

## **Destoni's Success Story Obtaining a CNA During COVID**

Destoni was an unemployed and a single parent when she enrolled in the SkillUP program on January 27, 2020 at the New Madrid County Family Resource Center. She was interested in becoming a CNA and enrolled and began the 10 week class on February 2, 2020 at the New Madrid County Career and Technology Center. Unfortunately the class came to an abrupt halt in March due to COVID-19.

The instructor for the classes was also the Director of Nursing at New Madrid Living Center where Destoni was completing clinical work and was able to offer her a position at the nursing facility. This allowed Destoni to complete her schooling and earn a wage of \$9.75 an hour. With the help of Latisha Ruby, her SkillUP case manager, and caring instructors, Destoni was able to obtain her CNA certificate, which has given her the ability to financially support her family. Destoni is interested in furthering her education in the nursing field.



*The SkillUP program is Missouri's employment and training program for Food Stamp (SNAP) recipients. The program is funded through the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. The program is also funded through the Administration for Children and Families, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant.*