

# INTERSECTIONS

THE CROSSROADS JOBS NEWSLETTER

*We get to know the person, not just the resume!*

## RECENT GRADUATE PROFILE

**Cherrell** first came to CJ in June 2021, looking for a job. She had been treated for cancer in 2014, and experienced side effects from treatments that left her legally blind. Until then, she had been a public-school bus driver for 6 years, and an early childhood teaching assistant/bus driver for 14 years. Her medical diagnosis has left her unable to drive, but she came to us with aspirations, ambitions, and a desire to work. While looking for a position, CJ connected Cherrell with the Northern VA Department for the Blind & Vision Impaired (DBVI) office who assisted with mobility training, plus email & phone technology to increase her independence. Cherrell was hired in housekeeping at a local senior living community and kept the job for over a year. While working, she and her job counselor continued to look for the right fit and she recently accepted a job with La Petite Academy in Leesburg as a housekeeping attendant and to fill in for the center teachers. She has been on the job for over a month and loves it!



When **Andrea** first came to CJ, she was going through an unexpected separation from her lifelong partner, so her finances were precarious. She was having a challenging time searching for jobs and did not know how she could make ends meet. Working with her CJ Job Counselor, she applied for several positions. Her Job Counselor translated from English to Spanish during one virtual interview, and she was offered a permanent full-time job. With the approval of the store manager, her CJ Counselor was able to accompany Andrea during her first days of training and store walkthrough. During our Post Placement Support, we followed up with Andrea who stated that she is incredibly happy with the job! Her schedule allows her to spend more time with her middle school daughter and she enjoys working with a supportive team and friendly colleagues.



**Andy** was referred to us from a fellow nonprofit that provides housing and support for individuals in recovery from substance abuse disorder. He came to us eager to make a fresh start and was doing all the right things, attending daily meetings, and staying organized and engaged. With a non-violent felony record, and no driver's license, he faced barriers to employment and was

genuinely concerned about who might be willing to hire him. He attended our workshops, after which we referred him to a few businesses that believe in a second chance. He landed an interview with a local grocery store and was hired! He is currently in training and enjoying the renewed sense of purpose.

## MARY TETT BRIDGE FUND (MTBF)

This quarter, we have been able to help several applicants through our **MTBF**. One applicant needed a pair of non-slip shoes before starting a new job, another needed a gas card to get to and from job interviews, and one applicant needed work clothing and transportation assistance (SmarTrip card) so he could start work the next week! We are grateful to everyone who has donated to this fund. For some applicants it ensures success during the job search!

## THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone who donated during **Giving Tuesday!** We are grateful for your support! Thanks to our board members who agreed to a match during the campaign - we were able to double the amount donated!

We also want to thank the Department of Aging & Rehabilitative Services (DARS) for presenting us with a Champions of Disability award for our job placement and post-placement support for individuals with disabilities. We love partnering with the DARS team to provide wrap-around services to keep people employed!



We appreciate the generosity of our community of support! If you have not already made your end-of-year donation, please consider giving. A hand up to a new job!



### KUDOS TO OUR LOCAL EMPLOYERS

- Burlington Stores
- La Petite Academy
- LCPS Facilities
- Royal Farms
- Fairfax County Gov't
- Blue Ridge Thrift
- Erickson Living → → → →
- Tractor Supply
- Harris Teeter
- Home Depot
- Old Mill Kennel
- Salvation Army
- C2 Education
- Compass Group
- Lansdowne Resort
- Target
- Chick Fil A
- Books International
- INOVA



One of our superstar placements at Ashby Ponds, making residents smile during Halloween week!

### 2023 MISSION UPDATE

We are immensely proud to share that we have surpassed our placement goal of 75 for 2023. To date we have **81 placements**, and we have several applicants awaiting interview results and more who are interviewing this week and next.

This year has been remarkably busy with a record number of new applicants completing our program: **183** individuals in 2023 have been given the tools and support as they seek employment. *This is a 49% increase from two years ago.* Our focus is to assist individuals who are experiencing **barriers to employment**: 97% of our 2023 applicants fall within HUD's determination for low to moderate income in the County, 70% came to us unemployed, 16% have a disability, 17% a Criminal history, 10% with Substance Abuse Disorder, 36% Limited English Proficiency, 21% Unhoused, 42% Do not have access to a car, 21% are Female Heads of Household, 14% Elderly (w/ 46% over the age of 65), and 16% Youth, ages 18-24.

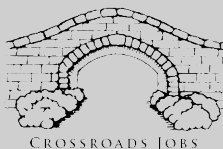
Crossroads Jobs does not turn anyone away and we do not have a waiting list. We provide our program free of charge to applicants and employers alike! We look forward to continuing our work in 2024!

Please consider donating to Crossroads Jobs:  
A hand up for sustenance, dignity, and hope

<https://crossroadsjobs.org/donate/>



*Crossroads Jobs is a Loudoun County nonprofit organization, under Section 501c3 of the IRS code, offering individualized job search, placement and post-placement services and support to unemployed and underemployed area residents*



8B South Street, SW  
Leesburg, Virginia 20175