



Hannah's Success Story

Meet Hannah. She was born with a developmental disability as well as vision and hearing impairments. In her last year of high school transition, she participated in the School to Work program.

In School to Work, Hannah worked with an employment consultant (consultant). Through a discovery process and internships, the consultant identified Hannah's strengths and learned that she wanted a physically active job that helped others. This process culminated in the consultant working with businesses in the community to develop a job that was uniquely suited to Hannah's abilities and interests.

Hannah accepted a job at a senior living community working three hours per day, three days per week. She collects trash and recycling from refuse rooms spread throughout the large four-story building, as well as vacuums, sanitizes, and washes windows, as needed. Because of her disabilities, initially, some of these tasks presented a challenge. However, through Hannah's sheer determination and strategies developed by her consultant, she overcame many obstacles, one of which was operating the elevator independently.

While her consultant is with her every day, Hannah does the bulk of the work with her consultant providing partial support with tasks like clocking in/out, communicating with her supervisor, monitoring her safety, and supplying training when new tasks are assigned.

What Hannah enjoys most about her job is dumping the trash into the dumpster and interacting with her co-workers. Hannah's mom stated, "Working has increased Hannah's confidence and independence. In fact, Hannah recently starting riding Dial-A-Lift to and from work. Having a job has given her a sense of purpose and belonging."