



The Life Skills Development Group enjoyed a culinary demonstration from Culinary Arts Program Manager Kaylee Wickersham and got to make their own pasta.

Pasta Night Served with a Side of Smiles

The Life Skills Development Group recently rolled up their sleeves for a fun and flavorful evening — Pasta Night! Made possible thanks to funding from the County of Morris and the First Energy Foundation, the event gave participants a hands-on culinary experience led by our very own Culinary Arts Manager, Kaylee Wickersham.

Kaylee guided the group through the exciting process of making homemade pasta from scratch. Participants mixed and kneaded their own dough, rolled it out using a pasta maker, and learned how to cook the pasta to perfection. The result? A delicious, fresh meal that everyone agreed tasted amazing!

"It was exciting to welcome the Life Skills Development Group into our culinary arts classroom," Kaylee shared. "Seeing the participants light up as they created something from scratch and realizing they could do it again at home was an incredible moment."

The experience didn't stop there. Many participants took home a ball of dough to recreate the magic in their own kitchens. Not only did they walk away with full stomachs and smiles, but they also gained valuable cooking skills they can use for a lifetime.

The Life Skills Development Group continues to provide meaningful experiences that empower participants to build confidence and independence. Pasta Night was a perfect blend of learning, laughter, and a whole lot of tasty fun!



Program participants prepare pasta dough.



A Message from Our CEO, Lisa Montalbano

Big things are happening at Employment Horizons — new projects, new opportunities, and a renewed push for better employment options for individuals with disabilities. I'm excited to share what's next.

One of the most exciting developments is the launch of several new projects in our Fulfillment Center. These projects are creating more opportunities for our program participants to engage in meaningful, hands-on work — something they're incredibly excited about. Seeing their enthusiasm and dedication as they take on these new responsibilities is inspiring, and it reminds us why expanding access to employment is so important.

To help keep that momentum going, I recently had the honor of testifying before the New Jersey Senate Labor Committee in support of S-4004, the Extended Employment Modernization Bill. This bill is a major step forward in modernizing extended employment programs and preserving employment choice for individuals with disabilities. I was proud to join other advocates in highlighting how this legislation strengthens these vital programs and expands access to meaningful, sustainable jobs for those who need them most.

The work we're doing, from expanding job opportunities to pushing for more employment choices, is only possible with your continued support. Thank you for believing in our mission and helping us make it happen.



Lisa Montalbano

LISA MONTALBANO
Chief Executive Officer

Employment Horizons Welcomes Tom Morin to the Board of Trustees

Employment Horizons is proud to welcome Tom Morin as the newest member of its Board of Trustees!

Tom is the owner of Enriched Aesthetics, a premier medical spa in Morristown, NJ, and also serves as the Fixed Operations Director at Toyota of Morristown and Subaru of Morristown. Having employed many program participants, Tom has a longstanding connection to Employment Horizons and brings both business expertise and a strong belief in the organization's mission.

“I joined the Board of Trustees for Employment Horizons to drive positive change by creating pathways to employment and fostering growth.”



Tom Morin

Board President Arla D. Cahill, Esq., shared her enthusiasm about his appointment, adding, “The Board of Trustees is thrilled to welcome Tom as a new trustee. Tom brings to the board his decades of business experience and acumen, along with a sincere appreciation for advancing EH's mission to assist people with barriers to employment achieve their vocational goals and establish self-sufficiency.”

With Tom's leadership and insight, Employment Horizons looks forward to strengthening community partnerships and expanding opportunities for individuals with disabilities.



Next-Level Warehouse Efficiency, Powered by the Lipari Family Foundation

Thanks to the generous support of the Lipari Family Foundation, Employment Horizons has made significant strides in enhancing its warehouse operations. The foundation's funding has allowed us to purchase two new pallet jacks, which are already making a remarkable impact on the efficiency of our Fulfillment Center.

One of the key upgrades is an electric pallet jack, which has significantly eased the lifting of the heavier items. This upgrade reduces the physical strain on our team, speeds up our operations, and allows us to handle larger volumes of work with greater ease. Additionally, we've introduced a skinny pallet jack designed explicitly for smaller pallets that our regular-sized pallet jacks cannot manage. This added versatility enables us to handle a broad range of tasks more efficiently.

Sam Castro, Director of Fulfillment and Facilities, shared his gratitude: "We are

incredibly thankful to the Lipari Family Foundation for their support. The new pallet jacks are a game-changer for us. They have helped to streamline our warehouse operations and have opened up exciting new opportunities for future projects."

These upgrades have already proven invaluable as we've secured several new fulfillment partners, with some shipments now weighing up to 3,000 pounds per pallet. Our program participants are eager to take on new projects in the Fulfillment Center, and we are optimistic that these new tools will help us expand our capacity and secure additional opportunities.

A big thank you to the Lipari Family Foundation for their generous contribution, which continues to impact our operations and program participants positively.

Program Participant Andrew Bocchino and Director of Fulfillment and Facilities Sam Castro pose proudly with the new equipment.



Farewell to Roxane

Celebrating 28 Years of Dedication and Kindness

After an incredible 28 years of service, we bid a fond farewell to Roxane Monck, a beloved Fulfillment Support Professional. Roxane's dedication to our program participants has been truly unmatched, and her kindness and compassion have made a lasting impact on everyone around her.

Reflecting on her time here, Roxane shared that her favorite part of the job was working with the program participants. "It was important to me that all my program participants had a good day because they deserve to have a good day," she said, a sentiment that perfectly captures the warmth and care she brought to her work each day.

To honor Roxane's years of hard work and unwavering commitment, participants celebrated her retirement with cheers and smiles during each of the lunch groups.

Laughter filled the room as everyone reminisced and looked through old photos, reliving cherished memories.

While we will miss Roxane deeply, we're excited for her as she moves into this next chapter of her life. She plans to spend more time with her husband and grandchildren, a well-deserved reward after her many years of dedication.

Thank you, Roxane. Your legacy of kindness, compassion, and joy will continue to inspire us all.

Program participants wish Roxane Monck (far right) a happy retirement.



TEE OFF AT OUR
19TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC
JUNE 16TH, 2025

Drawn Together

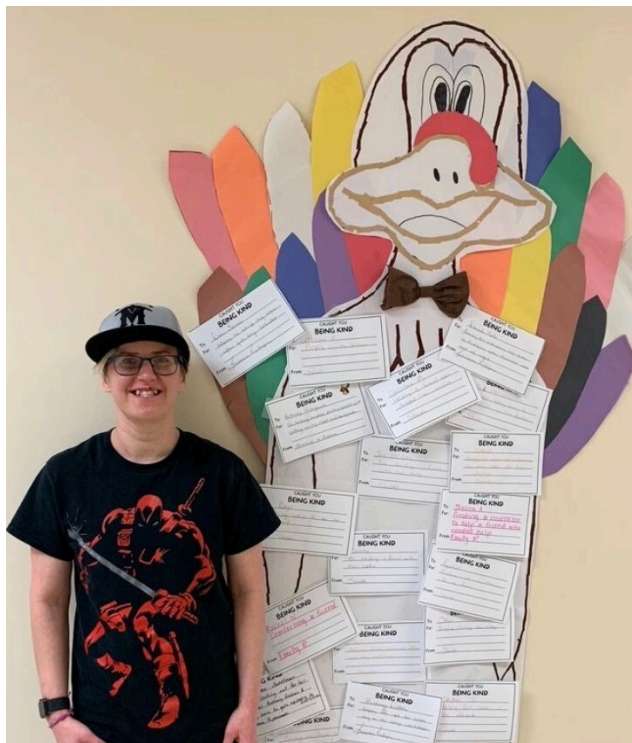
Valeria's Art Projects Spark Joy and Participation

Program participant Valeria Turnbull has found a powerful way to spread joy through her art. With the support of Culinary Arts Instructor Shontel Miliziano, Valeria has transformed her passion for drawing into a series of interactive, seasonal art displays that unite the entire community.

It all started with Willard the Turkey, a life-sized, colorful turkey made for Thanksgiving. Participants were invited to write about moments when they caught someone being kind — like being a good friend or returning a dropped wallet. As Willard filled up with these heartwarming notes, he became a symbol of the kindness and compassion shared within our community. Once Willard was fully stuffed with acts of kindness, everyone came together for a festive Thanksgiving feast at Café Horizons to celebrate. Since then, Valeria has continued to delight everyone with her creations, including a festive snow globe, a cheerful Cupid for Valentine's Day, and an adorable St. Patrick's Day Snoopy.

But the real magic isn't just in the art itself; it's in how the projects bring people together. These aren't just displays to admire; they're

Participants celebrate the winter season by sharing what makes them as special as a snowflake.



Valeria Turnbull stands with Willard the Turkey, "stuffed" with acts of kindness.

living, evolving pieces that participants and staff help build. Each person adds their own creative touch, whether it's a message, a drawing, or an idea. The result? Laughter, reflection, and a sense of shared accomplishment.

"Shontel gives me a theme, and I use my creativity to come up with ideas from there," Valeria explained. "I like drawing. It relaxes me." Shontel loves how the projects foster creativity and positivity. "It's something they can take ownership of. It helps everyone focus on what's good and gives them a chance to be part of something bigger than themselves," she said.

Valeria's work is a shining example of how art can foster connections, inspire happiness, and unite an entire community.

OUR MISSION

Employment Horizons is dedicated to assisting people with barriers to employment to achieve their individual vocational objectives and establish self-sufficiency in the community.

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