

Anthony's Path to Success with MRCI's IPS Program



Anthony's journey to meaningful employment showcases the power of support and perseverance. For the past year, Anthony has thrived as a Courtesy Clerk at Hy-Vee in Mankato, his first competitive job. Rain or shine, he can be found outside, diligently gathering shopping carts and bringing them inside. His responsibilities also include bagging customers' groceries and occasionally assisting in bringing them to their cars. This position has not only given Anthony professional experience but also allowed him to engage positively with the community.

Before joining Hy-Vee, Anthony worked at Goodwill through a school program, gaining initial work experience. His transition to Hy-Vee was facilitated by MRCI's Individual Placement and Support (IPS) program, an evidence-based model of supported employment for people with serious mental illness. IPS helps individuals find competitive, integrated jobs that align with their interests and provides personalized support throughout the employment process.

MRCI Community Employment Specialist, Abby Frantsen, worked closely with Anthony to provide continuous support and guidance. Reflecting on this support, Anthony said, "MRCI has helped me keep my job by checking in with me and making sure everything is okay." This consistent check-in process has been crucial in ensuring Anthony's job stability and satisfaction.

Abby, who has witnessed Anthony's progress, remarked, "Anthony has overcome many things, and this has greatly shown in his ability to maintain his employment with Hy-Vee!" Anthony's dedication and positive attitude have been evident in his work. "I'm hardworking and I like talking to the customers," he shared, highlighting his enthusiasm and commitment.

Anthony's story is a powerful example of how the right support can lead to significant personal and professional growth. MRCI's IPS program played a pivotal role in his journey, providing the necessary resources and support to help him succeed in a competitive work environment.

For more information about MRCI's IPS program or to become an employment partner, please call 507-386-5600 or visit mymrci.org.



About MRCI

MRCI provides genuine opportunities for people with disabilities and disadvantages at home, at work and in the community. To become an employment partner, or for more information, please call 507-386-5600.