



Graduate Profile: Devonne A.

Devonne was the classic case of a “brimming with talent, yet underemployed”. Devonne was searching for a stable career. He worked a couple of low paying part time jobs, but a good career certainly did not seem to be in his future.

One day Devonne found a flyer advertising an environmental training and job placement opportunity. This training was being advertised by the Sustainable Workplace Alliance (SWA) a non-profit organization and best of all, there was no-cost to attend as the program is funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). Devonne attended a mandatory orientation, and he immediately knew this was the opportunity he was searching for.



The month-long training class that Devonne attended was eye-opening. He learned so much about environmental justice, workplace safety, job interview skills and even how to drive a forklift. Even before he graduated, Devonne was interviewing for jobs and receiving multiple offers. He eventually took an opportunity with a construction company that promised to train him for his Commercial Driver’s License (CDL). Devonne is happy to report that he achieved his CDL and loves working for his employer. He finds it hard to believe how much his life has changed since joining the program, including his ability to financially support himself and his family in a very comfortable way.

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Devonne looks back with pride and appreciation for the training program and job placement opportunity. “You have no idea how life-changing this program has been for me. I plan to tell others that if I can do this, so can they”

Devonne has held to his word. He is a strong advocate for the Sustainable Workplace Alliance and the environmental training and job placement opportunity in his community. He has recruited students to enter the program through his neighborhood, his church and he even organized a lunch-and-learn at his local high school. “My goal is to give back to my community” says Devonne. I was given an incredible opportunity and I want to make sure others take advantage and get a good job like I did.”

The Environmental Career Worker Training Program (ECWTP) provides opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged and underserved communities to obtain careers in environmental cleanup, construction, hazardous waste removal, and emergency response. To date, more than 13,500 people have been trained nationwide under this program.

We hope you’ll join our next environmental cohort and be added to our long list of successful graduates! To submit your application for consideration, simply scan the QR code with your phone.

We look forward to helping you start your new career soon!



You can also complete the application by visiting www.tinyurl.com/oclswa