

Shatiki Beatty



Shatiki describes herself like a rubber band, “no matter how far you stretch it, it comes back.” Enduring difficult times during her life has taught Shatiki perseverance. Being a single parent of four daughters and a homeowner in the City of Schenectady, she has struggled economically. She was willing to work, but hadn’t had a job in several years. Caused by the pain of raising four children in poverty, Shatiki said she had become selfish and felt a sense of entitlement. She said, “I was emotionally vulnerable, mentally tired, spiritually wounded, and broken.” She did a self-inventory and reflected on where her life was going. Being a spiritually-guided person, she prayed for a way out. “That is when SCAP found me,” she said.

For a few years, Shatiki came to SCAP for assistance to obtain the resources she needed for herself and her children. It was at SCAP that she learned about their HPOG program and the opportunity it offered her to become a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA).

“SCAP saved me,” Shatiki said. “Their career readiness class forced me to look at myself and it helped me be prepared for what I needed. It was during these classes that I allowed my emotions to come through and I was able to focus on my future.”

“If you don’t know what you want for yourself, it’s in vain,” said Shatiki Beatty on the day she was recognized by the local Chamber of Commerce for her success at SCAP’s HPOG program. Shatiki completed the program and received her CNA. Today, she is employed with a local healthcare provider. Shatiki explains how she loves to work with people; it’s her passion and her joy.

During her life, Shatiki has been mostly influenced by her grandmother. “She was a strong person and didn’t tolerate excuses,” said Shatiki. “She loved me and taught me to love.”

Through her career readiness classes and training to be a CNA, Shatiki said she learned the importance of having boundaries. She is extremely sensitive to people and their emotions, but now she recognizes the need to have balance in her life. Most important in Shatiki’s life is God, then her children, followed by her relationships with other people. Also, she has taught herself to be more positive and see the good side of things. “Being poor, you tend to see just negative,” said Shatiki.

Today, Shatiki describes herself as a new person. She is positive, confident, genuine, and engaging. For her future, she is open to whatever is presented for her. “I have a new lease on life and I’m just getting started,” said Shatiki. I want to make a difference, perhaps someday help other single parents; most importantly, I want to be a light for God.”