



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE

Education Initiative Program



Mikayla Shorty

Since August 2007, Mikayla Shorty has been participating in the Housing Authority Education Initiative Program. Education Specialist Shahira Taylor immediately noticed Mikayla's passion for education. Mikayla graduated from Milwaukee High School of the Arts, obtaining a final cumulative GPA of 3.8. She is enrolled in the Early Childhood Program at Milwaukee Area Technical College. Mikayla was chosen as a recipient for the Wisconsin Tuition, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity, and Pell grants. In addition, Shahira assisted Mikayla with applying for the Department of Public Instruction Gear Up

Scholarship where she was selected to attend orientation and is currently awaiting further details. Her ultimate goal is to one day become an elementary teacher. She shared details about overcoming challenges and gaining success throughout her educational journey thus far.

For upcoming class of 2021, Mikayla shares the following advice, "Stay focused and do not let the pandemic bring you down. Keep going until you receive your diploma!"

Interview with Mikayla

Q: How has Housing Authority Education Initiative Program helped you along the way with achieving your goals?

A: "The Education Initiative Program has helped me a lot! The previous Education Specialist helped me with work readiness, job applications, and how to ace an interview!"

Q: Why is education important to you?

A: "Education is knowledge and opens many opportunities for me."

Q: What inspired you to become a teacher?

A: "At my current job Neu Life Community Development, I observed my colleagues teaching styles and interactions with children. They were having a lot of fun. When I started interacting with children at my job, I felt like myself and also had a lot of fun."

Q: Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?

A: "I will be working in an elementary school as a teacher or teacher assistant in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I plan to have an apartment."

Q: How do you respond to challenges?

A: "I handle challenges by not procrastinating and staying focused. During my freshman year, I let my assignments pile up quickly and it was stressful. I entered sophomore year with a new plan, completing my assignments throughout the week and weekends."

Q: What will be your legacy?

A: "I am very kind, nice, and hard-working. I love helping others. I want people to not hesitate to help one another."



In closing, Housing Authority congratulates Mikayla on her academic accomplishments thus far. The Education Initiative Program assists families with achieving career and academic goals. Education provides opportunities for advancement and is the key to success. For more information about the Education Initiative Program, please contact Shahira Taylor Housing Authority Education Specialist at 414-286-5780.