

## **Mr. Bullock**

Mr. Bullock was having a difficult time finding a job and needed to gain the confidence to continue his search for meaningful work. When he came into SAIF intake/orientation, he was very interested in learning how the SAIF program would be able to assist him in his journey to finding employment. Mr. Bullock was somewhat jaded in his thinking that "This is just another program". He was unique in his presentation and in stating how he thought the SAIF program would be a waste of time for him. Michael Bullock, a General Assistance recipient of welfare was referred to the NESF Supportive Assistance for Individuals and Families (SAIF) program in August, 2016 for workforce development services through case management. He accomplished a major goal by receiving a certificate in Board and Care, a residential core operation from the Family Services Association of NJ.

Mr. Bullock worked with his SAIF Intensive Case Manager to update his resume and hone his interviewing and networking skills. Before long, Mr. Bullock could see that the program is a valuable, effective program with case managers that are resourceful and have compassion for the community. He told his Intensive Case Manager, J. Weah that he was pleased with the one on one help he was receiving from him. Mr. Bullock gained interviewing skills and techniques through the mock interviewing workshops he'd attended within the SAIF program and during his face to face with his ICM. His ICM also helped Mr. Bullock build a small wardrobe of interviewing attire. Shortly afterwards, AHRC of New York City reviewed Mr. Bullocks' application and contacted him about a Direct Professional position working with individuals who have Developmental Disabilities. J. Weah, his ICM, provided Mr. Bullock with some job coaching by helping Mr. Bullock debate the pros and cons of travelling to NYC for work. Mr. Bullock was interviewed and was offered the job with a starting salary of \$12.50 per hr. and full benefits starting in September 2016.

Mr. Bullock reports that he is very happy in his new job and appreciative of the assistance he received from his SAIF ICM. He also commented, "I'm 49 years old and has lived day to day begging, asking for favors and to borrow money....and I don't have to do that anymore". He paused and was emotional, as he stated again to his ICM, "I don't have to do that anymore".

## **Mr. K**

Mr. K is a single father of 3 adult children ages 18-21 who all attend Rutgers Newark and Essex County College. He came to the Family Success Center in November 2015 seeking assistance with finding affordable housing. The building his current apartment is in was being sold. FSC Family Partner gave Mr. K contact information for contact people at both Lincoln Park Apartments and Apartments at 2 Nevada Street in Newark. Lincoln Park had nothing available and at 2 Nevada he was placed on a waiting listed and told he was next in line, but his turn never came up. Mr. K was discouraged but reached back out to the Family Success Center for any additional insights or referrals. FSC Staff had recently become aquatinted with staff at the apartments close to the new Shop Rite and provided contact information to Mr. K. He was pleased that they did have a unit available in his price range but it did not have space for he and his children. Finally, FSC staff connected Mr. K to the Springfield Avenue Apartments. Initially management insisted he was not eligible for a 3-4 bedroom unit because of his adult children. In reviewing his financial information, management determined that he made too much money to qualify for affordable housing. Family Success Center Staff advocated for Mr. K and his family and urged management to re-evaluate his information and fully consider his income and expenses; 3 college students, not a single man living alone and not 4 adults. After management re-evaluated his

income as a family of four he was approved for a 3 bedroom apartment. In early March 2016 he called the Family Success Center to say that he and his moved in last night. The location is easily accessible for local transportation to and from Rutgers Newark and his job.