

“MOTIVATING MEMORIES”

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT GRADUATE SUCCEEDS BY HELPING THE COMMUNITY

Memories are one of our strongest motivators. Memories can leave us yearning for more incredibly joyous times or they can easily make our eyes water with nostalgia. Whatever the case may be, memories often evoke in us a heart felt emotion. April Gerard, a 2006 Brown Mackie College – Fort Wayne Business Management graduate, used the emotion evoked from her childhood memories as a motivator to assist families in need.

Growing up as a child, Gerard remembers the unsettling times she experienced with her family. “My family didn’t have much money and because of that we had to move a lot. I grew up sometimes not knowing where I would be living the next day,” explains Gerard. Her childhood memories ignited a passion to want to help families in need. Consequently, while attending Brown Mackie College – Fort Wayne, Gerard signed up to do her externship with Habitat for Humanity where she worked within their family services department. “I enjoy working with Habitat for Humanity and helping other families because I have the opportunity to help provide families with affordable housing,” says Gerard. Her dedication to work and her commitment to helping others earned her a full time position working with Habitat for Humanity after completing her externship.



Gerard praises Brown Mackie College – Fort Wayne for assisting in her success. “I have to thank the career services department at the school for advice and expertise as I searched for a career – not just a job – that would utilize my degree and skills,” states Gerard, who earned Dean’s list academic honors. She believes that her degree in Business Management from Brown Mackie College – Fort Wayne has been a tremendous help in her career endeavors. “The educational experience I received has played an important role in how I’ve performed in my career. I also have made an impression on my oldest daughter about the importance of pursuing education throughout her lifetime,” Gerard acknowledges.

One of Gerard’s goals is to continue to use her memories as an inspiration for others. “When I decided to enroll with Brown Mackie College – Fort Wayne, I was already a full time mom, wife, five months pregnant and had been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis,” notes Gerard. “If I could tell other Brown Mackie College – Fort Wayne students one thing, it would be that life may sometimes bring challenges but when we overcome these challenges, we are able to succeed.”

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