

EYES

EARLY YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Transforming the lives of students with disabilities



Meet Quintavious

Quintavious has a smile that brightens up the entire room. Born an only child on the autism spectrum, he has faced his share of challenges. When he reached his senior year in high school, he and his family were confronted with the reality that many students with disabilities face—after graduation, then what? That's when Tommy Nobis Center (TNC) was able to help. During his final semester, Quintavious had the opportunity to enroll in EYES at South Cobb High School. This proved to be a great first step on his journey to employment. He participated in classes on job readiness skills, effective communication, goals and decision making, time management, self-advocacy, and proper work behaviors. After completing the program



"I love working at the academy. I can't imagine working anywhere else. Thank you, Tommy Nobis Center, for finding me a nice and safe place to work."

and graduating from high school, it was a smooth transition to TNC for additional services and an individualized plan was created to meet his specific needs.

The Journey

Quintavious was eager to complete each phase of preparation:

- **Work Adjustment Training**
- **Job Sampling**
- **Job Coaching**
- **Classroom Instruction**
- **On-the-job Training**
- **Job Development & Placement**
- **Employment Support**

Thanks to the generous investment from community supporters who help TNC provide these impactful services, Quintavious was equipped with the tools he needed to embark on his journey to a bright future.

The Job

Quintavious and his Program Manager worked together to find the perfect job opportunity at Whitfield Academy as a Steward. He was able to experience the job firsthand to ensure it was a good fit for him, and after being hired, he received job coaching to overcome any initial challenges. Quintavious takes his job very seriously and everyone at the academy loves and supports him.

Overcoming Tragedy

After four months on the job, Quintavious experienced the unexpected death of his father who was his best friend and his only source of transportation. This was a very difficult time as he adjusted to this life-changing tragedy. His supervisor was very supportive and allowed him time to grieve. Quintavious returned to work determined to continue his father's legacy of being the man of the house.

Ongoing Support

After the death of his father, TNC staff provided Quintavious with resources to obtain grief counseling and support for ensuring transportation to work. He learned to use Uber and is receiving financial assistance specifically for transportation. He has also applied for paratransit services.

Results that Matter

Through the EYES program, Quintavious was able to find the skills and confidence he needed to begin his journey to employment. Each service continued to build upon the foundation that began through EYES and empowered him to reach his fullest potential. Quintavious has found his place in the adult world thanks to the supporters who made his journey possible.

Early Youth Employment Services (EYES) provides **vocational training and education** to students with disabilities as they become **empowered to pursue their career goals.**