LK VETERAN SERVICES

David Lindenmuth: Setting Goals and Staying Motivated

What was your professional background prior to starting the Blue Ocean program?

I was a Field Technician for Cox Communications, installing, troubleshooting, and repairing digital cable, high speed Internet, and telephone services for customers.

What drove you to pursue industry certifications and join the Blue Ocean program?

I had obtained my Associates Degree in Computer Information Sciences in Technology, but had never obtained my IT certifications. After relocating from Virginia to Colorado, while looking for work, my VocRehab counselor with the VA mentioned LearnKey to obtain my certifications to make me more marketable in the industry and workforce.

How was your experience working with the LearnKey Veteran Services team?

I had a great experience working with the LearnKey Veterans Services team. I gained valuable experience in the industry and enjoyed working together as part of a team. Everyone has treated me well and LearnKey is a good family-atmosphere place to work. I will miss working for LearnKey and working with everyone here.

What kept you motivated as you worked through the Blue Ocean program?

For me it was very important to set a goal from the beginning. Obtaining my certifications to be more marketable was my goal from the beginning. It gave me the desire and drive to be successful, knowing that earning my certifications would help me to obtain employment. In addition, it was a refresher to bring myself up-to-date into today's technology standards.

What role did LearnKey play in helping you obtain a job?

By providing me the education and support to help in obtaining my certifications. In addition, Jeff, Beth, and the entire team supported me in my goals by contributing to my success by training and giving me the experience necessary to succeed. They also continued to provide me links to jobs and companies that were hiring and assisting me in finding the right employment fit for me.

What certifications have you earned?

CompTIA: A+, Network+, Security+; Cisco: CCENT, CCNA; Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, and Outlook.

What advice would you give to veterans who are just starting the Blue Ocean program?

I would tell every new veteran or student starting the Blue Ocean program to set goals, stay focused, and concentrate on the courses they need to succeed. I would also let them know that there have been other veterans like myself that have succeeded in this program, and that all it takes is the desire and will to want to succeed. In addition, I would also let them know that everyone is here, including myself, to answer questions they may have. We are there to help them **SUCCEED** and to take advantage of the resources that are available.