

CAP ABILITIES

ABILITY WORKS, INC.

Ability Works employs over 50 people with developmental disabilities and 75 people overall.

Working to Meet Your Needs

from the director

Hopefully, all employers in Erie County are hearing the buzz about "Employment First." "Employment First" is the belief that every person has abilities, skills and talents to enrich the community and people around us. We envision a time when every working-age adult



with developmental disabilities has the opportunity to explore their career options and seek jobs that fit their skills and interests, outside of a sheltered employment situation.

Employees with disabilities bring unique skills, perspectives and work ethics to the workplace that transform a workplace and enhance products and services. As part of your team, employees with disabilities help build your business and can lead your company into the future.

As an employer, you can educate yourself about employment for individuals with disabilities and how you as an employer can create a win/win situation. Check out the "Employment First" website for more information and resources: www.ohioemploymentfirst.org. Look in the Employers tab.

Please welcome our job developers when they knock on your door!

Allison

passion for people coming february 12, 2016



Save the date! The third annual Passion for People event will be held on Friday, February 12, 2016 at Sawmill Creek Resort. The fundraiser once again features a delicious dinner menu as well as music and dancing with the very popular Together Band.

Make your reservations early! A full table is a great corporate gift for your employees or your customers. Tickets for couples and individuals are also available, and all for a great cause.

Ability Works is an IRS-approved 501(c)3 organization. Consult with your tax professional regarding the deductibility of a portion of your ticket costs. Call 419-626-1048 for reservations.



10th annual halloween happenings

The 10th Annual Halloween Happenings Community Event occurred on October 29th at our "new" location at 1 Superior Street. The event, sponsored by Ability Works and supported by many other businesses in Erie County, attracted over 600 people. The kid-friendly event is enjoyed by our staff and families as a way to enjoy the celebration of Halloween. All proceeds are reinvested in next year's event. Although the weather did not cooperate at our new location by the lake, our building allowed us to comfortably enjoy trick-or-treating, games, and food in the spirit of the holiday inside.



HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS 2015



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One Superior Street Sandusky, Ohio 44870 • www.ability-works.com • Phone 419-626-1048 • Fax 419-621-1780

employee spotlight

Bob Kaman

Bob has been working in the laundry department at Sawmill Creek since March of 2014. He enjoys folding the linens, staying busy, and he looks up to his supervisor, Scott Lilli. Bob is well liked by one of his laundry coworkers so much that she brings him candy every day.

Bob graduated from EHOVE last year, and currently volunteers in his spare time when he is not working. Bob volunteers at the Huron Public Library and Christ Episcopal Church in Huron. He enjoys all sports, but especially the Cleveland Indians and the Cleveland Cavaliers. Bob is also very active with Boy Scouts and enjoys camping. When you see Bob in the community, please say hello!



Bob's story is a prime example of community integration that our Department of Developmental Disabilities wants all individuals served to experience. Ability Works wants to partner with everyone in our community to make these opportunities available to everyone served at Ability Works.

calendar of events

DECEMBER 24-JANUARY 3
HOLIDAY BREAK

JANUARY 18
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

JANUARY 25
STAFF TRAINING

FEBRUARY 12
PASSION FOR PEOPLE
Annual Fundraiser at Sawmill Creek

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Capabilities is a publication produced by Ability Works, Inc. and The Krabill Marketing Group, LLC. Inquiries can be addressed to ayoung@ability-works.com

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paying it forward

For many years now, the Sandusky Elk Lodge 285 has been "paying it forward" during the Holiday season by offering dinner and dancing at the UAW hall for all adults with disabilities in Erie County. The current president of Elks, Roger Perin, and over 30 Elk members make sure that this is a memorable evening. The festivities include a brief visit by Santa, a wonderful turkey dinner, rounding out the evening with dancing, and sharing memorable moments that we are thankful for, and that make this time of year meaningful. Thank you for paying it forward, Sandusky Elks Lodge 285!



did you know?

The mission of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) is continuous improvement of the quality of life for Ohio's citizens with developmental disabilities and their families. The State is interested in proactively supporting DODD service providers such as Ability Works in working towards a more inclusive model of care that enables individuals with disabilities more robust opportunities to seek employment and be served in community settings.

To fulfill this mission, Ohio Employment First submitted a request for a proposal for a \$500,000 grant to start-up new services or expand current services to obtain integrated community based services for individuals served. Ability Works wrote an innovating grant proposal and submitted it to DODD, and was awarded funds to implement their idea!

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