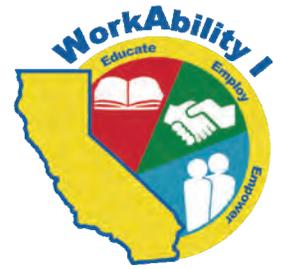




WORKABILITY WORKS!

San Juan USD Workability
5325 Garfield Avenue, Sacramento CA 95841
916-979-8610 www.sanjuan.edu/WorkAbility



“Working with all stakeholders, the WorkAbility program ensures that SJUSD students with disabilities gain the confidence, skills, career awareness, and work experience necessary for transition and postsecondary success.”

SJUSD WorkAbility Newsletter

December 2015

A Message from our Administrator

I am pleased to report that our department is on track to achieve our ‘numbers’ as we work towards our 2015/16 program goals.

Highlights of our progress:

- 184 students have been placed in off campus vocational training or paid work experience (our goal is 250 placements for the year).
- 5 Transition Partnership Program ‘TPP’ participants have been competitively hired (our goal is 8 hires).

Thanks to all who support our programs!
WorkAbility certainly does ‘Work’!

Julia Arreguin, Ed.D.
WorkAbility Administrator



Alex

Alex Pulsifer, a Laurel Ruff Transition student, loves working with animals. Alex’s participation in a paid WorkAbility job placement led to Alex’s employment at the Bird Shop.

Way to go Alex!!!



Kioni

Kioni Sua, a recent graduate of Rio Americano HS, participates in our TPP (Transition Partnership Program). Kioni has been hired as a warehouse associate at Dimple Records.

Good Job Kioni!

In This Issue

Success Stories

Alex, Kioni & Geneva

High School Highlights

from Mira Loma, El Camino & Encina

“A Dawning of a New Day “

the attached article, excerpted from a Morrison publication, celebrates our Eskaton student workers

Raley's Hires Mira Loma Student

Congratulations to Mira Loma student Geneva Humphrey, for being hired by Raley's. Geneva, a senior and participant in TPP (Transition Partnership Program), begins training as a courtesy clerk in December.

Congratulations Geneva!!



Mira Loma Highlights

Two Independent Living Skills classes have been busy with On The Job learning. Every week students take the school bus to their work sites. We have groups working at Aegis Retirement Home, Fallas Discount Store, CVS Pharmacy, and Grocery Outlet.

The Pre-Employment Skills class students, led by Dr. Joel Nelson, have completed resume's and practice applications. They are working on soft skills such as interviewing techniques as well as gaining real world work experience at Smart & Final and Grocery Outlet.

El Camino Highlights

Mr. Miller's Pre-Employment Skills class trains at the Walgreen's once a week. They are learning about customer service, stocking, merchandising, and identifying expiration dates on food items.

Independent Students are students who are able to work on with minimal supervision. El Camino Independent Students are learning work skills from several Community Business Partners. Andres Garcia is training at Walgreen's, Drake Hidvegi is learning work skills at the CVS Pharmacy. Nicholas Jackson is training at Smart & Final in Carmichael and Mark McCarthy is at CVS Pharmacy.

Encina Highlights & TPP

Encina has many Independent Student workers at various work sites. Some of our students are TPP clients as well. The Transition Partnership Program (TPP) is in cooperation with the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) acting as a bridge from WorkAbility to permanent/career occupations. Encina Senior James Word, a TPP client, is training at Petco. TPP client Anthony Davis is working for and learning the grocery store business at Smart & Final. TPP client Loyd Coe is learning about stocking shelves and pricing store merchandise at Petsmart. TPP client Alphonse King is enjoying his job at CVS Pharmacy. TPP client Robin Farris works at Round Table and is learning customer service, pizza creation and salad bar prep. TPP client Serena Robinson is beginning her work experience at Rite Aid as a stock clerk.

Community Business Partners



A DAWNING OF A NEW DAY

Eskaton Opens Its Doors to Varied Partners

At Eskaton, a variety of unexpected community partners help create high levels of social engagement with residents. On any given day, residents can interact with children, high school students and younger adults from a variety of backgrounds. Eskaton's hospitality aligns with Morrison Community Living's commitment to diversity and inclusion, and dining services is the point of entry for the high school and adult community programs.

Eskaton's Kids Connections program brings in kindergarteners to eighth graders to become buddies with residents, building relationship skills including letter writing and reading aloud and Skype through tablets provided by Eskaton. Other partners include high school students with learning disabilities from San Juan Unified Schools and Sacramento County; interns from Deseret Industries who are trying to gain a footing in the job market; adults with developmental disabilities from Pride Industries; and people who are transitioning from homelessness through the Lazarus House.



“Staying socially engaged as you age adds to life expectancy.”

- Betsy Donovan, chief operating officer for Eskaton, the largest nonprofit community-based organization serving seniors in Sacramento (nearly 12,000 individuals a year).

These outsiders become insiders at Eskaton in different ways, making the retirement center an important learning environment for job and life skills, and even a fresh perspective on work and life. They bring a vibrancy to Eskaton, which means “the dawning of a new day.”

“For instance, when the high school students don’t show up, both associates and residents notice and miss the engagement,” said Glen Blackwell, dining services director for Eskaton Village Carmichael. “I’ve had probably 500 residents share praise for how valuable our partners are to creating a definite part of the community fabric. When one of our community partners take pride in sorting silverware, that helps motivate our regular staff, too. They realize they are able to give back, too.”



Here's how some of the programs work.



- The high schoolers, who range from age 15 to 19, learn to set tables and kitchen basics with the help of an Eskaton associate who provides job coaching. They acquire skills that can help them get hired and live in a more independent manner.
- The 15 Deseret trainees who made it through a recent tryout period now work at Eskaton in the campus patrol, janitorial staff and as floor techs; one past trainee worked from dishwasher to prep cook to cook.
- Adults from Pride Industries come to Eskaton with an interest or experience in food service. "They work hands-on in the kitchen with the wonderful chefs and staff Eskaton has employed," said Wendy Covell of PRIDE. "We often hire individuals after performing their on-the-job assessments. This is PRIDE's mission, to create jobs for people with disabilities. We highly recommend Eskaton as a community partnership to other businesses, family members and also friends."

A success story



The Lazarus Project's slogan is "restoring lives in our community," and that's one outcome of the partnership with Eskaton. Douglas Floodman, a formerly homeless man, came through Lazarus to Eskaton. He worked his way through the maintenance ranks at Eskaton Village Carmichael and now supervises five associates and almost 40 acres of living quarters, common areas and landscaping.

He also serves on the board of the Lazarus Project, reaching out to people whose stories are much like his. Floodman represents the inspirational living that Eskaton promises its residents, because he has experienced a powerful personal "dawning of a new day."

A word from Glen



A CCRC can really gain a lot from community partners. You will get out of the relationship what you put into it. These are people who want to be part of the community, in a place they feel is their home. They need to have a voice, and if you do that, they will go on to be valuable and well received members of your team.

Dining Services Director
Eskaton Village Carmichael
- Glen Blackwell -

Article was excerpted from this Morrison Community Living publication.

THE MORRISON WAY

ISSUE 6, 2015

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

BY KEVIN SVAGDIS & JOE GORMAN

HOPE FOR HIRE

A Personal Account Inspires Community Programming in Alabama

SERVING CULTURES AND CELEBRATING TRADITIONS THROUGH FOOD

Bateman Santa Clara Celebrates Diverse Seniors

A DAWNING OF A NEW DAY

Eskaton Opens Its Doors to Varied Partners

SHARING FOOD AND THE JOY OF LIVING

A Story of Overcoming Challenges to Serve with Compassion



WE ENRICH THE LIVES OF SENIORS EVERY DAY



STAY CONNECTED TO SEE HOW
WE ENRICH THE LIVES OF SENIORS EVERY DAY



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