



Many young girls aspire to become nurses and care for those who are sick. This dream has become a reality for Peggy Church of Oakwood, Virginia.

In 1987, Peggy Church dropped out of high school during her junior year to get married. Four years later, she became a mother. Peggy did restaurant and housekeeping work for several years. She even took a CNA (certified nursing assistant) course in 1994 and passed the certification exam that followed. After earning her certification, she began working as a CNA at Grundy Heritage Hall.

That wasn't enough to satisfy Peggy; she really wanted to become a nurse. She knew the first step in the educational process for her was to earn her GED, so Peggy, along with her husband, brother, and sister-in-law, joined a GED preparation class in 2000 taught by Harold Wimmer. Peggy prepared and passed the GED Tests in only three months. Her family members were also successful in passing the tests.

Earning her GED certificate motivated Peggy to further her education. The class she attended gave her the push she needed to get back into the habit of studying. Peggy says that it was important to her to set a good example for her children by showing them that education comes first.

In 2004, Peggy and her husband went to a camper show at Southwest Virginia Community College. While at the event, Peggy entered her name in a drawing for a SVCC scholarship. Peggy recalls that her husband won a T-shirt, but she won a college scholarship! As a result, she completed a medical coding course and received certification in 2005.

In August of 2005, Peggy began studies in the LPN program at the Buchanan County Technology and Career Center. She completed the two-year program in 2007, took the state board exam, and passed!

Currently a wife, mother of two children, and an LPN at Grundy Heritage Hall, Peggy hopes to become a registered nurse one day. She is planning to continue her education and reach all of her goals step by step. She recognizes that without her GED, none of these dreams could have been fulfilled. The GED served as the launching pad to a better future for Peggy and her family.

Are you planning for a better future? Find out how you can earn your GED and be launched into a better paying job, a successful career, or a college education. Contact Southwest Regional Adult Education at 889-5424, or call toll-free at 1-866-581-9935. You could be the next GED success story.