

Brittany Ragland

Ms. Toney

EG 102

09/11/2022

The Inspiring, Challenges, and Success

My name is Brittany Ragland. I am from Huntsville, Alabama. I am currently a junior at Huntsville Bible College. I am studying to receive my bachelor's degree in social work. To be honest, I chose the field of social work out of pure curiosity. Before I started my first semester of college, I was unsure of what I really wanted to do. Since beginning my educational journey, I have come to realization that I do enjoy helping people. The road to success looks like a journey that is filled with trials. Mistakes may happen along the way and obstacles may arise. With God first all things will be possible. Social workers play an important role today. It is a reward to know that I have positively impacted someone's life through services provided as a social worker.

I would define perseverance as determination; never giving up no matter how difficult things may seem. My first experience with perseverance was when I made an important decision to leave my job in December 2019 to become my own boss as an entrepreneur. I had gotten my first job in 2012. I had been working a steady job ever since. This was a tough decision because I was used to having a guaranteed paycheck bi-weekly; sometimes weekly. It took a lot of determination to not give up and return to corporate America as I was overwhelmed not having a consistent income in the beginning. I was also a mom as well as a fiancé. I felt like everyone was counting on me. I was motivated and encouraged by other entrepreneurs. Even though it may

look difficult, through perseverance it would all be worth it in the end. Today, I am a proud business owner of a non-profit that provides toiletries, pampers, and wipes for single mothers and babies. I am also a full-time freelance virtual assistant. I can apply this encounter to where I am in my degree today. It takes perseverance to graduate. There will be several bumps in the road, but I cannot give up. I will remain determined and continue to remind myself that I have what it takes to graduate from Huntsville Bible College with my bachelor's degree in social work.

Obtaining a degree can be challenging and will often bring upon frustration, perhaps even wanting you to feel like dropping out. Financial challenges can be issues for college students as education is not free. There are other bills and financial obligations that must be covered on top of going to college. Mental challenges can also happen. It is a lot trying to remain focused on schoolwork and having to go to work to earn an income. Mentally, many students have faced exhaustion, lack of motivation, and a lack of interest to complete school due to having several things going on in their lives. I personally have dealt with the lack of motivation to complete school based off outside stress that occurred as a single mother. I have gone through an entire semester of not having a drive to complete required coursework. I did not allow this to stop me. Although it was not my greatest semester, I finished the semester, and I did not quit. One of the things that I love about Huntsville Bible College is that we are a small campus. There is always room for every student to learn and ask questions. I love the atmosphere that the entire faculty and staff is very encouraging. Huntsville Bible College offers an affordable tuition rate compared to several other colleges within the area. Huntsville Bible College also offers a hands-on learning experience for every student, even making accommodation for online students. I take advantage of what Huntsville Bible College has to offer by reaching out to my instructors whenever I need

assistance with my courses. I also take advantage of the many literacy resources provided in the campus library. I can almost always find what I am searching for in our campus library. When I graduate from Huntsville Bible College, my success story will be a bachelor's degree earned through perseverance. I will have overcome obstacles that could have defeated me. I will have a success story as becoming the first in my family to graduate from college.