



**Melissa Ingram** became involved in the WIA Youth Program through Ontario County Workforce in April 2011. At this time she was a high school drop out with an IEP. She had dropped out of school after completing her 9<sup>th</sup> grade year and didn't believe that she was capable of completing her GED. Youth Counselor Nathalie Sigler helped Melissa enroll in GED classes at FLCC and she began working diligently on her studies. Melissa was very dedicated and took every opportunity to progress so that she could take her test and receive her diploma. With much support from her instructor, Ann Rogers, Melissa was able to **obtain her GED** in January 2012.

While studying for her GED, Melissa also began a **Work Experience position** through the Ontario County WIA Youth Program. She worked as the receptionist at the NYS Department of Labor and did a fantastic job. She was able to multi task, interacted well with staff and customers, and learned communication and **Leadership skills**. Melissa continued with her work experience until she **secured full time, unsubsidized employment** at McDonalds. She worked a 30 hour week at McDonalds while successfully keeping up with her GED classes. Melissa still holds this job to date.

The Youth Program also assisted Melissa with the driving lessons necessary for obtaining her **NYS Driver's License**. Melissa now hopes to be able to further her education and her next goal is in preparing to **attend Finger Lakes Community College** in the Fall of 2012.

Melissa is a pleasure to work with!!