Potential is Limitless

**Summer 2022** 

Dear Friends of LCS,

July 26th will mark the 32nd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which first became law in 1990. For many individuals with disabilities, this day is seen as an Independence Day because it finally allowed people with disabilities to lead fuller, more independent, and inclusive lives, as well as helped them to become active, productive members of their communities. The Americans with Disabilities Act becoming a civil rights law was monumental in the inclusion of people with disabilities within our society. The ADA was designed to ensure that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else. Specifically, it guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services, and telecommunications. This holds true to all Americans and what we celebrate every 4th of July, that "All people are created equally and have rights that include life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." We have come a long way, but we still have a long way to go on the journey of including all and seeing everyone's potential.

Celebrate. Learn. Share. **ADA32**\*\*\*\*
Americans with Disabilities Act

> 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"** 

-Alison Hoffman, Executive Director



# Welcome to the LCS Team!



Jeff joined LCS on May 23, 2022, as an Employment Specialist after five years of service providing vocational skills and classroom training to adults with varying abilities at a local nonprofit. He also mentored individuals with disabilities to help them establish goals in life and develop a pathway to achieve their goals. Jeff holds a B.S. from the University of Wisconsin – Parkside and earned his M.S. in Environmental Science from Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville. Jeff spent his entire career working for Johnson Controls, Inc. in Environmental Engineering & Compliance before retiring after 36 years to begin supporting adults with disabilities.

Lucas started working at LCS on May 23, 2022, as a Job Coach Intern. His focus during his time at LCS will be to help with the Summer Youth Internship Program. He is a student at Carthage College where he is studying psychology. The experience he will gain from interning at LCS will help him with his major and finding employment after he graduates.





Jorene began her position at LCS as a Connect Coach on April 18, 2022. She enjoys her job because she loves seeing the participants achieve their goals and increase their self-confidence through the volunteer work they do in the community. In her free time, Jorene likes listening to music, playing the keyboard and guitar, sewing, crocheting, and exercising.

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Lisa started working at LCS as a Connect Coach on May 31, 2022. She enjoys her job because she likes to help participants learn, perform their work duties, and develop their job skills. In her spare time, Lisa enjoys traveling, watching her grandchildren, going out to dinner, and spending time with her family and friends. A fun fact about herself is that she has been engaged for two and a half years, but a date has not been set for the wedding yet.





Spencer began working at LCS as a First Shift Assembler in the Operations Department on June 7, 2022. He likes his job because the steps to complete tasks are easy for him to remember, and he thinks the people he works with are kind. Some of his interests outside of work include watching football and movies and playing video games.

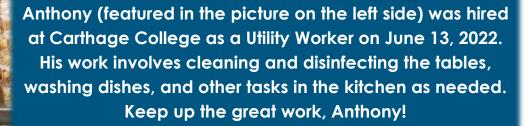
## LCS Also Welcomes to the Team...

Aonna Dehner – Second Shift Assembler Citlalli Peralta – Second Shift Assembler Mya Rouse – Second Shift Assembler Sylvia Gomez – Janitor

# **LCS Success Stories!**

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

Rickie (featured in the picture on the top right side) was hired for a part time Custodian position at Willkomm's Petro on June 6, 2022. He is responsible for sweeping the retail area floors, mopping, cleaning litter in the truck and car fueling areas, maintaining and resupplying the showers, and vacuuming. Awesome Job, Rickie!



Javier (featured on the bottom right side) started a Temporary Work Experience (TWE) at Minuteman Press in Kenosha on June 13, 2022. His tasks include entering information into the computer system and printing orders. You're doing a fantastic job so far, Javier!



## LCS Helps Teens and Young Adults Gain Work Experience Through the Summer Youth Internship Program!

The LCS Summer Youth Internship Program gives youths in Kenosha and Racine communities the opportunity to experience employment and gain the necessary skills to be successful in the workplace. This eight-week program is in partnership with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR). The two internships offered this year through the Village of Pleasant Prairie and RecPlex focused on Housekeeping and Ground Maintenance. The program runs from June 13<sup>th</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>.



Featured in the top, right picture is Cody collecting and throwing away trash left on the grounds at RecPlex and featured in the picture below is Nasir using a grabber tool to pick up trash from the RecPlex grounds to avoid touching possible contaminants. They are both participating in the Ground Maintenance internship.

In the picture above on the left, Talib is also collecting trash from the RecPlex grounds using a grabber tool to dispose of it safely into the garbage bag. He is participating in the Ground Maintenance internship as well.

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

We are more than halfway through 2022 now, and LCS is happy to share that we continue to receive volunteer opportunities and learning experiences within the community. We have added some new volunteer sites and locations for learning experiences. The pictures featured here highlight some of the locations we've volunteered at from the past three months. If you want to see more of our community work and experiences, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.





In the picture featured on the top right side, Sandy is sorting and boxing donations at the Racine County Food Bank.

LCK

In the picture above on the left side, Richie, Kevin, and Sandy (featured from left to right) are sorting through a bin filled with bottles of donated water at the Shalom Center in Kenosha. In the picture featured on the bottom left side, Kadeem is cleaning toys in the children's playroom at Great Lakes Church in Kenosha.



Featured in the picture above on the bottom right side, D.J. is cleaning books at Cops 'N Kids Reading Center in Racine.

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## **LCS Reminders and Updates!**

## Upcoming Holidays/Dates LCS is Closed:

Labor Day – September 5, 2022

Staff Volunteer Day – September 16, 2022

Thanksgiving - November 24, 2022, and November 25, 2022

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

New Year's Eve – December 30, 2022

## **Upcoming Events:**

Holiday Party - December 2, 2022





### **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

### 2022 LCS Board of Directors

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Josh Covelli RecPlex Lakeside Curative Services 2503 Lincolnwood Court Racine, WI 53403 <u>www.lcsracine.org</u>



#### **Members Emeritus**

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https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-0810547, and 0.5% of the proceeds on eligible purchases will be donated to LCS!

