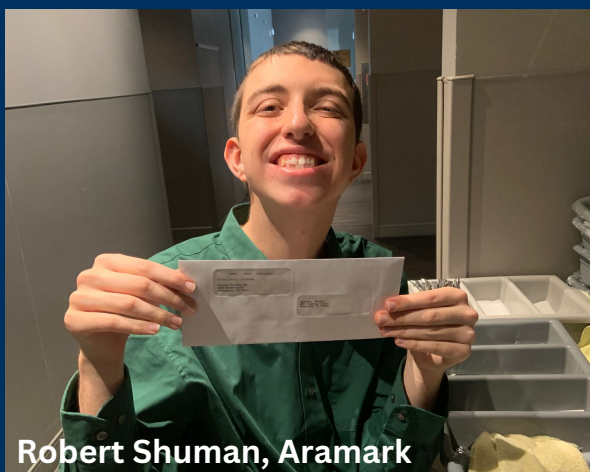




PARENTS ALLIANCE EMPLOYMENT PROJECT

A YEAR IN REVIEW 2022-2023



Robert Shuman, Aramark



Eddie Grant, FMC Natatorium



Grace Maypril Krukowski-Minior,
Zip Specialties Inc

“An organization devoted to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities through individualized employment services.”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Chairperson: Bryan Gay, Downers Grove Economic Development Corporation

Vice-Chairperson: Rosalie Scrivo, Parent Representative

Treasurer: Gina Strafford-Ahmed, DuPage County Department of Community Services

Secretary: Laura Myers, Myers Disability Law

Board Members:

- Candice Adams, DuPage County Clerk of the Circuit Court
- Kevin Bradley, HUB International
- Kyle Latus, Marmic Fire & Safety
- Gregory Moss, JP Morgan Chase
- Jim Pincenti, Zebra Technologies
- Tricia Swanstrom, Wheaton Public Library

TEAM

Executive Director: Kristen A. Sheffield

Associate Director: Roger Joseph B. Cave

Finance Director: Brian Suste

Hailey Mankivsky
Kiersten Lira
Miriam Henrikson
Maggie Meyer
Traci Coughlin
Adriana Jimenez
Brett Morgan
Vicki Kirkpatrick
Samantha Fitz

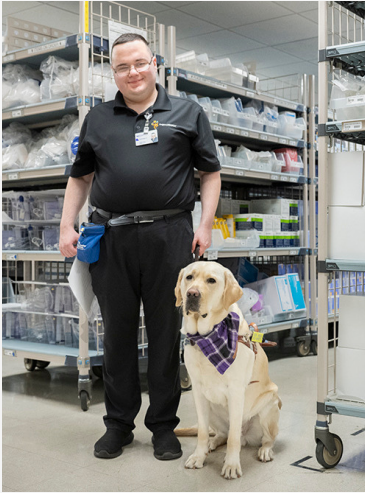
Khushbu Dalvi
Kathy Konczak
Damar Reed
Taylor Selesky
Shannon Ciezadlo
Ashley DeWane
Chloe Suter
Morgan Gnolfo



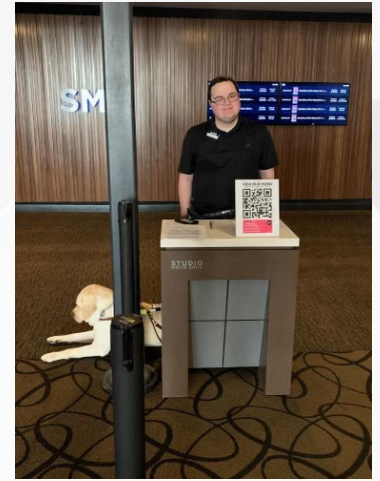
Staff are the HEART and SOUL of Parents Alliance Employment Project (PAEP) and drive the mission of the agency. PAEP is not a one size fits all. Each staff member brings a unique set of talents, expertise and creativity that allows for a person-centered approach to ensure *successful outcomes* for each individual served through PAEP programs. PAEP aims to achieve an optimal level of teamwork, one that fosters a culture in which staff learn from one another and value new ideas to better serve and meet the needs of all individuals served through PAEP programs.



Meet Christian Sullivan and his service dog, Zeke.



Christian Sullivan joined the Project SEARCH program offered through PAEP in partnership with Northwestern Medicine at Central DuPage Hospital in August 2022. Alongside Christian daily was his service dog, a yellow Labrador Retriever named Zeke. Zeke fulfilled an important role in aiding Christian in his daily work skills while participating in his three internship rotations at the hospital. As an individual with a visual impairment and autism, Christian relied on Zeke to help him navigate his environment through the hospital, ensure he was safe, and provide comfort during overwhelming work situations. PAEP staff, Traci Coughlin and Chloe Suter advocated to ensure that Christian and Zeke were welcomed within the NM hospital departments. Within each internship, Traci and Chloe explored accommodations and support systems that were needed for Christian and Zeke to be successful as a team that could be transferred into real-life settings. Following his participation in the Project SEARCH program, Christian was hired at Studio Movie Grill. He works in the box office, checking tickets and directing customers to their theaters, with Zeke right by his side. In addition to his job, Christian also uses his spare time to advocate and spread awareness for people living with disabilities.



143

Individuals placed into
new employment



265

Individuals served
through PAEP
services



98%

Job Retention
for at least 1 year post
services



Business Champion Spotlight



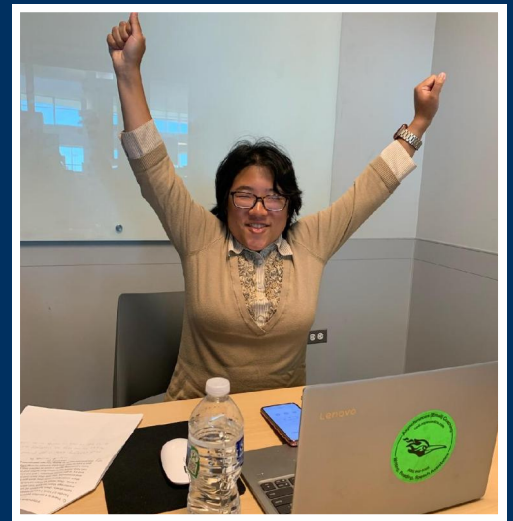
"Parents Alliance Employment Project has become a first-choice for helping us meet our hiring needs. We value the strong partnership and look forward to continuing our growth together."

-Colleen Pozo, General Manager, Aramark - The Morton Arboretum

Aramark has witnessed first-hand what an incredible asset individuals with disabilities in the workplace can be. Aramark has enthusiastically partnered with PAEP since 2018, hiring five individuals with disabilities to meet their hiring needs. Aramark sees beyond disabilities: they recognize the full potential of each individual they hire. They provide a welcoming environment where individuals with disabilities have the opportunity to grow, learn, and be successful in the workplace. Thank you, Aramark for being an inclusive employer, for setting the standard, and for inspiring other businesses to follow your lead.

PAEP prides itself in being the trusted agency to families that are in need of employment support. Goals established in the long-range plan of the agency emphasize a commitment to the growth and improvement of program planning, performance improvement, organizational advocacy, financial planning, and resource planning.

With the operation of six different employment programs to choose from, services provided by Parents Alliance Employment Project (PAEP) are designed to **INCREASE WORK SKILL ACQUISITION, ENCOURAGE SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT, AND MAXIMIZE INDEPENDENCE.**



PARENTS ALLIANCE EMPLOYMENT PROJECT

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