

Community-based programs promoting integrated employment and inclusion for people with developmental disabilities

Sweet Success

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HELPED JULIUS MOVE FROM TRAINING TO TRIUMPH!

Thanks to community support, Julius is building towards a more independent life. Your gift gave him opportunity to put his abilities to work as an active member of the community – the sweetest success of all!

After high school, Julius spent several years struggling to find the right job to fit his unique abilities. Julius joined the culinary training program at EmployAbility where the culinary training staff realized that Julius had a true talent for customer service.

Julius then joined the mobile catering team. Working with the public and helping them gave him the chance to really stand out. His sparkling personality and smile were a welcome sight – people loved working him and he enjoyed the opportunity to put his abilities to the test.

Now, he’s an award-winning Ambassador for Leopold’s Ice Cream.



▲ *Your donation supports smiles and opportunities for success for adults with developmental disabilities!*

In the past year, Julius has become a familiar face to the guests at Leopold’s Ice Cream on Broughton Street. Leopold’s General Manager, Brad Hooks, says that his infectious personality endeared him to guests, making him the perfect fit for the role of Ambassador. Having the right abilities for this role is crucial – as an Ambassador, Julius is often the first person a guest interacts with when they visit Leopold’s Ice Cream Shop.

**“I just like to be around people.
The customer always comes first.”**

Julius has a job he loves and it shows. His enthusiasm for his work has even won him the “Spirit of Tourism” Award from the Tourism Leadership Council. Julius’s dedication and passion for his work are what made his nomination stand above the rest!

Thanks to supporters just like you, Julius was able to get the skills he needed to turn his abilities into a career. Thank you for helping to build a community where everyone has the chance to move from training to triumph!

◀ *With your continued support, other individuals like Julius will have the chance to be recognized for their unique talents!*





DR. KEN BOYD
Executive Director

“Any human anywhere will blossom in a hundred unexpected talents and capacities simply by being given the opportunity to do so.”

Doris Lessing

FINDING A FUTURE OF GROWTH

YOU SHARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE WITH SO MANY

Spring is a time of transition, one that promises growth and change are coming. Every May, we get a chance to see that promise fulfilled. Year after year, our time and patience pays off as trees and flowers bloom, sharing their spectacular colors with the world.

Thanks to you, the individuals we serve have a chance to bloom all across our community.

With your help, individuals with developmental disabilities are achieving

their community employment goals, finding success in helping their community, and building new skills to live more independent lives.

Every day is full of potential here at EmployAbility. Each day is an opportunity for the individuals we serve to learn new skills because of your gifts. Thank you so much building a future of growth for adults with developmental disabilities!

THANKS TO
YOUR SUPPORT:



9 FIRST-TIME
WORKERS
LAST QUARTER



10 PEOPLE
EMPLOYED
18+ YEARS

BIG HEARTS AND HELPING HANDS

BUILDING STRONG CONNECTIONS THROUGH COMMUNITY ACCESS

Felisca isn't a woman who likes to sit still – she connects with the community five days a week through an EmployAbility Community Access Group. Her favorite community activity is volunteering at a local nursing home to clean the bingo cards that elderly residents use daily.

“I like going out and trying new things. I like to help people, too.”

Community Access Groups provide daily community activities to adults with disabilities, helping them build their confidence and strengthen social supports while learning new skills and having new experiences. Many of the activities include volunteering with other local nonprofits, fulfilling tasks that wouldn't otherwise be done.

“I've seen our Community Access Group members grow in so many ways!” says Community Access Group Manager, Mattie. “They are happy because each day they are doing something that matters, and they feel like they are making a difference.”



▲ Your support helps Felisca and dozens of other adults with developmental disabilities experience the joys of belonging to the community and using their abilities to make it a better place.



SHARING HIS STORY

YOUR GIFTS HELPED EMPOWER MICHAEL TO REACH HIS GOALS!

When Michael began coming to EmployAbility in 2011, he didn't have much to say. Thanks to your generous support, he had the chance to build his verbal skills and even learn to write his name!

Michael was a friendly young man who waved to people and enjoyed music, but often shied away from social interaction. Joining the Day Services Program at EmployAbility connected him to supportive services to help build his verbal and social skills.

Today, Michael has the skills he needs to make himself heard.

Benefits of Day Habilitation

Individualized Instruction

Ability to set goals and build new skills

Social Interaction

Increased peer engagement & support

Community Integration

Opportunities to build daily living skills & independence



▲ *Your donations make it possible for adults with developmental disabilities to access critical training opportunities that help them make the most of their abilities.*

With your help, Michael has become more independent and more engaged in the community. Over the past few years, Michael has worked not only to speak, but to write as well. He learned to write his name, as well as several other words, which help him connect to the world around him.

Your gifts make a real difference in connecting adults with developmental disabilities to vital supportive services.

The support you share with EmployAbility made it possible for Michael to speak his mind and build skills that help him be more independent every day. With your help, other individuals with developmental disabilities are also working on the skills they need to live more active lives as full participants in our community.

HOW \$25

CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



There are a lot of moving parts that go in to building a successful career. You need to have the right training and skill set for the job, a positive attitude, and a willingness to work hard. But to get all those parts moving, you need a reliable way to get to work.

Reliable transportation is vital in finding (and keeping!) a job. But for adults with developmental disabilities, transportation is often a barrier that keeps them out of the workforce.

Lack of access to reliable transportation means people with developmental disabilities miss out on the training opportunities they need to build career-ready skills. Without those skills, they can't take the next step towards self-sufficiency.

It costs just \$25 to provide round-trip transportation for 14 people.

Every day, vans from EmployAbility head out across 18 different routes, bringing more than 150 individuals to day services and the training center. This transportation service makes it possible for the individuals we serve to take the next steps towards self-sufficiency, while also giving their families an opportunity to fulfill their own work and school commitments.

With your gift of \$25, 14 people are connected to life-changing training opportunities. Whether they're learning culinary skills, practicing their interview skills, or improving their skills for daily living, your gift today provides a solid foundation for a future of success.



▲ Supporting transportation options for adults with developmental disabilities means making it possible for them to build more independent lives.



▲ Your gift opens so many doors for adults with developmental disabilities by connecting them to jobs, training, and other opportunities to become more self-sufficient.

HOW DOES MY DONATION HELP?



\$25

provides round-trip transportation for up to 14 individuals



\$50

provides routine maintenance for 1 wheelchair van



\$100

provides routine maintenance for 1 wheelchair lift



\$250

buys 1 new set of wheelchair securing straps