



Gage Duncan
Assembler, Sets Bonding
Cook Medical
Bloomington, IN

Q: What does this company do?

A: Cook manufactures medical devices and provides me with an opportunity. Cook believed in me when I didn't really have a lot to believe in. I was a single father living paycheck to paycheck and they showed me that hard work, dedication and being punctual could get me far.

Q: What brought you there?

A: I learned about Cook and the My Pathways program through a high school adviser. I was the first student to partner up with Cook through the Excel Center (operated by Goodwill).

Q: Where did you go to school?

A: The My Pathways program allowed me to earn a high school diploma in three months while working part-time at Cook but getting paid for full-time.

Q: How do you like working for Cook?

A: I do like what I do. I'm in the bonding department. My first job was cutting tubes and then I asked my team lead if I could expand on my training and they gave me the opportunity.

Q: What are your plans for the future?

A: I plan to stay at Cook. I have a two-year-old and it's kind of hard to juggle full time parenting, a full-time job and full-time schooling. In a couple years when I get him (my son) in school, I will have more time to get through college with financial help from Cook.

Q: What do you like most about your job?

A: Before I got on with Cook, I was just drifting through life. I didn't think there was opportunity for me. When this job came along it gave me hope. Maybe I can help the next person who feels the same way I did.