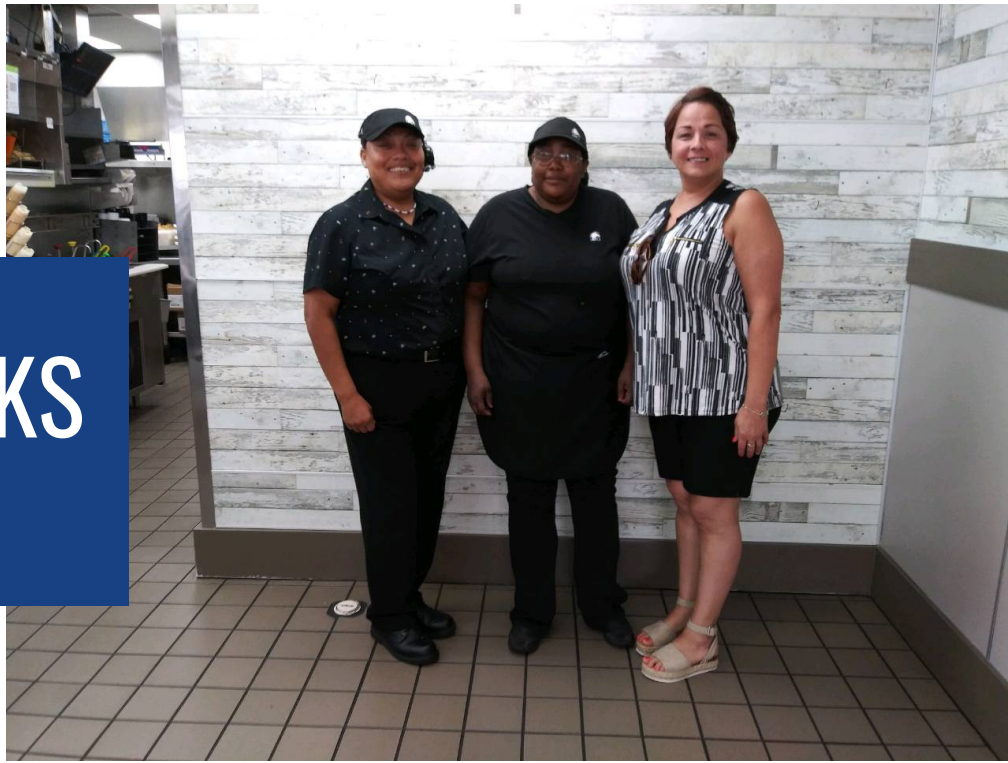


SUCCESS TRACKS

Monthly Newsletter - June 2021



Manager Edith , Julie Turner , ES Damaris

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THE EMPLOYEE AND EMPLOYER OF THE MONTH - **JULIE TURNER AND TACO BELL**

by **Damaris Rosales**

Please meet Julie Turner! Julie is a single mom with a small child, a close family circle, and a strong passion for work. Julie obtained employment with Taco Bell as a Crew Member/Customer Service on 11/18/2020 with the help of her Employment Specialist Damaris and has been happily enjoying her job since then. Julie's manager, Edith, reports that Julie has a great positive attitude and that Julie always does a great job around the store and with customers.

Edith also states she is happy with the work Julie does at Taco Bell and that she is a great team player whom all her co-workers like. Julie has met her 150 days of Supported Employment at Taco Bell and is excited about her accomplishments, plus she loves her job. The Vocation Depot team and her Employment Coach Damaris are very proud of Julie and wish her happiness and success with her employment. Great job to Julie and Taco Bell!



*Some End of May
Facts for TVD*

5 Cases Successfully
Closed

21 New Referrals

16 People Were Placed in
Jobs

Vocational Evaluations are
now offered completely
remote.

We serve over 17 Counties
in Florida within Area's 3,
4, 5, and 7; with a team of
seven Employment
Specialists and One OJT
Specialist. [Click for Info.](#)

JUMP ON BOARD - TIPS TO HELP REACH YOUR DESTINATION

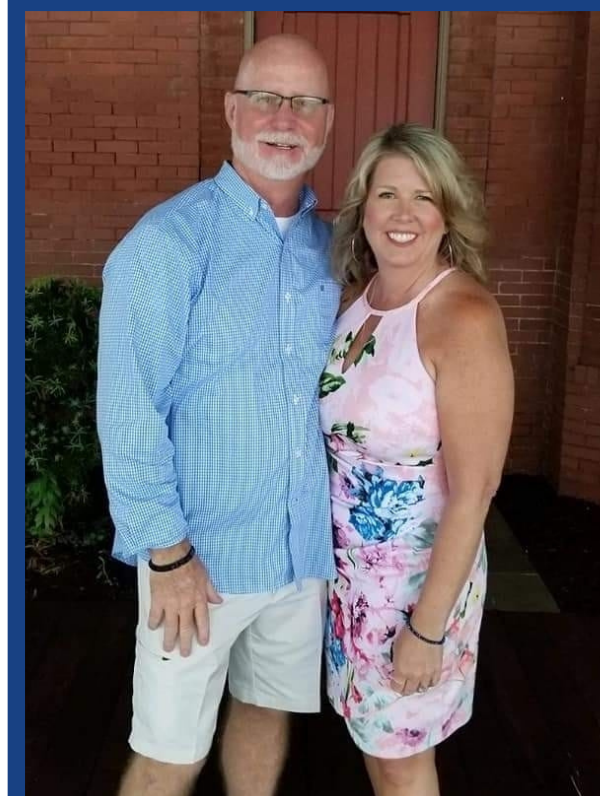
ACCOMMODATIONS

by Courtney Lape

What are accommodations? If you are disabled and looking for a job, it is common to see the words "reasonable accommodations," but what does this mean? Thanks to the ADA or Americans with Disabilities Act, employers are **required** to make reasonable accommodations to allow those with disabilities to perform the job as long as they are qualified to perform the job's essential functions. These accommodations can start as early as the hiring process if one is needed to perform applications or interviews, and most importantly, the employer is required to give them to applicants if the applicant asks for it (as long as the company has 15 or more employees). So what can accommodations look like? Alternative Communication Formats, such as large print or audio instructions/descriptions. Accessible Parking, Service Animals excluding Emotional Support Dogs, Job Reorganization such as a checklist for tasks or employers insuring they ask someone else to do the non-essential job functions in place of the person with a disability. Equipment or Work Environment Changes which can include a different desk or sitting arrangement or computer software for visual impairment. To read more and find more resources, please go [Here](#) for disabledperson.com or [Here](#) for dol.gov

**Too view our active
Employment
Specialists, areas, and
services; please go to
our website linked
below:**

www.vocationdepot.org



MEET OUR CONDUCTORS

KEVIN VINCENT - PRESIDENT OF THE VOCATION DEPOT

This month, we would like to introduce Kevin Vincent, Co-Founder and President of The Vocation Depot. Kevin's story is a special one to us as he was a customer of Florida's Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Program roughly 10 years ago. As a disabled Veteran from 10 years of serving in the United States Army, he found himself searching for a new career path. After being assigned to his Employment Specialist, she felt that he would be a great Employment Specialist with his experience in recruiting, hiring, and helping other disabled Veterans. Soon thereafter, he was offered an opportunity as an Employment Specialist and began helping people with disabilities find employment opportunities. It was a few years later that Kevin and long-time friend Tony Farinella started to build a business plan to start their own Not for Profit and become a Provider for Florida's Vocational Rehabilitation Division. In 2013, The Vocation Depot was established! The Vocation Depot is now helping people in many areas throughout Florida; The Greater Tampa Bay Area, Orlando, and from Titusville down to Ft. Lauderdale.

Kevin resides in Plant City with his wife, Cheryl, and 17-year-old son, Zach. He has 2 adult children, a daughter, Savannah, who resides in Montana with her husband and daughter. And son, Josh, who resides in Yulee, FL, with his wife and daughter.

**Click Below to
Find Us!**

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Linkedin

Website

Do Your Benefits Immediately Stop If You Start Working?

No, earning wages doesn't mean your Social Security disability benefits immediately stop.
[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

Am I Eligible for VR Service?

DO YOU: Receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for a disability?

OR

DO YOU: Have a disability that interferes with your ability to find or keep a job?

IF YES to either, and your goal is to become employed, it is presumed that you are eligible.

[Please Click Here for More Info and Guidance on the Process](#)

Learn more

THE ON TRACK RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

<https://askjan.org/>

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on job accommodations and disability employment issues. Serving customers across the United States and around the world for more than 35 years, JAN provides free one-on-one practical guidance and technical assistance on job accommodation solutions, Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and related legislation, and self-employment and entrepreneurship options for people with disabilities. JAN provides individualized consultation to assist:

- Employers and their representatives seeking guidance on practical ways to engage in the interactive process, provide job accommodation solutions, and comply with Title I of the ADA;
- Individuals with medical conditions and disabilities seeking information about job accommodation solutions, employment rights under the ADA, and self-employment and entrepreneurship opportunities; and
- Family members and rehabilitation, medical, educational, and other professionals in their effort to support successful employment outcomes for individuals with medical conditions and disabilities.

JAN has an easy-to-use search feature for disabilities that lists common accommodations for said disability, which makes narrowing down what will work for you much easier.

Who can use The Vocation Depot?

The Vocation Depot is open to everyone who goes through the Florida State VR or Ticket to Work system to receive services. Regardless of disability, age, race, gender, sexual orientation, or previous charges; we help anyone who is ready to work.

Does The Vocation Depot have a specialty?

The Vocation Depot strives to help anyone ready to work, but we do have strong connections and resources for Veterans and current Service Members. The Vocation Depot is a Disabled Veteran Operated Entity, and we have been awarded the HireVets award by the Department of Labor. We understand the difficulties Veterans and Service Members face when returning to the workforce, especially when returning with PTSD or other service-related disabilities. From Pre-Employment Training, which helps prepare one with skills for the workforce, to On the Job Training opportunities, which is paid work on a trial level to see which job is the right fit, we can make sure you feel secure when finding a job.

How do you pick The Vocation Depot as your service provider?

The Florida State VR and Ticket to Work system work on a customer's choice basis. For VR, just tell your VR Counselor which provider you would like your referral assigned to, ie. The Vocation Depot. For Ticket to Work, please call us for intake, 888-489-6466, and we can assign your ticket if you decide we feel like a comfortable fit.



As an organization that helps people with disabilities and Veterans change their lives by assisting them in finding employment, we know that many people struggle with anxiety, pain, and other debilitating issues. It's been shown that CBD products can alleviate some of these issues. For more info on a local (Tampa, FL) owned organization and the CBD products that they produce, visit:

[https://www.herowse.com/
?ref=TpaFL-CV](https://www.herowse.com/?ref=TpaFL-CV)

Disclosure: This post contains affiliate links, and I receive a commission if you visit a link and buy something on my recommendation. We may earn money or products from the companies mentioned in this post.



Holly's Hope of North Port, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in North Port, Florida. We focus on increasing mental health awareness in our community and improving resources for those who need mental health treatment. We have a focus on first responder mental health and are working to provide resources to first responder departments to improve awareness.

We are proud to host a support group, called "Families Matter," twice per month. This group is for families of first responders, to come together, and share struggles and triumphs with others who have had the same experiences. There is no charge for this group, and anyone who wants to attend can do so. We also have a new pilot program where we will begin assisting families of first responders who are receiving mental health treatment. We will assist, financially, the family of a first responder while that first responder is receiving treatment. We hope that more people who need treatment will elect to receive it by removing the burden of potential financial concerns. Our program ensures anonymity for those who receive funding, and all HIPPA regulations are followed as well.

Please reach out to Cory Hutchinson at coryhutchinson@outlook.com with any questions. We'd love to see you get involved in our organization!



[http://](http://www.hollyshope.info)

www.hollyshope.info



coryhutchinson@outlook.com

[www.facebook.com/
HollysHopeNP/](https://www.facebook.com/HollysHopeNP/)



Please click The Amazon Smile Logo below to shop Amazon using The Vocation Depot Smile Link.

This link will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to The Vocation Depot without charging you extra.



The Vocation Depot
is a
Disabled Veteran
Operated Entity

www.vocationdepot.org
888-489-6646

Thank you for your
support!



INTERESTED IN BEING A SPONSOR OF THE MONTH?

With your help, The Vocation Depot can continue to be a leader in supporting People with Disabilities to find meaningful employment in our Florida communities.

In return, we are proud to offer recognition of your business in our monthly newsletters and on our website for a small donation of \$25.

Click below to become a Supporter

<https://www.vocationdepot.org/contact>