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Develop a Book About Food Allergy Superpowers (Summer 2022)

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Casey Cockrell Stuart, Assistant Director Employer Services, Career Center, developed a chapter book with a food allergy superpower

I have always loved writing. By putting thoughts on paper feel that I better experience the world. Yet, in my current season of life, it is especially challenging to manage writing while balancing work and raising a family. The creative residency allowed me space and time to write while developing these skills.

I worked from my dining room table at home to design the overall idea of a chapter book. The book is about a little boy who has a serious food allergy but uses his experiences to win a national kid's cooking competition. I finished the first draft of chapter one and completed assignments for the online writing course I began during the residency.

I used the stipend to enroll in a 10-week-course from Gotham Writers. The course has been the most rewarding opportunity of this entire experience so far. Each week I learn more about the craft of writing. Already, I feel my writing is becoming more engaging.

Moving forward, I will complete the class in a few weeks and continue to work on my book. The class gave me structure on how to schedule writing time into my week. My goal is to complete the first draft of the book by January. My dream goal is for the book to be used nationwide in elementary schools as a common read.