

Sandra Larson, Missouri

After giving birth to her beautiful daughter, seventeen-year-old Sandra Larson was desperate to complete her education. She knew she needed to have a successful career to support her family. However, she was overwhelmed at the difficulty of caring for her new baby while finishing a traditional high school program.

Sandra enrolled in Joplin's Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) program, excited about its qualified instructors, flexible schedule, and excellent support system. Sandra's teachers enjoyed her warm personality and eagerness to learn. She exhibited amazing leadership qualities. Although math was a challenge, Sandra was determined to stay the course. She passed her high school equivalency exam and graduated from the Joplin program.

Using the firm foundation laid by Joplin AEL, Sandra became a BSBA finance/economics major, graduating in May 2005. She then went on to earn her MBA in May 2006. Sandra has worked as a financial advisor for Edward Jones and as an advertising consultant for the Joplin Globe. Today her inspirational story has come full circle. She is currently a technology professional at Corporate Business Systems, serving the same Joplin AEL program that was there to lend her a helping hand when she most needed it.