



## Charles McManus



After having his case with ARS closed previously, Charles McManus, came back in August 2021 for additional services. A stint in the Army caused much of his diagnosis.

Previously, McManus worked as a funeral director at his family's funeral home. Because of his condition, he decided that this field was not beneficial to his well-being.

He knew he would be better suited for a less triggering and stressful career.

In 2021, Charles started taking classes at Career Academy of Hair Design. He successfully completed the program in early 2022. After completion, ARS was able to help Charles buy some much needed supplies to start working.

Currently, McManus works as a barber and says he has found his calling. When asked about his experience, he said “ARS has had played a massive part of my success. ARS is so great! I’m in a career that I love and it’s all thanks to you all, so thank you!”



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**Success Stories**  
**August 2022**

## Christy Nguyen

While working as a line-machine operator at Georgia-Pacific, Christy Nguyen decided she wanted to start a new career. She came to ARS looking for help finding a vocation with less stress where she could manage her anxiety.

With the help of ARS, Nguyen enrolled in school to become an esthetician. After completing the program, she worked to gain



more experience and build her clientele. When she felt she was ready, she applied for ARS's Small Business Program.

If you're wanting to freshen up your look for summer or get your skin in great shape for the fall semester, *Christy B Permanent Beauty* is now open in Fort Smith. Christy specializes in permanent makeup, ombre brows, lip blushing and dark lips.



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# ARS Success Stories

## August 2022

### **Darlene and Robert Usrey**

Married couple Darlene and Robert Usrey came to ARS for help obtaining their Commercial Driver License. The two had a goal of becoming long haul truck drivers.

Darlene completed her training in May 2022 and Robert followed, finishing in June 2022. They trained through Mid-America Truck Driving School, and both now have their CDL.

While Darlene was able to find employment, Robert continues working with Mid-America to secure a job.

They have both expressed their gratitude to ARS for the services that they have received.





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## Sheryl Theriault

Looking for help with expanding her small business, Sheryl Theriault came to ARS for support. She and her husband are currently raising their 5-year-old grandson following the passing of their daughter.



Theriault has over 6 years of experience working with child support and supervision, all while holding an MBA from Capella University (1992). Her passion for helping families and children led her to opening *Family Locator Consulting, LLC*.

Services offered through the business include supervised visitation and safe child exchange between parents, reconnecting and locating estranged family members, and genealogical research services to Northwest Arkansas families. *Family Locator Consulting* also helps victims of domestic violence to seek protection from further victimization.

With the help of ARS, Sheryl was able to purchase paper and ink supplies, 2 months of advertisements in the NWA Kids Directory, 1 year membership with Canva Pro, business cards, posters, vehicle magnets and much more.

Sheryl has expressed her utmost appreciation for the assistance of ARS with the expansion of her small business as she continues to serve families and children in NWA.



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## **Jayden McCray**

After hearing about the services ARS provides, Jayden McCray got in contact with a counselor who could help him reach his goals. He experiences respiratory challenges caused by his severe asthma, but he doesn't allow it to slow him down.

McCray and his counselor developed a plan to receive vocational training at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock with the assistance of ARS. After receiving his bachelor's degree, he gained employment at Baptist Health.

Jayden is still working at Baptist as a medical and clinical laboratory technologist where he makes an impact working throughout the hospital.



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## **Matson Dean**

While a student at Rector High School, Matson Dean was referred to ARS in the Spring of 2016. After graduation, she spent the summer figuring out what was next for her. In the fall, she started the VR Training Program through Arkansas State University.

After much hard work and determination, Matson completed her bachelor's degree in Early Education with a minor in Physical Education in May 2021. Shortly after graduating, she got a job in early education at Westside Consolidated School District in Jonesboro.

Matson was able to overcome her disabling conditions to become an outstanding teacher for the state of Arkansas.



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## **Nathan Garcia**

As a high school student, Nathan Garcia took part in ARS's OWL program where he learned new skills that would help him gain employment. His persistence and good work ethic led him to be promoted to team lead in his school's cafeteria.

After graduation, Nate started class at the University of Arkansas Pulaski Tech. He graduated with his associates degree in May 2022. He plans to enroll at the University of Arkansas Monticello in the Fall of 2022 to pursue a degree in Business.

When asked about his experience with ARS, Nate said he "could not have done it without the skills gained from being a part of ARS OWL program". He went on to express his heartfelt gratitude to his ARS Pre-ETS counselors, Tynesha Ivory, and Katrina Bennett (ARS Intern).