

Xiao Interview : Youth at Work

Interview

Name: Xiao

Youth@Work 2010-2011 Participant

What are some of the benefits of working?

Working will give you more experience and confidence in working. Practice in working will let you know what to expect when you start working in a real job. You can learn more about your accommodations that you may need in the workplace. You get more independence.



Why I chose to participate in the Youth@Work Program?

So I can experience work and I can learn new things.

My work experiences (summer and March Break)

In the summer, I worked at Holland Bloorview Kids Rehab Hospital in the Resource Centre entering data. I had to do a powerpoint presentation about my results of the database entry. I had to present to my supervisor. I learned about how to present presentations to other people. I was anxious but I practiced and was able to do it well. During the March Break, I worked at March of Dimes doing different data entry and editing jobs. The job wasn't what I expected to do, and I learned that I can't always do what I'm interested in a job.

My recommendations for people with disabilities doing work

It's hard to get the time you want for booking Wheel Trans so I suggest you book earlier to meet your work schedule. I recommend visiting the place beforehand and talking to your supervisor about what kind of work you will be doing, so you can get ready. Think about accommodations you need before your interview.

Important things I learned

I learned that I am not interested in working in data base entry because it's too repetitive. I think I am interested in website design. I also learned that I'm not a quitter and finished my job, even though I didn't like it.

About Youth@Work

The Youth@Work is an early work experience program for high school students with disabilities. This program offers two work placements to the participant, the first at Holland Bloorview and the second in the community. The Youth@Work Program is run through Therapeutic Recreation & Life Skills at Holland Bloorview and is generously supported by Capital One. For more information about this program please contact :

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