



For people with intellectual
and developmental disabilities

Achieve with us.

The Arc of NJ Celebrates National Disability Employment Awareness with Month-Long Series!



October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) and an important opportunity to recognize individuals with I/DD who work and contribute to the workforce. With that in mind, The Arc of New Jersey will be highlighting individuals throughout the month who are employed in the community and who love the work that they do. Looking for more information about how you or a loved one can find competitive employment in the community? Visit The Arc of New Jersey's [Project HIRE web site](#) or contact Adam Kubler at AKubler@arcnj.org.



This year's theme for [NDEAM](#) is: "Inclusion Drives Innovation." In recognition and celebration of this year's theme, US Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta stated: "Smart employers know that including different perspectives in problem-solving situations leads to better solutions. Hiring employees with diverse abilities strengthens their business, increases competition, and drives innovation."

Meet Todd Genshimer, Panera 'Superhero'

With the help of a Project HIRE job coach, Todd Genshimer works three days a week at Panera of Succasunna as a dishwasher and dining room attendant. **"I try my best and never, ever give up,"** Todd says of his employment. During his hiring and training process he eagerly learned how to function as an employee in a fast-paced restaurant. Todd kept plugging away and before long he was humming along at a great pace. He very quickly won the hearts of everyone he worked with.

Todd started working at Panera in December 2015. Jennifer, the Assistant Restaurant Manager,



says: "Todd is a pleasure to work with. He is known as our super hero around here." Todd, who in his free time enjoys participating in the Special Olympics, was recently celebrated by his colleagues with a Bread Bash! Todd received first place medals in swimming skiing and basketball.

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