

This year, we share with you the story of Queen, one of over 100 Project Hope participants enrolled in job training programs. To view previous installments of Queen's journey, visit Project Hope's website at www.prohope.org/success.htm. To view an article featuring Queen that appeared in Spare Change, please visit www.prohope.org/news.htm.

A Year in the Life: Queen's Journey

Graduation and Job Search – Milestones and Possibilities

With less than a month left to her training, Queen began to think about her next steps – searching through job postings, interviews and, hopefully, a great job offer. Sandra, the CPHP Job Coach, helped Queen complete an online profile, search job listings and complete online

applications. Queen participated in mock interviews at Loomis Sayles and a Dress for Success workshop. One of the highlights of the CPHP class is a field trip to the Tufts Health Plan call center in Watertown. CPHP participants go for a tour of the facility, meet team leaders and have lunch with Tufts recruiters. They get to hear from recruiters what they look for in potential job candidates. The tour is one of the many ways CPHP prepares participants to be successful in their job search.

Queen liked what she saw at Tufts. She liked that the company emphasized helping people. She realized she had everything she needed to apply for a job there – the right set of skills, a great resume and cover letter, good references, an interview suit and terrific interviewing skills. **The day after the tour, she submitted her application. One week later, she was invited to come in for an interview.**



While she waited to hear back from Tufts, Queen and her fellow CPHP participants reached a milestone – graduation. After three intense, transformative months, her class was ready to celebrate the completion of their work in CPHP. At the Completion Ceremony, tears combined with laughter as participants shared with the audience, filled with friends, families – and representatives

from Tufts – how CPHP had changed their lives. Each graduate spoke briefly about their path to Project Hope, characterized by years of unemployment, underemployment, poverty and loss. Some felt lost, some hopeless, some confused. All felt determined to find a way to turn their lives around. They shared how Jennifer, Amy and Sandra, the CPHP team, believed in them, and taught them to believe in themselves. It was an emotional and bittersweet day for Queen. She had come so far in three short months. The deep sadness she felt at the loss of her brother had eased, and her life felt full of possibility.

The day after the Completion Ceremony, she got a call from Tufts – and a job offer in the Senior Care Options group!

Coming Up Next: Thriving