

DAVID SORENSEN



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Dear Committee Members:

My name is David S. Sorensen and I am a council member of the Nevada Governors Council on Developmental Disabilities. I was a participant in the 700 hour program. I have overcome significant cognitive, physical and psychological barriers since birth. I applied for services at Vocational Rehabilitation after my job in the private sector was eliminated. I was worried that I would end up homeless as I once was before. I maintained a positive attitude and I showed initiative to find a part time job working for Washoe County as a Cashier for the Bowers Mansion Pool for the summer. I completed Vocational Rehabilitation clerical training and graduated with high marks. I displayed Great skill in using Microsoft Excel and with the Support of Vocational Rehabilitation, I achieved my goal. I am now working for the State of Nevada as an Administrative Assistant I through the 700 hour program.

I have a very inspiring and positive demeanor and Can-Do attitude. An interesting fact about me is that I was selected by Special Olympics Nevada to compete Nationally in Aquatics in the first ever Special Olympics USA Games held in Ames, Iowa which was seen nationally on TBS and ESPN. I placed 4th and 6th overall in the country.

I believe Vocational Rehabilitation is the best program for people with disabilities. Vocational Rehabilitation sent me to School and I graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree. With their help I graduated with a 3.30 GPA. Without their help, I do not know where I would be. The skills and training provided from Vocational Rehabilitation allowed me to become employed by Intuit Inc for over 15 years. In January 2016, I was laid off from Intuit and I was eligible to be rehired. In June 2016 my name was on the 700 hour list and I was selected for an interview for an administrative assistant I. I was selected and I was offered a position with Nevada WiC.. On Aug 1st I accepted the position as an administrative assistant I and for the past 6 months I have been employed by Nevada WIC '.



I was also one of several people that Vocational Rehabilitation named 2016 Success Story of the year.

In conclusion as you can see from my experience, the 700 hour program works for people with disabilities. It gives them skills that are necessary to succeed in today's society. People with disabilities have a hard time finding employment. That is why I am so grateful for the 700 hour program, I look forward to seeing what the future holds for this wonderful program.

Sincerely yours,

David Sorensen

