



Shambrekka Merritt

BRIDGES YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

Before she graduated from Westlake High School in May 2009, Shambrekka Merritt, with help from her Bridges representative Bernard Kaba, landed a part-time, temporary job with FedEx as a parcel assistant. After several months of impressive performance, Shambrekka was converted to full-time, permanent status, and she now has company benefits.

Employed with FedEx nearly one year, Shambrekka says she loves her job and is determined to give her best in whatever she does. Shambrekka lives with her mother and looks forward to having her own place one day. In her spare time, she enjoys shopping, spending time with friends, and listening to music. ↪

EMPLOYER CHAMPION

Employer Champion for this quarter is Lisa Good, Manager of the Food Depot in Mableton, GA. Lisa has worked for Food Depot for twenty years. She started her career as a cashier, but her hard work and perseverance got her promoted to co-manager, a position she held for eight years before being assigned to her own Food Depot store.

Lisa began hiring Bridges students nearly seven years ago when the program was launched in partnership with Cobb County Schools. In addition to hiring Bridges participants in her Mableton store, she has been instrumental in helping place qualified students in other Food Depot stores throughout Cobb County. ↪



Lisa Good

JOB SHADOWING WITH MARRIOTT AND RENAISSANCE

In February and March, Bridges students participated in job shadowing events, courtesy of several local Marriott and Renaissance human resources directors. These included Mr. Jan Artress (Airport Marriott and Renaissance Concourse); Collette Boardley (Renaissance Waverly); Ramona Howland (Marriott Century Center); and Janice Winfield (Marriott at Perimeter Center). Many thanks to these Marriott human resources professionals who made this event possible for Bridges students from metro-Atlanta high schools. ↪



Marriott Century Center

BRIDGES STAFF PROFILE



Betty Hubbard

Mrs. Betty Hubbard, employer representative for Fulton County Schools, joined Bridges 12 years ago as an Administrative Assistant. In October 2003, Betty was promoted to an Employer Representative and has served in that capacity for Atlanta Public Schools, Cobb County Schools, and now Fulton County Schools. Before joining the Bridges team, Betty worked 23 years for Georgia Power and two years in the human resources office of Marriott's Aberdeen Woods Conference Center.

Betty's favorite part of her job with Bridges is working with the students and Career Transition Instructors. In creating discussion topics for job readiness classes, Betty fondly recalls the tutelage of one of her favorite teachers, who drilled into Betty that "the sky is the limit" and to never give up on her dreams. Betty passes on this same philosophy to her students to this day.

Originally from Macon, Betty moved to Atlanta shortly after marrying her high school sweetheart, Larry. Betty and her husband have two adult children, Larry Jr. and Brandon, both of whom are married.

In Betty's spare time she enjoys reading and traveling. She recently spent two weeks in Cape Town and Johannesburg, South Africa. A woman always on the move, Betty's other excursions have included Alaska, Hawaii, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, Germany, Austria, Denmark, Sweden, and France. ↪