



POWER *Inspires Progress*

December 9, 2015

Dear Friends:

Kim is a middle aged woman who came to Power Inspires Progress / Venice on Vine after an extended period of unemployment.

She has a history of chronic medical concerns and had found a place in one of the area's congregated living environment.

Kim thrived at Venice and quickly progressed through the various training stations becoming a favorite of regular customers with her friendly smile and attention to good service. Eventually, Kim was able to save some dollars and secure her own apartment. She enjoyed sharing the details as she began to decorate and make the place her own.



As staff connected with Kim to talk about the future she had hoped for herself it became clear she wanted to be involved in community-based, home health care with seniors.

Venice staff worked with Kim on exploring how a long held certificate for that industry could be brought current and used to help make her dream a reality.

Both staff and volunteers worked with Kim on re-tooling a resume and sharpening interview skills. She was thrilled to report that she had been offered a position in a small start-up company being formed in the Tri-county area. However, because of a lack of transportation she could not accept the assignments.

Good friends of P.I.P. continue to make contributions – each in their own way to support our efforts. Recently, we received an older vehicle that was no longer being used. We had the car checked and invested some dollars to correct some minor issues.

The car was sold to Kim on a one year note for the amount P.I.P had invested. With her own transportation Kim was able to return to the employer and accept multiple assignments. She reports she loves her job.

We believe we made a good investment and thank all those who continue to believe in the work being done at 1301 Vine and the good folks that are a part of these efforts. Kim joins P.I.P. graduates that were featured in recent communications:

- Rachel who is now employed as a specialty line person in a Hyde Park restaurant,
- Saeeddah who found work with Target,
- Mikayla now in a position with a local bookseller,
- Eugene who has joined our own management staff,
- Tony who has already secured a position in an OTR restaurant, and

others who have moved through P.I.P. this year and are now employed . . . making their own dreams for themselves and their families real.

In this season of gift giving I wanted to thank all who have given the gift of their time, talent, and/or resources to provide some extraordinary opportunities to folks who once wondered if they would ever be given another chance.

We are grateful and hope this holiday season and the New Year brings you much happiness.

Regards,

Mark Shannon, Executive Director
Power Inspires Progress / Venice on Vine