

# ACADEMY TIMES



NEWS OF THE ACADEMY AT GLENGARY AND ACADEMY AT BRADENTON

January 16, 2026



## MY FIRST PAYCHECK

by Hunter Lanoue

As a member of the Academy at Glengary, I was offered a Transitional Employment position at Sunset Cadillac. I was very nervous because I am 22 years old and had never worked at a paid job in my entire life. When I was told that the Academy staff would be the ones to train me and provide ongoing support, I immediately decided to take this opportunity.



Hunter Lanoue with his first paycheck at Sunset Cadillac of Sarasota

Now, three months later, I have managed to successfully do the required work on my own. As this position is meant to be temporary, I look forward to finding longer-term employment based on my new experience and the multimedia skills that I have learned at the Academy this past year. Hopefully this will enable me to have a home of my own one day.



Hunter Lanoue, three months later, working at Sunset Cadillac of Sarasota

## WARM WELCOME TO BRAYAN DASILVA

by Brayan DaSilva

Hello! I am a new member at the Academy at Glengary. I was admitted to Cornell Behavioral Health at Sarasota Memorial Hospital not too long ago, and it was there that I learned about the Academy. I immediately had the feeling this was something I wanted to do.

I struggle with some mental health issues but, in a very short time, the Academy has helped me get out of my shell and create healthy bonds with others.

I love working in the culinary team alongside culinary instructors Ben Burnside and Diego Peguero, as well as fellow members. Cooking keeps me motivated! The Academy is so welcoming. I am grateful for all the wonderful people I've met! If you want a friendly, safe environment or just a place to keep you motivated – the Academy is the place!



(L to R) Diego Peguero and Brayan DaSilva in culinary at the Academy at Glengary



Academy at Glengary Business & Technology Team Goal Planning



Academy at Glengary Culinary Team Goal Planning



Academy at Glengary Graphic Design & Multimedia Team Goal Planning

## ARCHITECTS OF OUR SHARED FUTURE

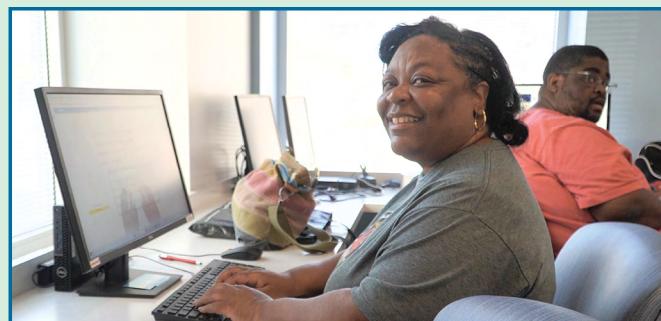
The new year is often a time to reflect on the past and set goals and intentions for the future, so it's the perfect time for us to hold our annual Team Goal Planning Days. These roundtable discussions are meant for each of our teams (Culinary, Business & Technology, Graphic Design & Multimedia, and Wellness) to break out for several hours to review the past year's accomplishments and challenges and to set new goals for the coming year. Members and staff are encouraged to dream big and propose transformational ideas to advance our efficiency and creativity. As architects of our shared future, the Academy programs have been built on the innovations borne of past planning day meetings!

Stay tuned for future articles that will expand on how 2026 will see us continue to grow in fun and exciting ways.

## HEALING THROUGH CREATIVITY

by Sharra Everett

Despite not being a clinical program, the Academy at Bradenton is helping me heal past trauma. In our Writer's Workshop, I pour my heart out through writing. I also pour my heart into preparing meals in the Culinary Team. Since joining, I have been learning how to cook like a chef! This has helped me cook healthy meals at home instead of eating frozen dinners. For example, I can now confidently chop lettuce, and other vegetables to make beautiful salads. When I set the tables at the Academy before lunch and clean the tables after lunch, it gives me structure and takes my mind off my troubles. One of the things that I love most about the Academy is that we make our own choices and work together as a team.



Sharra Everett writing at the Academy at Bradenton

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