

## **Success Spotlight: Joyce Jines**

Joyce Jines has worked in home health care for most of her adult life. But without a high school diploma, she found herself stuck in the same type of jobs with little opportunity for advancement.

But one day she simply woke up and decided to enroll in classes at the Jennings County Educational Center in North Vernon. Three months later, she not only received her high school equivalency but also a certified clinical medical assistant (CCMA) certification.

“I had been at a lot of dead-end jobs with no high school diploma,” said Jines, 49. “I just decided I needed something better.”

Jines started classes in September 2020 and finished in early January, taking math, science, English, and writing. She was a little concerned at first, because of her age and being mostly surrounded by teenagers, but they quickly became like family.

At their age, Jines also admittedly “messed up” but decided she was going to fix it. She plans to find a better job in the medical field and, by also earning a few college credits, she may try to continue on in a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) or Registered Nurse (RN) program.

One of the biggest benefits of an Adult Education program, like the one Jines enrolled in, is that there is no cost to the student.

“It’s not so embarrassing now; I can say that I have my diploma,” Jines said. “I’m happy now.”