## **DEASIA STONE**

Submitted by Steve Upchurch, Training and Professional Development Manager

Deasia Stone graduated this past spring from Lawrence Central High School with a Certificate of Completion and from Project SEARCH at Community Hospital North. She began working with Vocational Rehabilitation in June of 2017, and Julia Blunk served as her counselor.

Deasia had been diagnosed with mild cognitive deficits and specific learning disabilities. During high school, she was fortunate to have the opportunity to participate in multiple job shadows and work experiences, where she learned she enjoyed interacting with others.

During the VR application process, Deasia said she wanted to get involved in Project SEARCH because she likes to work with people, and she wanted to prepare herself to be more independent in the future. Her internship rotations for Project SEARCH were in the Rehabilitation Hospital, Women's Health, and Surgery Center. She was hired full time at the Community North Surgery Center after showing the department her incredible work ethic and positive attitude.







Deasia is very independent and takes the bus to get to work each day. Per Julia, she "loves taking the patients to nuclear medicine and the breast center. She pushes the wheelchairs and sometimes the people walk. She helps calm their nerves, too!" Deasia has excelled in her position in the Surgery Center, and was named Employee of the Month for October 2018! Congratulations, Deasia and Julia!



