



Fall 2022

Dear Friends of LCS,

This month is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, an annual awareness campaign that takes place each October. The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. This year's theme is "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation."

The history of National Disability Employment Awareness Month traces back to 1945 when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

"Our national recovery from the pandemic cannot be completed without the inclusion of all Americans, in particular people with disabilities," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh. "Their contributions have historically been vital to our nation's success and are more important today than ever. We must build an economy that fully includes the talent and drive of those with disabilities."

LCS is proud to be a part of this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month, "We want to spread the important message that we value all perspectives, including those of individuals with disabilities."

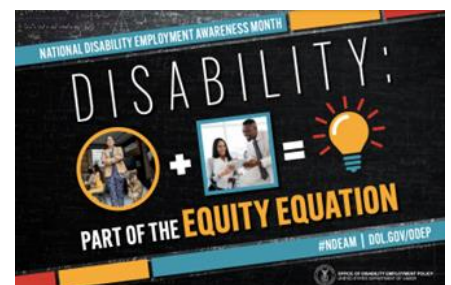
Employers and employees in all industries can learn more about how to participate in National Disability Employment Awareness Month and ways they can promote its messages — during October and throughout the year — by visiting www.dol.gov/NDEAM.

(Information came from the Office of Disability Employment Policy)

-Alison Hoffman, Executive Director

The LCS mission is to provide training and community engagement for youth and adults of varying abilities to enhance their self-esteem and quality of life.

"POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS"



October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month!

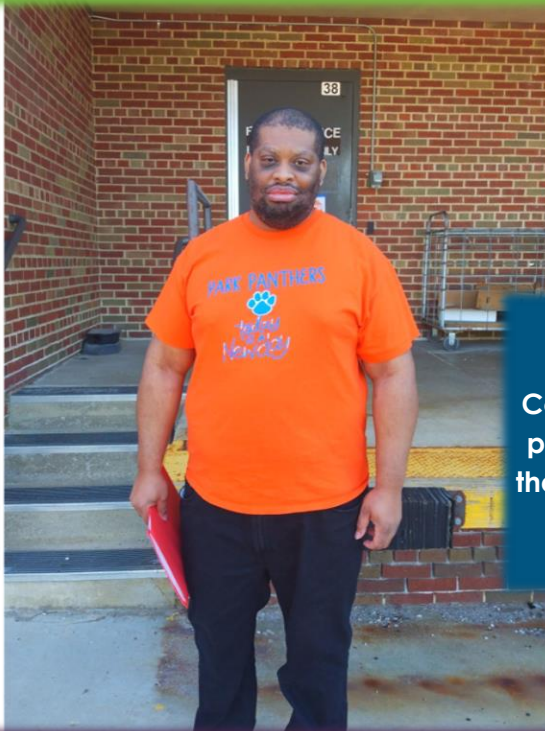
LCS congratulates everyone who found job success in 2022! The pictures below show some individuals we helped find community employment this year.



LCS Success Stories!

All stories were made possible through LCS' partnership with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).

David (featured in the picture below on the left side) was hired as a Food Service Worker at Park High School in Racine in August 2022. His tasks include meal preparation, food handling, serving food during planned meal schedules, following food safety guidelines, washing dishes, and following proper sanitation regulations before and after working with food. Congrats and keep up the great work, David!



Andrew (featured in the picture above) started his new position as a Dishwasher with Parkhurst Dining at Carthage College on September 1, 2022. His work tasks include soaking pots and pans in the sink and scrubbing them before loading them into the industrial dishwasher. Once the dishes are clean, he unloads the dishwasher and places them on racks for drying. Congratulations on the new job, Andrew!

Hanna (featured in the picture on the bottom right side) started a Temporary Work Experience (TWE) as a Retail Clerk at FOSTERS reSTORE in Racine on September 7, 2022. Hanna is responsible for checking the quality of clothing donations, sorting incoming donations into sizes, and placing items in bins to restock floor inventory. Hanna also straightens and organizes merchandise on the sales floor. Near the end of her shift, Hanna performs light cleaning duties like vacuuming and sweeping to prepare for the next day. Congratulations on your TWE, Hanna!



Volunteering Opportunities and Learning Experiences Help Participants Develop Their Job and Life Skills!

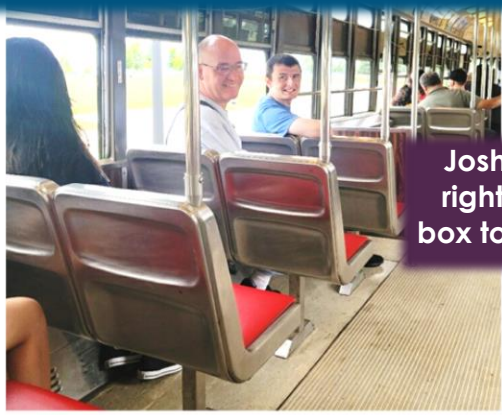
As we approach the end of 2022, we want to thank our volunteer sites and places we visited for new learning experiences for continuing to give us opportunities to support our mission. We hope you enjoy seeing some of our volunteer and learning experiences in the pictures featured here. See more of our volunteering opportunities, learning experiences, success stories, and other updates by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.



Amanda (featured in the picture above) is holding a dustpan and sweeping the floor at Habitat for Humanity.



Kevin (featured in the picture above on the left side) found a hidden canister using a compass and map during a learning experience at Riverbend. In the picture below, Sal and Matt (from left to right) are riding the Kenosha trolley to learn more about different means of transportation in the community.



Josh (featured in the picture above on the bottom right side) is putting donated canned goods into a box to give to those in need at the Racine Food Bank.



Welcome to the LCS Team!



Meet our new First Shift Assemblers – Graciela Peralta-Gomez, Lillian Noack, and Aiden Cardenas (from left to right).

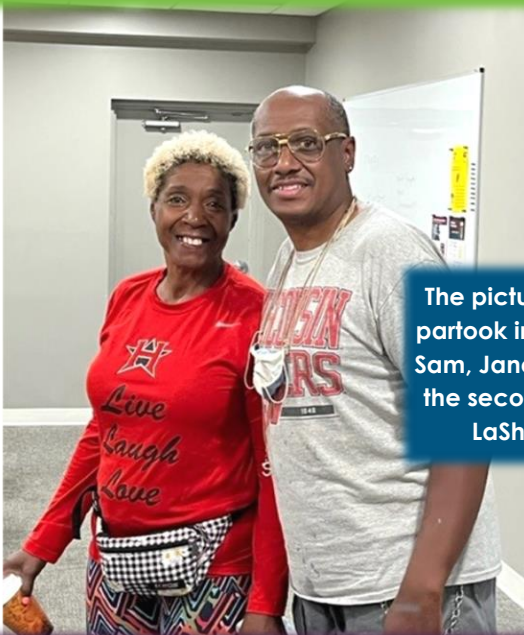
Meet our new Second Shift Assemblers – Hope Waters, Aaron Cardenas, Chimanga Winston, Juan Figueroa, and Cristina Altamirano Torres (from left to right).



Meet our new Job Coach, Sarah Pena.

LCS Employees Give Back to the Community During our Annual Staff Volunteer Day!

Every year, LCS staff participates in our Annual Staff Volunteer Day, where we dedicate a day to volunteering in our community. This year, we volunteered at Focus on Community, a nonprofit substance abuse agency in Racine. We helped Focus on Community clear out weeds from their community garden. Their community garden is part of the Uptown Revitalization Project in Racine. Thank you, Focus on Community, for this volunteering opportunity.



Featured in the picture above on the left side are Jorene and Aaron (from left to right) getting ready to volunteer. In the photo below, Vanessa, Brittany, Michelle, and Shannon (from left to right) are pulling weeds and putting pulled weeds into garbage bags.



The picture above on the right side features a group photo of the staff members who partook in the Annual Staff Volunteer Day. Standing in the back row from left to right is Sam, Janet, Jeanie, Alison Hoffman, Aaron, Jeff, Lisa, Melissa, and Brittany. Standing in the second row from left to right are Alison Howen, Shannon, Vanessa, Michelle, and LaShunda, and sitting in the front row from left to right are Carol and Jorene.



In the picture above on the bottom right side are Janet, Alison Howen, and Lisa (from left to right) using gardening tools to dig out weeds and putting them into a garbage bag.

LCS Celebrates Working Safely with a Tailgate Party!

At LCS, we not only work safely, but we celebrate it. The team has worked for over two years without a recordable injury and celebrated with a tailgate party.



In the picture above on the left side, Jorene and Dave (from left to right) pose for a photo while they wait in line for food. In the picture below on the left side, Shannon (on the right) helps Johnathon (on the left) get his food.



In the picture above, Alison Hoffman and Carol (from left to right) are preparing to serve food for the tailgate party. In the photo below to the right side, Carol hands Henry his hotdog.



In the picture below, Gracie, Lydia, Angelica, Irene, and Arcelia (standing from the front to the end of the line) are waiting to get food.



LCS Reminders and Updates!

Upcoming Holidays/Dates LCS is Closed:

Thanksgiving – **November 24, 2022**, and **November 25, 2022**

Christmas – **December 23, 2022**, and **December 26, 2022**

New Year's – **December 30, 2022**, and **January 2, 2023**

**Scan to
Donate to
LCS** →

Scanning the QR code will take you directly to the LCS PayPal donation page where you can help support the LCS mission by making a donation of any amount.





Executive Team

Executive Director, Alison Hoffman

Director of Community Services, Brittany Brown

Director of Human Resources, Carol Ratliff

Director of Operations, Michael Snodgrass

Marketing and IT Coordinator, Alison Howen

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