

Community Job Link Current Business Partners

A-1 Cleaning
Ameriquial
Arby's
ARC Industries-**Hired 3
Additional Employees!**
BFI
Bits & Bytes
Bob Evans
Briar & Bean
Buehler's Buy-Low
Bud's Harley-Davidson
Burger King
Carver Community Organization
Central Child Care
Chick-Fil-A
Deaconess Hospital
Denny's Diner
East Side Animal Hospital
Evansville ARC
Fazoli's
Federal Express
GD Ritzly's
Great American Bagel
Hacienda
Home Depot
Industrial Filter Manufacturers
Kentucky Fried Chicken
Kohl's Department Store
Leed Logistics
Long John Silver's
McCurdy Health Care
McDonald's
Merrill Lynch
Metro Sports Center
Mitch Murch's Maint. Mgmt. Co.
Nick's Pizza and Wings-**NEW!**
Old Chicago Pizza
Petroleum Club
Piece of Cake
Promark
Continued on page 2.....

McCurdy Receives Prestigious Employment Award

After hearing about Community Job Link nearly five years ago, Christine Goad, McCurdy Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center Administrator, said, "Why not? Let's give it a try," and hired McCurdy's first CJL employee. "Since then, it has worked out beautifully," said the Healthcare Administrator. So beautifully in fact, that the company now employs three CJL clients, and recently won the Arc of Indiana Employment Award after being nominated as an outstanding business that hires individuals with disabilities.

McCurdy offers physical, occupational and speech therapy services to the Evansville community. McCurdy was awarded the Arc of Indiana 2005 Employment Award on Friday, November 18, at The Arc of Indiana Annual Meeting and Appreciation Dinner in Indianapolis for continually providing opportunities for development and independence to individuals with disabilities.

Over the past five years, McCurdy has hired several CJL clients and has worked to ensure that these individuals experience challenging work tasks and feel satisfied with their job duties. "McCurdy staff members help CJL clients feel like valued members of society," said Kelly Barnett, Director of CJL. "They are very accommodating of work schedules and strive to encourage CJL clients to take pride in their work and grow as individuals. We are proud to have nominated McCurdy for this statewide honor."

Currently, McCurdy employs one full-time and two part-time CJL clients in a variety of positions at the healthcare center. The current positions include Elevator Operators, Housekeepers and Resident Valets, who may be responsible for passing out ice and making beds, etc. for the residents. "Since the award ceremony, we have also discussed the possibility of hiring someone in our Dietary Department for food preparation and dishwashing as well," said Goad.

Brian Ball has been working for McCurdy for nine months through the CJL program. His title is Houseman, and he performs numerous jobs for the healthcare center five days a week. His responsibilities include cleaning and maintenance, as well as operating the staff elevator. He says he enjoys his job, especially his co-workers. "They're pretty

Story continued on page 2...

Your **Link**
to Quality Staffing

Connecting You with an Able, Qualified,
Motivated, Dependable Workforce



Christine Goad, Administrator for McCurdy Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, accepted the Arc of Indiana 2005 Employment Award on November 18.

Thanks for your Support!

Many thanks go out to the Evansville
Business Community! CJL had 34
placements and added 19 NEW
Business Partners in 2005!

To request an email copy of this publication,
please contact Abbie Garrett at agarrett@evansvillearc.org.

More Community Job Link Current Business Partners

Red Lobster-NEW!
Schlotzsky's Deli
Schnucks
Security Enforcement-NEW!
Sodexo
Stadium 16
Steak 'n Shake
Stein Mart
Taco Bell
Toys R Us-NEW!
Wal-Mart
Wendy's
Wesselman's Supermarket
Wolf's Bar-B-Q Restaurant
YMCA

Continued from page 1....

good to me," he said with a twinkle in his eye. "This is the best job I've ever had."

According to Goad, many of the CJL clients they have hired over the years have moved on to more challenging positions at other companies. "Although they are missed, we are happy to know we have helped in many ways to give them the experience to move on," said Goad.

Goad said that she wholeheartedly recommends the CJL program to other local businesses. "It would be wonderful if more employers could discover what we have already found in the CJL clients who have worked with us," she said. "They have proven to be extremely dependable, ambitious, and delightful co-workers."

Brian Ball is a Houseman for McCurdy. His responsibilities include maintenance and operating the staff elevator.



We need your help!

Does your business want to help individuals with disabilities find jobs in our community?

Here's How ~

Community Job Link is now offering Community Based Evaluations (CBE's).

What is a CBE?

Community Based Evaluations are job trials for individuals trying to determine what their skills and abilities are.

How does it work?

Employers allow CJL clients to come into their business to perform a job trial to see if they are able to perform the task.

Who pays for this service?

CJL pays the client during the job trial. There isn't any liability to the employer!

Call 492-1204 to find out how your business can help make a difference!



Connecting People With Employment And Resources

2515 Kotter Avenue
Evansville, IN 47715
812-475-2210

[www.evansvillearc.org/programs/
community_job.htm](http://www.evansvillearc.org/programs/community_job.htm)

If you have any questions about the LinkLetter, please email Abbie Garrett at agarrett@evansvillearc.org.

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DIRECTOR HAS WITNESSED SIGNIFICANT CHANGE

Reflections...

by Kelly Barnett

Director of Rehabilitation And Employment Services



Kelly Barnett has worked for Evansville ARC more than 20 years.

I started my career with Evansville ARC over 20 years ago as an instructor in the Adult Day Program teaching daily living skills to individuals with developmental disabilities. At the same time, many individuals were beginning to leave the state institutions and moving into community group homes. The enrollment in services at the agency almost doubled in a very short amount of time and Evansville ARC began to provide more services to individuals with severe and profound disabilities.

In 1991, Evansville ARC began assisting individuals with disabilities in obtaining employment in their community, through Community Job Link. Through supported employment these individuals were able to work at jobs they had always dreamed of working.

Also in the 90's I saw Evansville ARC expand its work opportunities for individuals with disabilities with the construction of a new ARC Industries located in the industrial section on the east side of Evansville. Many of the individuals who had previously attended the day program at the Training Center were able to experience paid work opportunities for the first time in their lives. The amount of work and the types of jobs available increased. Today, it is difficult to distinguish the facility at ARC Industries from any other industrial setting in the tri-state.

In April of 2002, after serving Evansville ARC in several capacities, I became the Director of Rehabilitation and Employment Services. This has been the most rewarding position of my career. My responsibilities include directing the rehabilitation and support for clients at ARC Industries, Waiver Case Management, Transportation and Community Job Link.

I have seen many individuals grow into successful employees in the community with the support of the leadership and staff at Community Job Link. To date, we have assisted over 400 individuals in becoming employed in the community. Evansville ARC continues to provide resources to enable individuals to become more independent through community employment. In the coming year, I plan to work with Community Job Link to provide the best placement and support services in the area by assuring good job opportunities, increasing client retention rates, providing staff development, and promoting CJL as a resource for the employment needs of businesses in the community.

Classifieds

Jobs Wanted:

Community Job Link currently has individuals who are looking for jobs in the following areas:

- Automotive or Hardware Store**
- Bakery** – food preparation
- Beauty Salon** – cleaning, folding towels
- Deli** – food preparation
- Department Store** – working in the fitting room, stocking shelves
- Dry Cleaners** – washing, hanging or folding clothes
- Factory** - packaging, assembly, loading dock, production
- Full-time Job** – with benefits
- Grocery**
- Movie Theatre** – greeter, ticket taker
- Newburgh Area** – library or office work, answering phones, filing and data entry
- Nursing Home** – dietary, laundry, activity room
- Office Work** – answering phones, filing, paper shredding, working with computers, cleaning, data entry, mailroom work
- Outdoor Work**
- Restaurant** – food preparation, washing dishes, lobby attendant, bussing tables
- Security Guard**
- Stocking**
- Video or Music Store**



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In the Spotlight

Two Jobs are Better than One

Kara Raney has been involved with the CJL program since high school when she started her first job at Taco Bell in 1996. Since then she not only continues to work at the Boonville restaurant one day a week, but she also took another position working for Wendy's in Newburgh in 2001. Kara's job responsibilities are similar at each restaurant and include cleaning off tables and clearing trays, restocking condiments, and washing dishes.

She admits that she likes both jobs very much. She especially likes her co-workers and often misses them when she is not working. She enjoys the camaraderie she has with the staff and joking around with them, and says that they are eager to help her whenever she needs it. One of her co-workers at Taco Bell even took her to see a Jesse McCartney concert, where she got to go backstage to meet the performer. While this was a thrilling experience for Kara, she admits that her "Main Man" is Leonardo Dicaprio. "I own every one of his movies!" she said.

Not only is it evident that Kara is well-liked among her co-workers, but she also recently received the "Champ of the Month" award at Taco Bell for being an outstanding employee. "I was so excited," said Kara. "They put my name on a plaque on the wall!"

Kara's supervisors appreciate her work ethic and the positive energy she exemplifies. "She is very reliable and relentless," said Wendy's Assistant Store Manager, Alan Bedell with a grin. "She certainly knows how to make people laugh." Presently, Kara works for Wendy's covering busy lunch hours from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., but Bedell said she is willing to work over whenever needed.

When Kara isn't working, she finds time to volunteer in her community through the assistance of Evansville ARC's Connections For Life program. Currently, she volunteers for the Tri-Cap Head Start program in Boonville, where she assists children in making crafts and helps with clean up.

Kara Raney



**Kara Raney works for both
Taco Bell and Wendy's.**