**Alena**

**Atlanta, GA**

**Her Story:**

From this course, I hope to gain a deeper knowledge of the technical side of cyber security. I’ve worked in IT adjacent roles, specifically IT governance, risk management, and compliance, for six years, and I believe that deepening my knowledge will aid in my effectiveness when working with cross-functional teams.

Being accepted into WCC means I have an opportunity to work with like-minded individuals who want to grow their careers in a similar space. The program also allows me to work under the tutelage of industry professionals who can impart their knowledge of the industry and provide additional perspectives on cyber security topics. Gaining this knowledge will set me up to grow successfully in the IT GRC career space and build the career and economic future I desire.

I am in this program because I enjoy expanding my knowledge on topics that align with my career goals and interests. I also welcome the opportunity to connect with others in the industry. IT is a male-dominated field and being a part of an organization that encourages women to grow in STEAM prepares me to become a mentor for others who want to excel in STEAM. I honestly wish I’d known of such organizations when I first went off to college in 1999, as it would have changed the trajectory of my life. Upon completing the program, I hope to impact the lives of others interested in STEAM positively.

I want to do something different because I enjoy challenges that allow me to step out of my comfort zones. There’s so much to learn about cyber security, and I know that venturing into new avenues will allow me to experience the industry dynamically.

**For reference:**

**Company Name:** Unemployed (previously Fiserv)

**Job Title:** Business Risk Manager

**Work Experience**:

* Risk Management Experience, Business Analyst
* Worked in IT adjacent roles (Business Risk Analyst, Senior Business Analyst, Business Risk Manager) since 2016

**Other Skills:** MS Word; MS Excel; MS PowerPoint; Outlook; Teams; SharePoint

**College Degree:** No

**Education**: Risk management specialist

* Fall 2021 Dean's List (University of Arizona Global Campus); PCIP Certified (2017-2020)
* Was pursuing a degree in Cyber & Data Security (prior to unemployment
* Fort Valley State University

**Annual Income:** 85,000

**Open to Relocation? Where?** Yes, Willing to relocate to Colorado, Texas, North Carolina, Seattle, or Washington, DC

**Observation characteristics from Emory (Outgoing, Quiet/Shy, Leader, Team Contributor, etc.)**

* Provides great insight and relevant information in discussions
* Very Smart
* Engages

**Competencies: (Interpersonal Skills, Cooperation and Collaboration, Time Management & Administration, Leadership, Communication Skills, Strategic Thinker, etc.)**

* Emory Academic Proficiency Rating: Advanced
* Timely work submissions – great scores