmental Education program which was co-taught by the Thief River Falls Adult Basic Education instructor to build her math and reading skills. As part of her study path with ABE, Rosie enrolled in a Regional Online Career Collaborative (ROCC) course to help prepare her for the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) which she needed to pass to get into the nursing program at the college. She successfully passed the exam and was accepted into the Nursing program and soon she will be graduating from Northland CTC with her Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Diploma in May of 2024.

Ana Calderon-Isarraraz wrote the following summary of her experience with our ABE classroom in Thief River Falls: *"My name is Ana Calderón, I am from Mexico, I have been living in Thief River Falls MN for 14 years. I heard that the ABE program had the family school program, my son was 4 years old at the time and it was difficult for me to attend classes, since I did not have my driver's license and my English was not enough to communicate with others, I signed up for family school and attended class every Tuesday. The most important thing for me at that time was to learn English, to be able to communicate and get more involved in school and community activities. I have 3 children, and all three were involved in family school. My English improved and I started studying for my driving knowledge test. I was nervous the day I took the test. I passed it that day, with my English improving and my driver's license I felt like I could do whatever I wanted. Another of my goals to achieve was to obtain my GED. I started studying Science, Mathematical Reasoning, Social Studies, and Reasoning through Language Arts. I signed up in October 2023 to participate in the boot camp program, where I could obtain my GED in two days. I passed 3 of the required exams. I continued studying, I took my last exam which was mathematical reasoning and I passed. I have my GED. Another goal achieved thanks to the ABE program and all the teachers who have supported me to achieve my goals. Ann Dziengel, Lynn Bastian, Rebecca Schmidt, and Sarah Dyrud. I am still part of the program, because I want to continue improving my English."*