



Crafting Your Story

Use this worksheet to create your participant's story. Fill in the blanks and complete the sentences to craft a narrative that highlights your participant's journey through the WIOA NextGen program.

Introduction: Meet [Participant Name]!

Our participant, **[Name]**, is **[age]** years old and comes from **[describe background, e.g., a small rural town, a large urban area, etc.]**. They have faced challenges like **[e.g., dropping out of school, lack of transportation, financial hardship, etc.]** but have big dreams of becoming a **[career goal, e.g., nurse, electrician, entrepreneur, etc.]**.

Recruitment: How We Found [Name]

We first met **[Name]** through **[recruitment method, e.g., a community outreach event, partnership with a local school, etc.]**. To help them take the first step, we provided **[specific support or element, e.g., mentoring, dropout recovery services, financial literacy education, etc.]**.

Getting Started: Addressing Immediate Needs

To set **[Name]** up for success, we began with **[specific element, e.g., comprehensive guidance and counseling, supportive services, etc.]**, helping them overcome **[specific barrier, e.g., transportation issues, lack of childcare, etc.]**.

Building Skills: How [Name] Grew

Through **[specific program or training, e.g., leadership development workshops, occupational skills training, etc.]**, **[Name]** gained valuable skills like **[specific skills, e.g., teamwork, technical skills, budgeting, etc.]**. They also participated in **[specific work experience, e.g., an internship, summer job, apprenticeship, etc.]**, where they learned **[practical outcome, e.g., hands-on job skills, networking, etc.]**.

Overcoming Challenges: The Turning Point

One of the biggest challenges for **[Name]** was **[specific challenge, e.g., self-confidence, balancing responsibilities, etc.]**. With the help of **[specific element or program, e.g., adult mentoring, financial literacy education, etc.]**, they were able to **[specific outcome, e.g., develop a budget, finish high school, etc.]**.



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The Journey's End: Where [Name] is Now

After completing the program, [Name] has achieved [specific accomplishment, e.g., earned a credential, secured a job, etc.].

They are now on their way to [next step, e.g., college, a new career, etc.], with the continued support of [specific follow-up service or program].

Final Reflection

The WIOA NextGen program made a difference in [Name]'s life by providing [specific impact, e.g., opportunities for growth, life-changing mentorship, etc.].

Their story is a testament to how integrating [number of elements used, e.g., 10 out of 14 elements] can transform lives and build brighter futures.

Example Story

Our participant, Taylor, is 18 years old and comes from a small rural town. They have faced challenges like dropping out of school but have big dreams of becoming an electrician.

We first met Taylor through a community outreach event. To help them take the first step, we provided mentoring and dropout recovery services.

To set Taylor up for success, we began with supportive services, helping them overcome transportation issues. Through leadership development workshops and occupational skills training, Taylor gained teamwork and technical skills. They also participated in an internship where they learned hands-on job skills.

One of the biggest challenges for Taylor was self-confidence. With the help of adult mentoring, they were able to develop a budget and finish high school.

After completing the program, Taylor has secured a job as an apprentice electrician. They are now on their way to becoming fully licensed, with the continued support of regular follow-up check-ins.

Taylor's story is a testament to how integrating 11 out of 14 elements can transform lives and build brighter futures.

Final Presentation Instructions

Each team will have one member share their participant's story aloud, highlighting how the program supported their journey through the WIOA elements. While the story is being shared, other team members should hold up the corresponding WIOA elements as they are mentioned in the story, as well as the paper doll. This will visually demonstrate the integration of the elements and how they contributed to the participant's success.