



For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Achieve with us.

Meet Darren Creran!

Darren Creran is a long-time staffer at the Rockaway Townsquare Mall. An 18-year employee, Darren with the help of a Project HIRE job coach is in charge of delivering the newsletter to all the departments inside the mall. In addition, his responsibilities include checking if the directories are filled for mall-goers and confirming that the disability-accessible safety doors operate correctly for mall patrons.

Darren uses a combination of transportation services from Cheshire Home and Access Link to get to work on time. He works four days a week, including Saturdays. Darren says the best part of his job in the community is "meeting people and working for friendly employers."

Darren is also a great spokesperson for the shopping center. He says the mall is a wonderful place to visit and he advises potential patrons to remember extra cash just in case they find something they like while strolling through the stores.



Looking for More Information About NDEAM?



| About Project HIRE | Industries Where Project HIRE Participants Work | Facts About Workers with Disabilities |
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| <p>New Jersey businesses need dependable workers. Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities need quality jobs. Project HIRE brings them together.</p> <p>Project HIRE is a statewide employment program for people with disabilities. With the help of experienced job developers and job coaches, our innovative approach provides placement assistance, on-site training, and long-term support to ensure continuing job performance.</p> <p>Since July 1981, Project HIRE has been instrumental in assisting thousands of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities obtain and maintain competitive employment.</p> | <p>Maintenance and Central Security and Protection Services Childcare and School Bus Routes Retail and Restaurants Fast Food and Restaurant Customer and Customer Service Medical and Grocery Administrative and Office And Many More!</p> | <p>Some employers hesitate to hire applicants with disabilities. Because they are concerned that individuals with disabilities can't handle regular employment, but not</p> <p>Surveys by the U.S. Department of Labor consistently show that men and women with intellectual and developmental disabilities are highly valued by the companies that employ them.</p> <p>To help employees with disabilities overcome distance their peers without disabilities in such opportunities, motivation and job satisfaction, they frequently have received back awards. After much effort, many employees without disabilities in areas such as work safety, attendance, punctuality and job retention have come to the job with valuable training from vocational education classes.</p> |
| <p>Benefits for Employers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dependable, punctual employees who will stay on the job. Employees with developmental disabilities are not job-hoppers. They want to learn a job, stay with it and work hard. After receiving interviewing and training. Access to Project HIRE technical assistance. Ability to attract employee participation. Eligibility for Federal Work Opportunity Tax Credits. | <p>Benefits for Participants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The opportunity to hold a real job and earn competitive wages. Careful matching of the individual to the job. Being an active member of an Employment Training Specialist. The opportunity to make new friends. The development of self-esteem that comes from holding a job. | |
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President Trump proclaimed October 2017 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Included in the proclamation, the President says: "Every American who is willing and able to work should have the opportunity to provide for themselves and their families. This includes the 30 million American adults with disabilities. Many Americans with disabilities struggle to find employment opportunities, despite the wealth of skills they have to offer. In 2016, only 27.7 percent of working-age Americans with disabilities were employed. More employers should recognize the fresh perspectives and skills these men and women can add to an innovation-focused workforce." Read more by [clicking here](#).

The Arc of New Jersey's **Project HIRE** is a supported employment program designed to connect people with disabilities to **integrated employment opportunities** in their community.

The program assists adults with disabilities in finding and maintaining competitive employment. The program also assists Middle and High School students in their preparation and transition to adult life with its **School-to-Work** program.

Looking for more information? Visit the [Project HIRE web site](#).

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