



MISSION MOMENTS

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Seeking Something More

Sometimes, even when we are comfortable in life, we long for something more. This is how Robin, a Tangram client, felt about her life.

Robin had worked in a sheltered workshop (a place where individuals with disabilities work in a segregated, non-competitive environment) for almost 30 years when she decided to make a change. She was capable of so much more than the workshop position required of her, and she wanted to work on achieving a couple of big, important financial goals.

A love of shopping had led to a significant amount of department store credit card debt—paying this off was her first financial goal. She also had a dream of moving to a larger apartment with two bedrooms—her second financial goal.

So, Robin worked with Cindy, Tangram's employment specialist, to find a job that would allow her to earn more and would challenge her more than her previous job. Robin secured a job with Walmart as a greeter in June 2015 and has been in this role ever since. She truly enjoys her job and Cindy reports that Robin's supervisor only has positive feedback about her efforts. Robin's work ethic already earned her a raise and Walmart is training her on different positions and departments so that she can advance. She is in the process of transitioning from greeting guests to a position in the grocery area of the store, and currently works five hours per day, five days per week.

"I love my job and what I chose to do at Walmart. I love my boss—he's so sweet—and I love the people I work with—they are so nice," said Robin.

Robin also worked with Tangram staff members to implement a payment schedule and other guidelines for using her credit cards so she could eliminate her debt. After a year of sticking with it, Robin has paid off close to \$4000 of debt across several credit cards, and is now debt free!

Finally, Robin accomplished her final goal of moving into a two-bedroom apartment in July, and the best result, according to her program manager, Creshendo, is, "She's very happy right now!" With success like that, what more could you ask for!

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Robin in her role as a greeter at Walmart