

LITERACY CENTER

PROMOTING RESEARCH & STUDY OF LITERACY & LANGUAGE

THE EDWARD STEVENS CENTER
FOR THE STUDY AND
DEVELOPMENT OF LITERACY
AND LANGUAGE



Missy Combs *Meigs County ABLE*

In August, 2007, Missy Combs received her GED and turned her goal to the Licensed Physical Therapist Assistance (LPTA) program at Hocking College. She had been working three years at the Meigs County Physical Therapy connected with Holzer when she was encouraged to go back to school. Her boss, Joan Anderson, told her "you already have all the compassion you need in this job; you just need more education."

The stumbling block to be admitted at Hocking College was the fact that her high school completion had never been recorded with the state from the small religious high school she had attended and no records could be found. However, with encouragement from her husband, mother, grandmother, and good friend, Jodie Grinstead, she decided to try for her GED. She looked up the Meigs County ABLE program in the phone book and started attending.

"I never expected all the personal attention I got in the program," she reflected. And her instructor, Susan King, stated that she is "a wonderful example of an adult student who has taken all the necessary steps to ensure her success. She has the determination and follow-through that would be a shining example for all of us." Missy found the math the hardest and feels that she definitely needed the help she got from the ABLE program to pass that part of the GED.

This determination continues as she pursues her degree at Hocking College. She still works 18 hours a week while taking care of her family and attending school. All this schooling has created a sacrifice in less time to spend with her family; but she wants to be a good role model for her 11-year old son and she "wants him to know he can do anything he wants to do."

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