



## **Community News Article –LCS - aka Lakeside Curative Services**

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“The great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving.” Oliver Wendell Holmes

Moving forward, you will notice that we refer to Lakeside Curative Services as LCS. The decision to shorten how we reference the agency came after a lot of discussion and careful consideration. While legally we remain Lakeside Curative Services, on a daily basis and for marketing purposes we have shortened the name to its initials (LCS) while placing emphasis on our revised tag line of “*helping people help you.*” We believe that this tag line emphasizes the synergy of what LCS encapsulates. Through our work with LCS Participants they are supported toward becoming valued and contributing citizens in the community in a variety of ways (employment, volunteerism, etc) all of which benefit the participant and the broader community.

### **October is Employ People with Disabilities Month**

October is “Employ People with Disabilities” Month. The theme this year is “because we are EQUAL to the task.” LCS’ leadership in local Employment First activities compliments this theme because raising the bar on employment expectations for all individuals with disabilities is extremely important. It is my experience that when you expect an individual to stretch their potential to the maximum, only astounding things happen. Things might happen a little differently or take a little longer than one might want or anticipate but, they happen never the less. Conversely, if we only expect someone to achieve marginally that is probably going to be the outcome that is realized and this is a waste of potential.

LCS believes that individuals with disabilities deserve the right to explore all of their employment options in “real time and place” and not solely make decisions based on questions for which they may not have a full grasp of the alternatives. Our challenge as a service provider is to be innovative, move out of traditional service models and believe in the potential of the people we serve. LCS is meeting this challenge and truly believes that all of its participants are “EQUAL to the task” of community employment.

### **A Participant's Success Story**

Recently, Tony, a LCS participant was hired by a local grocery store. He was so excited about his success that he could hardly speak. He told me that he never thought it would happen even though he wanted to work in the community for a very long time. Tony is a reminder for other's that one should never give up or just settle for what is available. LCS extends warmest congratulations to Tony and promises the new employer that they are gaining an excellent employee.

### **Direct Support Professionals Week**

The second week of September was *Direct Support Professionals* week. If you have a chance to stop by LCS, please take the time to thank the women and men who work very hard every day as Day Service Skills Instructors or Line Leads to provide excellent direct support services to LCS Participants. These individuals truly deliver the mission of the agency: *to offer training and experiences for individuals with disabilities to enhance their self esteem and quality of life* to LCS Participants' day in and out.

### **Flapjack Day**

On Saturday October 5, from 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. at Applebee's Restaurant in Racine, LCS will sponsor its annual fundraiser: Flapjack Day. Tickets are \$7.00 (includes flapjacks, bacon and a beverage) and must be purchased before the event at LCS. I hope that you will join us for the tastiest breakfast event of the season. Questions about Flapjack Day can be directed to Jill at 262-598-0098.

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