

Achievements

Creating Solutions for Persons with Employment Challenges

Celebrating a Life Well Lived

Martha has been a joy to so many that met her. Sadly, she lost her life to Covid in January, after a very brief struggle in Denton, Texas. Creative Achievements was introduced to Martha a couple of years ago and we worked hand in hand with both her Texas Workforce Commission Counselor, Cara, as well as her group home staff to collaborate on a plan for a job that was a match for all of her conditions of employment. Martha's first job didn't turn out to be a great



match but even so, her sweet personality, beautiful smile and willingness to work won over her co-workers. Becky, her Creative Achievements' employment consultant, was undaunted and forged ahead. She met Adam, Mgr of 940s Kitchen & Cocktails, (an artsy, restaurant/bar off the Denton square,) to design a job for Martha's skills. Adam commented, "Martha was always a fun person to have here in the mornings, and she will definitely be missed." This picture of Martha was taken in April of 2020, for our website. She was joyous that the spotlight was on her that day. Ashley, a photographer friend of CA, must have taken 25 pictures,, and was having such a good time visiting with Martha, that we finally had to cut things off!

The gut-wrenching loss of Martha reminds us that life is a precious gift. We are so thankful for having a great relationship with Patti, the Case Service Manager of Matha's group home. She related, " I will remember Martha as being a very caring, sweet and (Cont. Page 3)

Creative Achievements
4524 Boat Club Road, #194
Fort Worth, TX 76135
creative-achievements.org
(817)238-7802

Services:

Supported Employment
Job Placement
Job Skills Training
Work Experience
Vocational Adjustment
Training
Benefits Planning
Environmental
Work Assessments
Autism Supports
Ticket to Work
Private Pay

Areas Served:

Arlington
Denton County
Fort Worth
Johnson County
Mid Cities
Parker County
Weatherford

Doing All You Can To Search For A Job During COVID



Many of the hardships of searching for a job during Covid are well documented. Just to name a few, pre-existing health issues, mask-wearing, changing demand for products, opening restrictions on businesses, etc.

Our Staff's job, among other things is customer service. There are certainly differences of opinion among our clients and families on if/when they have wanted us to help them venture out for employment. We respect the whole spectrum of decisions. It is our job to listen, and to act accordingly, meeting clients where they are, and focusing on their needs. CA Employment Consultants, having over 10 years of average experience with their "boots on the ground", have continued to make valuable job placements for our clients. They're working very hard to meet your needs. Here are a few insights:

- 1) Places like **Wal-Mart** and **Target** that may have been tougher to get into, are so busy, that they've been more wiling to look at our clients. Our clients have responded, and gotten several jobs, and are proving their worth.
- 2) **Grocery Stores** are continuing to add more staff (Fewer people are eating in restaurants - more people are cooking at home). More people want to pay a little more for getting to order online, and those jobs are expanding. There are many levels of jobs at grocery stores, including management positions.
- 3) With the advent of Covid, we've noticed that places like **call centers**, have allowed many of their employees to work remotely. New positions and the training involved often still require on-site learning for a period of time, such as 30-90 days. But, working remotely is something that a segment of our clients really want, and the opportunities for that will only grow.
- 4) **Senior Care** is crucial during this time. Some have vacated this profession due to Covid, so there are more openings than usual. Also, as some families take their loved ones out of nursing homes, there are caregiving groups that are in great need of hiring persons that can be companions to seniors in the home, with cooking, and daily care help. These groups like to hire CNAs, but they also hire willing people, with a caring nature.



(Continued from Page One)

compassionate woman. Martha always wanted to help others and was always eager to please. She took great pride in keeping her room clean and organized. Martha will be missed by so many and I consider myself very lucky to have known Martha."

One of Martha's job coaches made this reflection, "Martha was a sweet lady, a hard worker, and good with heart-to-heart conversations. If you expressed your worries, she would then quote her Mom - Just go to the Bible and the answers are always there."

Losing Martha was devastating. But we take some solace in knowing that she was a very radiant and joyful person, almost all of the time. We are happy that the team for employment worked well together, and that she loved her job, and loved her life. It is certainly a privilege for us to share her accomplishments to those in the disability community and beyond.

The 10 Best Job Search Websites of 2021

Indeed (Best Overall)

Monster (Runner-Up, Best Overall)

Glassdoor (Best for Employer Insights)

FlexJobs: (Best for Remote Jobs)

The Ladders: (Best for Experienced Managers)

Angellist: (Best for Startup Jobs)

LinkedIn - Best for Connecting Directly With Recruiters

LinkUp - Best for Up-to-Date Listings

Scouted: Best for Recent College Graduates

Snagajob - Best for Hourly Jobs

Our additional picks: Craigslist, Work in Texas, Zip Recruiter, Recruit Disability, Disability Job Exchange, DisabledPerson, and USA Jobs.

(from thebalancecareers.com)

Partnerships - Working Together With Heather's Old Skool Village to Build Something Special



Last year, three organizations - Creative Achievements, Neuro Diverse Spectrum , and Heather's Old Skool Village were planning a festive recognition ceremony for our clients that had to be cancelled due to COVID.

Despite the obstacles, we're back, just getting started with another partnership. We're baby-stepping our way through cooking skills, and meeting soon with a local church for the possibility of using their commercial kitchen to provide meals in the future, one day a week.

On February 5th, we had a fantastic time at Heather's Old Skool Village putting together 4 slightly different recipes into 4 pressure cookers for a savory roast, carrots, potatoes, onions and gravy. It was Yummy! Soon many of our clients in group homes will have both vaccines, and we can expand this process.

It was fantastic being part of a crew that whistled (and danced) while we worked! We're learning as we go. If you have a favorite tried and true Insta-Pot (or another pressure cooker) recipe, please let us know about it.