What is your background in?

I have a background in development as a Solutions Developer. In this role, it was my responsibility to trouble shoot, test and problem solve any software issues or business logic that what not behaving as expected. To further expand my knowledge and stay current, I have recently enrolled in a full stack web development program. Through this program I was able to learn multiple programming languages, creating API’s, and MVC patterns to create more secure websites and I am excited for the opportunity put these new skills to work.

What are some accomplishments you want to share? What is the value you can bring?

Before becoming a Solutions Developer, I successfully completed a difficult four-month technical education where I learned a prioritized computer language the company used to ensure security in the financial industry. From there I was able to on board with a technical development team and contribute to my new role as a solutions developer from the start. Through this experience I learned the importance of not only knowing how to do a job but how to bring that knowledge and successfully contribute to a team that was already working well together with out disruption. Strengthening the team even more. I am immensely proud of this experience for the personal growth it brought out in me and the professional development that I gained.

What are your career goals or aspirations?

I would like to continue to grow in my career and one day be a leader. I have gained valuable experience working in the technology industry and would like to help improve the communication and understanding between teams and product owners. I am fascinated with gap between the business side of tech and the development side of tech, I would like to become a bridge to the two sides of a company. Using the knowledge and technical understanding I have gained as well as my professional communication skills, I would like to work towards a project management role or an area where I can help impact growth and strengthen the potential of development a teams capabilities.

Teamwork

Describe a time when you struggled to build a relationship with someone important. How did you eventually overcome that?

There was a “gate keeper” of a sort at a company that I worked for and I would have to coordinate with this individual to schedule production installs for my team. It was his role to approve our work and give the ok for a shut down and install time.

For some reason I thought this guy just did not like me. He would not get back to me in a timely manor or he would reschedule our meetings and even deny our checklist sometimes. This set us back in our sprint times and did not reflect well on me! I had to get this relationship fixed and have a better understanding.

Instead of being upset with him, I looked at myself and how I was interacting with this induvial. I ask a college that had a good repour with him how he set up his meetings and compared the two. Sure enough, I was at fault and continuously forgot a step in the process of approval that would inform him of our need for a meeting. When all along I thought I was being proactive and setting up the meetings. He was being nice and squeezing in time for me, but this was straining our professional relationship.

I apologized at the next appropriate chance and went through the proper channels for the next meeting.

Client-facing Skills

When you’re working with a large number of customers, it’s tricky to deliver excellent service to them all. How do you go about prioritizing your customers’ needs?

There was this one day I oversaw an Outpatient Care clinic as the lead phlebotomist and my assistant called out. There was an enormous line that began to form in front of the reception desk and a bunch of hungry, anxious, and potentially sick patients at 6:00a.m. were threating to riot.

I was really feeling the pressure to hurry and rush but I did not. That would have impacted the quality in my work and could have led to larger problems down the road. Instead, I calmly walked out front and made a statement explaining the situating. Answered any questions and prioritized the patients based on importance and was able to bring order back to a potential disaster. I may have sweetened the deal with an offer of coffee to the patients that were waiting the longest.

Ability to Adapt

Describe a time when your team or company was undergoing some change. How did that impact you, and how did you adapt?

The client my team and I were dedicated to decided not to renew their contract. Because of this, the team that I had worked with for over three years was going to disband. This was a difficult change and a bit of a sad time for all parties involved. Afterwards I had a difficult time knowing what my role was or were I was supposed to contribute to the company. There was no immediate new builds or teams that needed help and I felt out of place. I went from knowing exactly what my job was to not knowing if I was going to have a job for very much longer.

After checking with my manager and other teams throughout the company; with no luck, I approached a Vice President that had become a bit of a mentor for me asked him how he would approach my situation if he were in my shoes. He asked me to think about where and what it was that I would really like to be working on. I replied “The future! New technology.” After a chuckle. He offered me a position on his R&D team!

Time Management Skills

Tell me about a time you set a goal for yourself. How did you go about ensuring that you would meet your objective?

I had always wanted to go back to college, but my life has always been too busy with work, my responsibilities as a father and keeping up with mortgage to do so. I decided to enroll in a coding bootcamp for three months and further my education this way. Before enrolling I set milestones for myself. One was saving enough money to pay for the education without a loan. Another was getting healthy, I figured that I would be able to perform at my best if I were not disciplined enough to at least eat right and workout.

Setting my self up this way gave me the extra discipline to commit to my goal and push through the hard times. I knew that my hard-earned savings were on the line and by saving the cash first, I knew that I wanted this education. As well as building healthy habits, I learned to build healthy study habits and these habits helped push through the times I wanted to give in. Without these milestones, I probably would not have met my objective.

Communication Skills

Tell me about a successful presentation you gave and why you think it was a hit.

I was working on an R & D team helping to develop the company’s newest software edition that would be used to advance their capabilities moving forward. My team and I had been working extremely hard and the final stages of the software was coming together. It was decided that it was time to give a presentation on a preview of what we had been working on. To the whole company!

It was my role to present along with my team manager the capabilities and various features of the software. I was so nervous but excited at the same time. In the end, we did a great job explaining our work, the stretch goals and a successful Q&A afterwards. Personally, stepping out of my own comfort zone and speaking in front of a large crowd helped me to understand what I am capable of and I am grateful for the personal growth I gained from the experience.