



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services
Arkansas Rehabilitation Services

ARS
Success Stories
September 2025



ARS SUCCESS STORIES

Shaq'Ke Robinson

Shaq'Ke Robinson, a VR client since 2018, is a secondary teacher, head football coach for boys, and head basketball coach for girls at the Arkansas School for the Deaf. He began working at the school in January 2024 and is a role model to the students.

Shaq'Ke Robinson lost his hearing at three and has been a beacon of perseverance.

Overcoming the challenges of being the only deaf student at Henderson State University (HSU) for almost six years, he became the first deaf student to graduate from HSU. His academic achievements, including a bachelor's in physical education and a Master's in sports management with an almost perfect GPA of 4.0, are a testament to his determination. Shaq'Ke's journey inspires everyone, earning him the Campbell Trophy Semifinalist and a place in the Freddie Football team for his outstanding sportsmanship, attitude, and inspiration. He had interpreters at each football practice and game, ensuring effective communication with coaches and players.

Shaq'ke stated that ARS supported him with financial assistance, accommodations, etc. Also, the HSU provided interpreters and resources to help him prepare as a person with a disability to work and lead a productive and independent life. Shake would like to thank ARS for being a big help in leading him to success and becoming employed.





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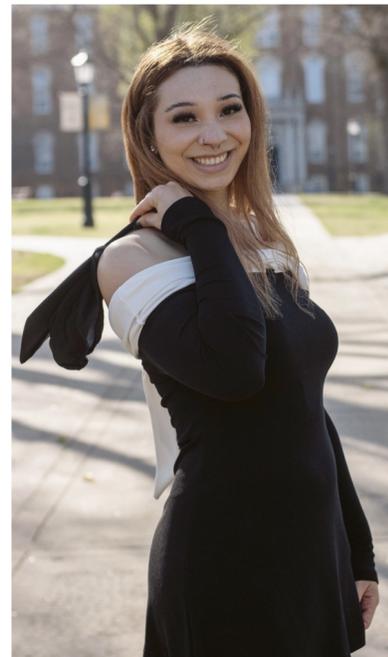


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Nadia Harris

Nadia Harris began receiving services through ARS Transition Services. With their support, she graduated from the University of Fort Smith with a bachelor's degree in General Studies. ARS also assisted with the cost of her Praxis exam and study supplies. After passing the Praxis exam, Nadia entered the ArPEP program. This two-year pathway enables bachelor's degree candidates to become licensed and employed as classroom teachers while completing the requirements for a Standard Arkansas Teaching License. ARS provided financial assistance for her participation. Nadia has accepted a teaching position at Greenland Middle School, where she will begin in August 2025 as a 7th and 8th-grade science teacher. To help her prepare for her first year, ARS also supported her in obtaining classroom supplies and setting up her room. Reflecting on her experience, Nadia shared:

“When I first started working with ARS, I didn’t have much of an idea of how my journey would look. Fast forwarding to now, I have my dream job and have become more confident in my future and what my purpose looks like. ARS and my counselor, Teshia, have been so supportive throughout my journey—financially, emotionally, and mentally—by providing resources whenever and wherever possible. Working with my counselor, Teshia, has been such a great experience, and I am so blessed to have had her support over the past few years.”





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Jaycee Burke

Jaycee began her journey with ARS through Transition services, where she received guidance and support to prepare for life after high school. With the help of ARS and the ACDC Driver Education I program, she successfully achieved one of her primary goals—earning her learner’s permit. This accomplishment has brought her one step closer to gaining independence and reaching her vocational dreams. Jaycee is excited about the next chapter, which includes obtaining her driver’s license and beginning cosmetology school. She is grateful for the encouragement and assistance provided by ARS in helping her move confidently toward her future.

