Holistic Supports Activity

Learner Profile (Community College)

**Joan** is a 40-year-old dental assistant juggling work, family, and the unexpected challenge of reinventing her career. With 15 years in the field, her passion has waned, replaced by repetitive tasks and limited growth opportunities. Seeking a more fulfilling path, she's taking a bold step: returning to school at the local community college.

Balancing responsibilities is no easy feat. Early mornings spent caring for her kids precede evening classes, leaving little time for rest or leisure. Yet, Joan thrives in the hustle. Her determination burns brightly, fueled by the dream of a career that ignites her spirit.

Finances add another layer of complexity. Working part-time to minimize childcare costs means tight budgets and careful planning.

Community college presents a welcoming environment. Smaller class sizes and flexible schedules align with her current life stage. Instructors, many with industry experience, connect with her challenges and aspirations, offering valuable guidance.

Though surrounded by younger peers, Joan’s life experience brings a unique perspective to the classroom. She actively participates, drawing insightful connections between theories and her real-world knowledge, enriching the learning environment for everyone.

Joan’s story is one of courage and reinvention. She embodies the spirit of the non-traditional community college student, proving that learning knows no age limit. With her drive and newfound knowledge, she's on track to rewrite her career narrative, one semester at a time.

Instructions

Imagine you are an advisor for the learner in the profile. Create a list of potential barriers that may exist and some holistic supports to address them.

*Potential Barriers*

*Holistic Supports*