



United Way of Greater Houston

FOR GREAT FUTURES

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Meet Dionell

With her children grown up and out of the house, mother-of-four Dionell was looking for a new career. She had worked in the medical field before she had children and was interested in getting back into that kind of work.

Dionell heard about a Certified Nursing Assistant training program being offered by Memorial Assistance Ministries as part of United Way THRIVE and decided to sign up. She began the training program in early 2020—then COVID-19 hit.

The training program moved online and Dionell stuck with it. She completed the coursework but the in-person clinicals had to be delayed several months because of COVID-19 restrictions. The class finally completed their hands-on clinicals, only to have the final exams needed for certification delayed because of COVID-19 restrictions.

While she waited to take her exam, Dionell decided to go ahead and apply for a job at Memorial Hermann in The Woodlands. Between her Certified Nursing Assistant training and her past experience in the medical field, they invited her to shadow someone and meet the team, after which, she got the job!

Dionell is now a Senior Patient Care Assistance at Memorial Hermann in The Woodlands, earning a salary that she didn't think was possible. She is excited to get back into the medical field and to put her new training and skills to use. Memorial Assistance Ministries and the rest of the United Way THRIVE family will be here to support her as she continues her new journey.