February 10, 2015: The tide is being turned on wayward teens one life at a time as they "see the possible" on Cleveland's East Side. WKYC-TV

Dawn Kendrick and Susan Moses, WKYC  9:04 a.m. EST February 11, 2015

CLEVELAND -- The tide is being turned on wayward teens one life at a time as they "see the possible" on Cleveland's East Side.

Look no further than Tiffany Wanzo, 21, who spends most days after school at the Zelma George Recreation Center.

Tiffany grew up in a single-parent home and knew violence early on.

"I was in gangs, fighting," Tiffany said.

The law stepped in.
Tiffany went to prison for robbery. She got out in 2010.

That's when she met coach Romeo Conner at the rec center.

"He's like a mentor to me, a father figure," Tiffany explained.

Conner had his work cut out for him.

"It was like she was always mad at something. That's gone now," he said.

Tiffany agreed.

"I don't feel angry no more. I feel relief," she said.

Relief also came in the realization that hard work pays off.

Tiffany is the two-time Cleveland Area Golden Gloves champion in the women's 141-pound welterweight division. She was also a semi-finalist at the Women's National Boxing Championship.

"I got discipline and kept doing it," Tiffany said. "Training, work out. Getting better."


Tiffany is back in school, working toward her degree.

Just as Conner taught her how to have that drive, at C.A.S.T.L.E. they demand that same kind of dedication.

"We're not letting you fail. If you can't get to school, we're going to come get you," said Kamal Chatman, C.A.S.T.L.E.'s superintendent.

Tiffany has dreams beyond boxing. She hopes one day to become a crime scene investigator.

"I know I can do anything I set my mind to do," Tiffany said.

Tiffany will get her diploma in March.

In July, she is competing in the Ringside Boxing Championship in Kansas City and is fundraising funds to get to the national championships in July.

"I feel like nothing's going to stop me as long as I have the belief and faith in God that I can do it," she said.

SEE THE POSSIBLE: More stories about seeing what's possible in Northeast Ohio