

**Nairobi at The WorkPlace, Inc.
Health CareeRX Academy**

Nairobi Hernandez, a single mom with a four-year-old son named Ayden, was a TANF recipient living in Bridgeport. She attended the Health CareeRX Academy orientation on January 26, 2012. She met with Workforce Specialist Cynthia McNair on January 30 and completed an intake form, indicating that she wanted to enroll in the LPN apprenticeship program. Nairobi already had a Certified Nurse Assistant license and had prior work experience through a home health agency. However, she desired an occupation with higher earning potential and career satisfaction. Academy staff explained that, due to employer input regarding poor employment potential and high training costs, they would not be offering the LPN apprenticeship. She was disappointed, as she wanted to improve her skills and build a viable career, but she did not give up.

Nairobi was excited about the opportunity HPOG presented for her to further her education and training and build a career in healthcare. Before, she had found it difficult to take classes due to financial constraints. Once enrolled in the HPOG program, Nairobi completed the healthcare orientation and core skills training with the Connecticut League for Nursing and subsequently enrolled at St. Vincent's College for training as a Pharmacy Technician. She also secured a full-time job as a CNA at St. Vincent's Medical Center.

Nairobi Hernandez is well on her way toward her long-term goal of becoming a Registered Nurse! In addition, her son Ayden was accepted into a charter school and is doing very well there.