

## **National Disability Employment Month Success Stories**

### **Andrew Rodgers**

In 2014 Andrew Rodgers became very ill. After dealing with the effects of brain swelling and other health problems, he was placed on disability and eventually let go from his job because of medical issues. “This was a devastating blow to me as a husband, man, and father,” Andrew said. “I feared for the survival of my family which I had promised to always support and provide for.”

That’s when Andrew heard about Arkansas Rehabilitation Services(ARS). He became a client and entered into ARS’ Self Employment/Small Business Program. “I was a guy with a dream and a disability, but ARS only saw the dream and not my disability.” After successfully completing the program, Andrew was able to open his own business, a childcare center called ‘Incredible Kidz Academy’ in 2016. “It is because of the outstanding commitment given to me by ARS that I can now say that I am a business owner!”



*Andrew proudly presenting his business, Incredible Kidz Academy.*