

## Austin: A Newfound Confidence



**EMPLOYER:** QFC, Bella Bottega  
in Redmond

**JOB TITLE:** Courtesy Clerk

**MAIN JOB TASKS:** Austin bags  
groceries at the check lanes,  
retrieves shopping carts, and  
replaces go backs throughout  
the store

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS  
PER WEEK:** 20-25

**LENGTH OF TIME ON JOB:** 10  
months

**PERSONAL GROWTH:** Successfully meeting the expectations of his employer, Austin has gained independence on the job. This success is expanding to all aspects of Austin's life as he becomes more self-reliant at home and in the community.

### ***WHAT MAKES THIS STORY UNIQUE:***

***As a valued and reliable employee who does excellent work, Austin's self-confidence has increased significantly contributing to his personal success.***



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## Janet: Turning Goals into Realities



### EMPLOYERS:

- Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation in Bothell
- Seneca Family of Agencies in Seattle

### JOB TITLES:

- Marketing Assistant – Fairway
- Office Assistant – Seneca

### MAIN JOB TASKS:

*At Fairway* Janet performs various receptionist duties such as labeling, mass mailings, data entry, and creating file folders and marketing material.

*At Seneca* Janet orders and restocks office supplies, creates binders, delivers mail, and supports other projects as needed.

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK: 26**

**LENGTH OF TIME ON JOB:** Fairway – 11 months, and Seneca – 4 months

**PERSONAL GROWTH:** Janet has found workplace communities where she adds value and can contribute to society in new and meaningful ways. Earning a consistent paycheck has also helped her develop a new sense of independence.

***WHAT MAKES THIS STORY UNIQUE:*** Janet knew she wanted to work in an office AND work 20-30 hours per week. When one job couldn't achieve both goals, she got a second job! Her clear vision, commitment and determination paid off.



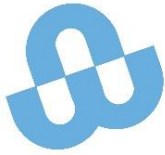
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## Josiah: Building Relationships through Employment



**EMPLOYER:** Lowe's, Issaquah

**JOB TITLE:** Home and Garden Center Associate - Watering

**MAIN JOB TASKS:** Josiah waters the plants in the garden center and surrounding areas

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK:** 12

**LENGTH OF TIME ON JOB:** 6 months

**PERSONAL GROWTH:** The development of meaningful relationships with his co-workers is perhaps the most valuable aspect of employment for Josiah. His job has provided Josiah a new level of comfort in the community and increased confidence in his independence.

***WHAT MAKES THIS STORY UNIQUE:*** Josiah was raised in a small community and homeschooled throughout most of his life. For Josiah, employment is more than receiving a paycheck for his quality work; it is a new chapter of immersion in the community, where he can safely expand his community network.



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## Laura: Building Independence and Community



**EMPLOYER:** Holiday Kennels, Kent

**JOB TITLE:** Kennel Attendant

**MAIN JOB TASKS:** Cleaning all kennels in the cat boarding room, and socializing with the cats

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK:** 10

**LENGTH OF TIME ON JOB:** 5 months

**PERSONAL GROWTH:** Laura has gained a better understanding of her own independence, and an increased level of self-confidence.

**WHAT MAKES THIS STORY UNIQUE:** *At first, Laura was tentative about accepting paid employment because she was concerned about the impact work could have on her extracurricular activities. It only took a brief period time before her disinterest in work changed to loving her job! Laura enjoys the work and now has an additional avenue to develop relationships and build a greater sense of community for herself.*



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## Madison: Guiding Peers towards Success



**EMPLOYER:** Highline College: Student Services, Des Moines

**JOB TITLE:** Peer Navigator

**MAIN JOB TASKS:** Assists students with navigating the college campus, and building meaningful relationships with peers and community members

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK:** Up to 19 hours

**LENGTH OF TIME ON JOB:** 2 months

**PERSONAL GROWTH:** Through helping other students acclimate to Highline's campus and build relationships, Madison has more confidence in her communication skills. She enjoys being part of a team that embraces and celebrates diversity.

***WHAT MAKES THIS STORY UNIQUE:*** Madison utilized the support of a Peer Navigator to learn how to adjust to college life. She now has the opportunity to use the skills taught by her Peer Navigator and her strong advocacy skills to help other students have a great college experience. Madison achieved her goal of finding meaningful work which allows her to help others and be part of a community.



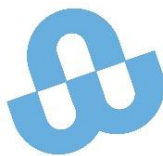
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ISSAQUAH  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 411

## Margaret: A Perfect Fit!



**EMPLOYER:** Ellen Hutson, LLC,  
Issaquah

**JOB TITLE:** Packaging Assistant

**MAIN JOB TASKS:** Assemble  
thank you cards for customers,  
which are included in every  
order shipped out

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS  
PER WEEK:** 3

**LENGTH OF TIME ON JOB:** 3  
months

**PERSONAL GROWTH:** Margaret is not able to communicate verbally, but that did not stop her from getting her first paid job! She utilized an application packet with a visual resume when applying, and a visual portfolio to showcase her experience when interviewing.

***WHAT MAKES THIS STORY UNIQUE:*** Ellen Hutson, LLC had been considering bringing on a supported employee, and with Margaret they found a good fit. Margaret has a dedicated workspace which is integrated with other staff. Staff are eager to learn how best to communicate with her, and have meaningful interaction. She is earning a paycheck and gaining a new social community.



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## Matthew: Great Customer Service



**EMPLOYER:** Home Depot, Federal Way

**JOB TITLE:** Lumber Associate

**MAIN JOB TASKS:** Customer service, flat stacking all lumber, pulling lumber orders, loading customer vehicles, flagger for forklift drivers, maintain clean aisles for customers, and other duties as assigned

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK:**  
27

**LENGTH OF TIME ON JOB:** 6 months

**PERSONAL GROWTH:** When Matthew began his job at Home Depot, he required support to locate items in the store. He also needed help learning how to deliver excellent customer service. Matthew learned how to navigate the Home Depot app, which can be downloaded by employees and customers, to help him find items within his department and storewide. The app became a natural support for Matthew to deliver great service to his customers.

**WHAT MAKES THIS STORY UNIQUE:** Matthew strongly advocated for a position where he could be move around and be active during his shift, as well as work within a team. He has received numerous acknowledgements from coworkers and supervisors for his excellent customer service skills and being a great team player.



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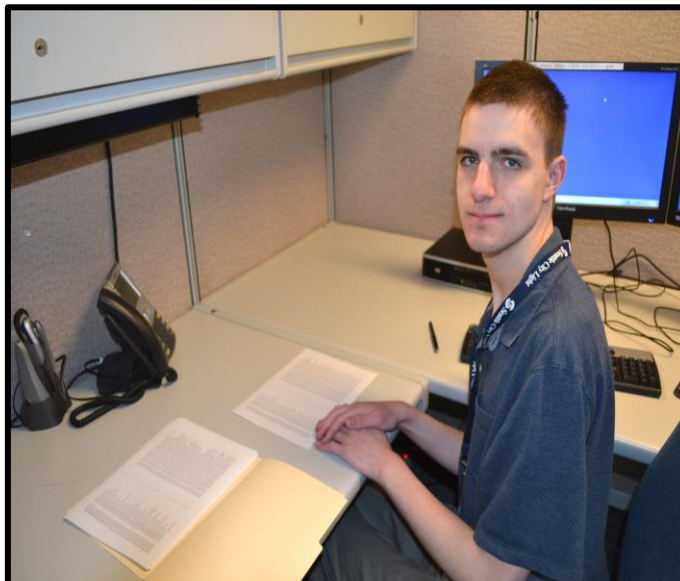
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## Nathan: Perfect Match of Skills and Environment



**EMPLOYER:** City of Seattle

**JOB TITLE:** Office Maintenance Aide

**MAIN JOB TASKS:** Data Entry

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK:** 20

**LENGTH OF TIME ON JOB:** 7 months

**PERSONAL GROWTH:** Nathan's skills and abilities such as attention to detail, accuracy, consistency, amazing memory, and computer skills are assets to his employer. He started his position at 15 hours per week. Nathan did so well that the City of Seattle quickly increased his hours to 20 hours per week, which also provided him access to full benefits!

**WHAT MAKES THIS STORY UNIQUE:** *Through Nathan's community based assessment, his employer was able to see what Nathan could do and create a position that utilized his skillset and met his support needs. The City of Seattle created a workspace for Nathan that limits distractions and too much stimulation. Nathan is able to focus and produce a great work product.*



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## Will'e: A Great First Evaluation



**EMPLOYER:** Seattle's Favorite Gourmet Cookies and Dessert Company

**JOB TITLE:** Bakery Production Crew Member

**MAIN JOB TASKS:** Preparing pans for batter, portioning dough, washing dishes, recycling and general cleaning.

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK:** 19

**LENGTH OF TIME ON JOB:** 4 months

**PERSONAL GROWTH:** Will'e is a valued team member at work and has gained a greater sense of independence and confidence as he has taken on more responsibilities.

***WHAT MAKES THIS STORY UNIQUE:*** Will'e started his job only three days prior to graduation. At his 60-day evaluation he earned a raise, and has already seen an increase in scheduled hours. He may soon have the opportunity to work a fulltime schedule!



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