



SUCCESS STORY

WILKIN MENA



“Everything you set out to do and goals you want to reach can be done if you set your mind on doing it without letting any negative things get in your way. You can meet any of your goals if you reach out determined to accomplishing them.”

Wilkin Mena is from Santa Cruz, Virgin Islands and joined Arecibo Job Corps on July 16, 2008. He finished fourth year high school in Dominican Republic.

Wilkin heard about Job Corps from a cousin that studied in Ramey Job Corps and orientated him about the Program. He decided to find out more of the centers available by contacting the Job Corps Recruitment Office of Santa Cruz where they informed him of all he needed to know about the Program and filled out the documents to join the Arecibo Job Corps Center.

He relocated to Puerto Rico, joined the Electrician Helper trade, and adapted himself to the center life. Wilkin told us about his goals before joining us ***“I came with my mind set out to finish the Electrician Helper trade, get my license, permit, and do my best to accomplish it. While I was studying I was a member of the Tobacco Committee and was a vocal of the centers’ SGA. My first WBL in the CPP phase was in the Counseling Department and my WBL six-week trade experience was in Los Angeles Medical Clinic in Arecibo which I enjoyed very much.”***

Currently Wilkin Mena met his first goals and decided to set others. He is now in the ACT Program in the “Instituto de Banca y Comercio” in Manatí, Puerto Rico taking the course in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning. His plans are to finish this course, take out his permits and licenses, work a while to save money to continue his education and far as he can.

When we asked Wilkin how did Job Corps change his life, he answered: ***“Now after being in Job Corps my life changed. I learned to interact with all type of people and situations in life. I learned about independent living, responsibility, motivation, and that you can improve yourself in life if you set your mind on it. Everything you set out to do and goals you want to reach can be done if you set your mind on doing it without letting any negative things get in your way. You can meet any of your goals if you reach out determined to accomplishing them”***.

We also asked Wilkin if he would recommend the Program and to whom, and he said: ***“this is a terrific opportunity to people that want to grow professionally because in Job Corps they open the doors to your future and to all that want to grow and succeed in their lives. Yes, I would recommend it without hesitating”***.

To end the interview, we asked Wilkin Mena about the CSS (Career Success Standards) and who was his MMM (Model, Mentor, Monitor) in AJCC. He told us the following: ***“My Model– is everyone because I observed the employees and observed they are responsible, helpful, and admired the way they worked. My Mentor– are the RA’s because they helped me a lot in the residential area and in Administration office helped me in a great way also. My Monitor– is the Counseling Department because they always advised me whether I needed it or not”***.

By: Nancy Maisonet,
CDSS Secretary

“We wish Wilkin Mena success with his new future”.