



Ready for Life Skill Building

WORK SKILLS PROGRAM

Clients Served: Individuals with intellectual disabilities who are seeking employment

Location: 3250 28th St SE, Ste 102, Grand Rapids, MI

Hours: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday

Two Year program

Staff to Client Ratio: 5:1

Funding Partners: Community Mental Health Agencies Skill Building hours or private pay

Transportation: Arranged by Client, provided by Ready for Life (for CMH Agency clients)

PROGRAM FEATURES

- Work skills training developed through volunteerism, community integration and interactive lessons.
- Caring staff who provide services to assist individuals in their transition toward independence and meaningful work and/or independent volunteer roles in the community.
 - Lifelong learning model based on student's individual goals
 - Relationships that are mutual and valued
- Participation in a range of cultural and social outings at local sites
- Individual choice each day on scheduled volunteer site and activity
- Intentional connections for employment with non-profit agencies and business owners in the Grand Rapids area

PROGRAM VALUES

- Individual worth and value
- Lifelong learning model dedicated to:
 - Fostering interdependent community
 - Encouraging strong work skills
 - Cultivating gift-based character
- Inclusion in the community
- Volunteerism leading to employment skills
- Building purposeful relationships
- Advancing individual responsibility and citizenship

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Kid's Food Basket, Feeding America of W Michigan, and Senior Meals – Sort and package food items, label food products and assist with packaging groceries for clients
- Kentwood Community Church Care Closet, Degage – sort and label donated items
- Beer City Dog Biscuits – mix, bake, package, and sell dog biscuits
- LIFE EMS, Sunshine Church, Next Steps – Clean facility
- Brookside Church, Family Promise – Prepare freezer meals and bake cookies

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

- Diagnosed with an intellectual disability
- Completion of high school with a certificate of completion
- Desire to learn work skills and be employed within two years
- Ability to work as a team player
- Minimal behavioral needs
- Signed client guideline and policy handbook

OUTCOMES OF READY FOR LIFE SKILL BUILDING

- Improved self-confidence, independence, communication skills and community awareness for Ready for Life clients
- Skill learning and skills development for Ready for Life clients
- Increase in maturity level for Ready for Life clients
- Community commitment to inclusivity
- Employment opportunities within two years

To apply please submit a copy of the individuals PCP with the our application found at: <http://www.rflnetwork.org/ready-for-life-skill-building/> to Ready For Life by mail 3250 28th street SE Suite 102, Grand Rapids, MI 49512; email at info@rflnetwork.org or by fax: (616)419-4152.



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