Ke’Shon currently works at a construction site and loves every minute of it. He began the training component of his Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) in January 2021.

Rosezelle was a student at Woodward High School and participated in the Construction Technologies program taught by the Easterseals’ Apprenticeship Coordinator. During Rosezelle’s enrollment in that program, he served as the student project lead for the construction of a 10 x 10 mockup of a house. Rosezelle was successful in school despite a very difficult home life. Upon graduation in 2020, he did not seek an opportunity in the construction industry because he had stability with his long-term employer at a local grocery store, where he had advancement opportunities. However, at heart, Rosezelle desired to pursue his passion for a career in construction. He just did not know how to get his foot in the door. Through ongoing communications with our Apprenticeship Coordinator, Rosezelle learned about the Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Initiative (YARI) and decided to explore apprenticeship opportunities. Rosezelle was introduced to a local employer who is a sponsor of a Carpentry RAP and he was hired. Initially there were some challenges because Rosezelle was late to his carpentry job. Our Apprenticeship Coordinator learned that Rosezelle was late because he was still working at the grocery store because he was apprehensive about the stability of the carpentry job and he needed to maintain his income. Fortunately, the carpentry employer was understanding and took steps to assure Rosezelle that as long as he was committed to the employer, they would be committed to him.

Rosezelle gained the confidence to let the grocery job go. He began the training component of his RAP in February 2021.
Easterseals Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Initiative (YARI) provides comprehensive services in the target industries of construction and deconstruction in the Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN Metro Area, predominantly in the Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties of Ohio. The goal of YARI is to make a long-term impact within the construction industry by assisting local employers to implement practices that allow for hiring qualified candidates in a supportive environment that leads to long-term retention and completion of apprenticeship programs. Easterseals currently has a training program, FastTrac, which is designed to provide entry-level certifications to individuals with limited or no exposure to the construction industry.

Ke’Shon, a YARI Participant

Rosezelle, a YARI Participant

— ADDITIONAL RESOURCES —

★ Introduction to Apprenticeship – As apprenticeship continues to grow and diversify across the country, more individuals and organizations are getting involved in apprenticeship work. Those getting started may not know where to begin; WorkforceGPS provides a compilation of “Apprenticeship 101” resources and tools pulled from various pages within the Apprenticeship and ASE Communities of Practice. Visit: https://apprenticeship.workforcegps.org/resources/2018/01/16/20/01/Introduction-to-Apprenticeship.

★ Registered Apprenticeship Program – What is a Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP)? Read about the Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) and the benefits of apprenticeship.

★ Construction Industry Apprenticeship – Check out construction industry specific resources that discuss high-demand apprenticeship occupations in construction.