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Hi, my name is Leyton Sand, and I live in Montpelier at CVAE.

Before coming to CVAE, I struggled with learning in traditional public school settings. I've always needed more one-on-one teaching due to some learning challenges and social issues, and the typical classroom environment just didn't work for me. I found myself falling behind and feeling discouraged.

My sibling had actually gone through CVAE and earned their diploma through the program. They recommended it to me, and I'm really glad they did. I was hoping the transition would be smooth—and it was. I wasn't doing well in my junior year at my previous school, but once I switched to CVAE, I adapted quickly. I was able to work through assignments much faster than I ever could in a regular classroom.

Now, I'm on track to earn my diploma by the end of this school year. One of the things that helped the most was being able to control how and when I learned. I got to choose my courses, and every time I met with my guidance counselor, I was given resources and support tailored to what I needed at that time. It made a huge difference.

For example, when preparing for one of the major graduation readiness tests—I can't quite remember the name—I was able to improve my math skills drastically in just a few months. That would've never happened for me in a normal school environment.

Another big thing was balance. Because my workload at CVAE fit my schedule and life, I finally had the energy and time to socialize with my peers outside of school, which used to be really hard for me to manage.

Thank you again for allowing me to speak about CVAE. Thank you for your support of adult education and literacy. It is really helping a lot of people like me.