

# FIND A MEANINGFUL CAREER AT EXCEL ACADEMY

**N**o matter what your age, no matter what your past, it is never too late to head back to school and pursue your passion.

Bonnie Hawkins has more than 20 years of experience in the community support field, but was looking for the credentials to back up her skills.

That is when she found the Community Support Worker PLAR (prior learning assessment and recognition) program through Excel Academy.

"At first, I was skeptical of taking the CSW PLAR being a mature student, but once I got started it has broadened my perspectives," says Hawkins, class of 2014 and currently working as an employment specialist.

"What I have learned has helped me to be more reflective on practices to see how to make ourselves better, how to analyze issues, best practices and better ways to be more supportive."

The PLAR program is essentially a challenge program for those with experience in human services but lack credentials. This program builds on their experience and skills, and provides opportunity to gain an educational certification.

For Hawkins, the small classes, knowledgeable instructors, and flexible scheduling, is what drew her to the program.

This program provides a solid foundation for human service practitioners – like Hawkins – building on their previous experience and skills, providing a flexible schedule with less time in the classroom than the full program.

"I would encourage others that you are never too old to learn and develop your skills – knowledge is power," says Hawkins.



**Looking for a Career  
that will lead you to  
reach NEW HEIGHTS?**



Community Support Workers take an active role supporting individuals with developmental and physical disabilities and those with mental health illnesses to have meaningful and active lives in their communities.

### **High Job Prospects**

Be Career Ready in just 17 weeks!

### **Affordable Tuition**

- Community Support Worker — \$2500\*
- CSW Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition (PLAR) Challenge program starting at just \$700\* — earn credit for your experience!

*\*some additional fees, contact us for details*

### **Convenient Location**

We are located on the north side of downtown at 10766—97 Street, easily accessible by public transportation.

### **Caring and Holistic Setting**

Small class sizes provide you with more Instructor support. Creative approach to practicum placements ensures your learning experience is

**New classes start in Winter, Spring and Fall.**

For more information about the Community Support Worker program visit:

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