

PAUL — Talent & Growth Fund

For many families, having one reliable vehicle is enough to balance the responsibilities of work, school and daily life. But for Paul, a married father of two, one car simply wasn't enough to meet the demands of his household.

Paul began working in customer service at Lowe's in March 2025, excited for the opportunity to grow in a stable job that could provide for his family. But while the job itself was promising, getting to work became a daily struggle. His wife needed the family's only car to get to her own job, leaving Paul without a reliable way to commute to work.

With only one family vehicle, Paul often found himself relying on buses and rideshare services to get to work. The arrangement was costly, unpredictable and stressful.

That change came when Paul connected with Michigan Works! West Central and learned about the Talent & Growth Fund, which was specifically designed to help individuals like him who face barriers to employment. Among its services, the program offers financial assistance toward purchasing a vehicle — a lifeline for workers whose ability to stay employed depends on reliable transportation.

Working closely with his Talent Specialist, Paul began searching for a vehicle that would fit both his needs and his budget. After some time, he



was able to purchase a 2000 Land Rover from a private dealer, an accomplishment that represented far more than just owning a car.

"Thanks to the vehicle assistance program from Michigan Works! West Central, my daily struggle to get to work is finally over," Paul shared. "This reliable car has eliminated the stress of unpredictable buses and expensive rideshares, ensuring I'm always punctual and dependable.

It's not just a car, it's the key to my financial stability and career growth, providing me the freedom to excel at my job and build a better future for myself."

Now with reliable transportation, Paul can fully focus on his role at Lowe's and on building a brighter future for his family. His story is a testament to how the right support at the right time can make a lasting difference.