

Your Support Changes Lives



Aimee & Catrina

Co-workers Aimee and Catrina have both been attending Countryside Center for some time—Aimee started in 2008 and Catrina has been attending since 1997. To earn a paycheck, Catrina enjoys working on the “wires” and “springs” jobs and Aimee likes working on the latches for Sloan Valve. Catrina says she works hard and is happy that Aimee does, too! Their strong work ethics are evident because their Case Managers report that they consistently meet their goals. These women have been good friends and co-workers for awhile, and Aimee hopes the two of them can go on a double date with their boyfriends sometime soon.

Cody

Cody started attending Lakeside Center in June 2010 and attends 4 days a week. Over the last 18 months, he has gained competency in every job he has tried. His production level for his work is very consistent and he loves to listen to his iPod while he works. His Case Manager says he “is a hard worker, and he is very friendly—especially with staff.” With his paychecks, Cody likes to invest in his love of movies!



Janet

Janet has been attending Countryside Center since 1988. She started out working on jobs for Abbott Laboratories and was part of the paid work program for quite some time before moving into the Golden Opportunities program for older adults in 2009. Although she is now in this recreation-focused program, Janet continues to complete work on a part-time basis. The rest of her time is filled with arts and crafts, music, and exercise. Janet is a very social lady who enjoys both Countryside staff and her peers equally. She shakes hands and gives out hugs on a regular basis each and every day!



Emily

Countryside’s Community Employment program helped Emily find a part-time job where she could work with animals. She received assistance in building a résumé and working on interviewing skills. Transportation to work was also a concern, but Emily’s Employment Specialist helped her find a solution through the Dial-a-Ride service offered through Pace. Since March 2011, Emily has been working at A Dog’s Day Playhouse in Schaumburg and her job is to make sure the facility is clean and that the animals play nicely with one another.



Chico

Chico, age 45, has been attending Lakeside Center since 1989. He resides in Waukegan and while at work enjoys completing a variety of jobs for Quill Corporation and Assembled Products. He’s a very dedicated and consistent employee, making few mistakes and taking the initiative when setting up his work area. Outside of work, his activities at Lakeside make him a very well-rounded man. Chico enjoys engaging in current events sessions, fitness classes, building relationships with fellow participants and Lakeside employees, and getting involved with the Waukegan community.



Savannah

Mark and Marisol’s daughter, Savannah, was born in August 2003. When she was 5, Savannah was diagnosed with a rare chromosome disorder, autism and other developmental delays. In 2009 they discovered Countryside had funds to support their need for In-Home Respite services and the hours of care available to their family, which includes two other children, are a tremendous blessing. Savannah is full of energy and a very loving child. She has bonded with her Respite Workers and responds to the routines and expectations they have set in place and, with their assistance, she is achieving success in her potty training. Her parents are thrilled! When the whole family is involved in caring for someone with special needs, respite gives everyone the break they need and the confidence that their loved one is in capable, caring hands.

