

Testimony of Brittany Drown

House Commerce Committee, HB 2381

March 4, 2015

Mr. Chairman:

My name is Brittany Drown and I am from Salina, Kansas. At the beginning of this class, I was unemployed, penniless and on Tanf and Snap (cash and food) assistance and losing hope fast. A phrase that came to mind was “what’s the point.” For many reasons that phrase controlled every aspect of my life. Slowly but surely that phrase changed during the course of this class to “There is always a point”, and by point I mean purpose. We all have a purpose in this world, every step and move we make has purpose. Partners 4 Success’s purpose in my life was more than any of you know. It wasn’t to just show up every day and get handed an employment offer, but it was to gain vital life and employment skills that despite the many other programs I’ve attended I was lacking, such as self-awareness, confidence, self-esteem, communication, math, resume and interview readiness skills. It opened my eyes to who I am and who I could be, and that barriers should be looked at not as a boulder but as a pebble than can be walked over with ease. I feel so strongly about this class and its purpose I wrote two judges, Judge Mary Thrower & Judge Jared Johnson, of Salina, Kansas, to spread the word of it opportunities. Without the assistance of DCF with food and cash, I would not of had this opportunity to be a part of the very first

Partners 4 Success class and all the accomplishments that I've achieved during these six weeks.