

**BRANDI
ZEPF CENTER**



 **TOLEDO, OH**

Northwest Ohio Pathway to
Healthcare Careers (NOPHC) Project

A homecoming leads to a career in healthcare.

Brandi has a long-standing passion for medicine. The mother of two worked for many years as a registered medical assistant before making the decision to go back to school to become a licensed practical nurse (LPN). With few nursing school options near, Brandi and her family relocated to her hometown of Toledo, Ohio.

Once she settled back in Toledo, Brandi enrolled at Professional Skills Institute (PSI). One fateful day, Brandi ran into an old family friend who had graduated from PSI. They told Brandi about [Zepf Center's](#) Northwest Ohio Pathway to Healthcare Careers (NOPHC) project funded by the Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) program.

Brandi immediately signed up and attended a NOPHC Healthcare 101 session, where an HPOG staff member presented all the details about the program and supports available. Soon after, she was accepted into the program. Brandi was not able to work full time. Fortunately with the help of NOPHC, she received financial assistance in the

form of gas cards to help get her to school and proper shoes for clinicals.

Five out of 6 quarters, Brandi was on the Dean's list for maintaining a 3.0 grade point average. During the last 9 months of her program, Brandi was pregnant. The last day of her clinicals was especially memorable as Brandi welcomed her third son to the world.

In 2018, Brandi reached her goal of becoming an LPN and graduated from PSI. NOPHC's help in the form of tuition assistance, supportive services, and success coaching provided Brandi with the tools to achieve her dream. In March 2019, Brandi returned to Zepf Center as an LPN, specializing in addiction and behavioral health.

“Enrolling, completing and graduating from nursing school has been one of my greatest accomplishments of my life!”

This success story was self-identified by the grantee and information contained in this document was provided by the grantee.