The Challenge:
Antonio comes from a low-income family, and his parents are divorced. He lives with his mother and two siblings. He was a student at Oxnard High School when he learned about the Job Readiness Workshop and the Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Oxnard and Greater Hueneme. Antonio knew that enrolling in the program would help him prepare for college and join the workforce.

The Solution:
During the workshop, Antonio learned how to create a résumé and write a cover letter, as well as to search and apply for jobs online. While in the YEP program, Antonio received many services and assistance. The program paid for his driver’s license and purchased clothes for him to wear to job interviews. Because of his exceptional commitment and performance in the Job Readiness Workshop, he was selected to take part in a subsidized employment program. In this program, Antonio had the opportunity to complete 125 hours of paid work at Smart & Final.

The Outcome:
Antonio completed his hours, obtained his diploma from Oxnard High School, and was offered a permanent job at Smart & Final. He is now working and attending Ventura College and hopes to transfer to Chico State University in two years. Antonio also speaks of becoming a police officer after obtaining his bachelor’s degree.