

BridgeValley

SUCCESS STORIES



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I have always wanted to be a nurse. My aunt was a nurse, and I always looked up to her. But then life happened – I had children, and it was hard to fit school in. My grandmother got sick in May 2018 and I decided to go to school so she could see that and feel hopeful. I looked into colleges, and BridgeValley was affordable and one of the closest to home.

As a student, I became a Student Ambassador and was able to become a work-study, which means I get a job on campus. I've been able to work in different offices and have built close relationships with staff and others in work-study. The relationships that I've gained are the most rewarding part about attending BridgeValley to me!

It's a struggle to try to juggle school and having a family. I have three kids,

ages 11, 9 and 3 and I'm going through a divorce. Having friends and community at BridgeValley help me know that if I get too overwhelmed, I always have people to turn to.

Jodi Johnston in financial aid has been an amazing mentor to me, and a great person to talk through things with.

As a nursing student, I get to do clinical rotations at CMNC. Getting to know the staff and work alongside them will go a long way to helping me feel confident when I go out into the workforce once I graduate.

If I could go back and tell myself one thing, I would say, "Just do it!" I had always wanted to go to college, but it

always seemed like the wrong time. I wasn't sure if I would be able to afford in financially or juggle it with life. But the best thing to do is to just go for it and figure it out! There are opportunities for financial assistance.

BridgeValley is a great college – especially if you are involved and make connections with people.

**- Kayla Phillips,
Nursing, 2021**