

[READY4WORK][®]

HILLSBOROUGH

REENTRY. RETRAIN. REINTEGRATE.

Larry's Success Story



At the age of eight, Larry moved with his family from Rochester, New York to Apopka, Florida. It was there in Apopka that his troubles started. He and his six siblings were raised by their single mother, and he found himself spending a lot of time with older guys in his neighborhood. Initially, he hung out with them to play pool, but it later progressed to selling marijuana with them. By 7th grade, he started skipping school so that he could sell drugs on the corner to make quick money. Larry then dropped out of school and found himself involved with a crew of guys who would burglarize homes and steal cars. After 9th grade, he returned to high school so that he could play basketball and run track. Even then, he continued burglarizing homes and was arrested twice, but let go with no consequences. By the age of 18, his actions finally caught up with him when he was arrested after his fingerprints were connected to two burglaries. Larry was sentenced to life in prison plus 30 years, and was released on March 9, 2021 after serving 38 years in prison.

While at Everglades Correctional Institution, Larry learned of the Ready4Work-Hillsborough program and entered it upon his release. Larry credits the Professional Development classes with educating him on how to present himself in the workplace. Not only that, Larry expressed that he is grateful for the life skills taught at Ready4Work-Hillsborough, such as communication and financial literacy. Larry is currently employed as an electrician with National Trade Specialists and has been there since May 2021. During his past seven months of employment, he has earned multiple raises and has been extended the opportunity to travel with the company. Larry would like to encourage anyone considering applying to the Ready4Work-Hillsborough program that, "Each and every one of you are capable of getting a job. But Ready4Work-Hillsborough teaches you to prepare yourself to get and keep that job."

DECEMBER 2021

Ready4Work-Hillsborough, operated by Abe Brown Ministries, is a replication of the national Ready4Work program. Utilizing a four-pronged approach encompassing case management, life-coaching, employability training and job placement assistance, Ready4Work motivates and moves individuals to become productive, responsible citizens within the community. Commitments and strategic partnerships with faith-based organizations, local businesses, community outlets and the judicial system assist to ensure individuals transition successfully back into the community.

If you are interested in joining Ready4Work-Hillsborough, please send a letter to Abe Brown Ministries, 2921 N. 29th Street, Tampa, FL 33605.





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Trust

What is it?

A firm belief in the reliability, truth, or consistency of someone or something.

Why is trust important?

- Trust allows people to openly express: thoughts, feelings, options, information and ideas.
- People work together more effectively when they trust each other, which leads to the accomplishment of mutual goals.
- A lack of trust leads people to be dishonest and inconsiderate in their communications.

What are the important elements of trust?

- **Intent:** The aim or purpose of one's communications and behavior.
- **Character:** Being honest, sincere, and acting with integrity.
- **Transparency:** Open communications; no hidden agendas (see Intent).
- **Competence:** The ability to get things done.
- **Reliability:** Consistently keeping promises and meeting obligations.

Consider this:

- "Self-Trust is the first secret of success." – *Ralph Waldo Emerson*
- "Trust is like an eraser, it gets smaller and smaller after every mistake." – *Unknown*
- "Never lie to someone who trusts you; and never trust someone who lies to you." – *Unknown*

"I trust you" is a better compliment than "I love you" because you may not always trust the people you love, but you can ALWAYS love the person you trust.

