

Up To Speed
Thursday, November 21, 2024

Hi, I'm Amber Flowers. I've been a V Teamer for 16 years.

I was super excited to find out I was Working Parent of The Year. It really takes your breath away.

My now ex-husband and I, we knew we wanted to be parents, but unfortunately, we were given the news that most likely we would never biologically have children.

We signed up for foster care in our city.

We welcomed my daughter in 2016. Her name is Jocelyn.

In 2020, we were asked if we could take Jocelyn's older brother, Jay.

So I just jumped in and grabbed. He was like swimming right there and I just whooped and swooped up and grabbed him.

I adopted both my son and daughter in 2023.

Jocelyn is now eight.

Jay is about to turn 15.

After adoption, I was able to take a parent bonding leave that Verizon offers and spend some really good quality time with my kids.

We went to theme parks. We traveled. We were just making some great memories. Woo! We're going to Disney World!

I really leaned in on our EAP program.

It has really supported me and the kids when we needed services like therapists and even attorneys.

The benefit that really helped me grow as a parent is our tuition assistance program. I have earned two degrees with Verizon.

I'm able to show my kids that you can do two things, three things. You can also go to school full time and be a parent.

It takes a lot of endurance and self-discipline, but you can do it.

I feel accomplished, proud.

Your support system is what gets you through

.

And a big one has always been our company and the people in our company. Without them, I wouldn't have made it this far.

It isn't easy being a parent in general, but to be a working parent, that's a great accomplishment and I hope all of our working parents know that they are just so appreciated.