

Success Stories: Vocational Rehabilitation



Olivia Larson



OCCUPATION:
Stock Clerk

VR COUNSELOR:
Kelli Linarez, Davis District

VR PROVIDED ASSISTANCE:

- Vocational Counseling and Guidance
- Individualized Plan for Employment
- Job Development and Placement
- Supported Employment Job Coaching

Olivia's journey with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services began in May 2021. With a previous stint of work under her belt and her enthusiasm to refine her social vocational skills, Olivia was eager to step into the realm of competitive employment. Olivia's VR journey was a blend of support from both VR and a Community Rehabilitation Program (CRP).

Guiding her through this phase was her dedicated VR counselor, Kelli Linarez. Kelli not only provided Olivia with essential counseling and guidance but also introduced her to the Employment-related Personal Assistance Services (EPAS) offered through Medicaid. With VR's support, Olivia undertook a Work Strategy Assessment with Beautiful Ability, a local CRP. This assessment was pivotal in aligning Olivia's strengths with her vocational aspirations. Furthermore, VR's funding for the Supported Employment pathway,

combined with Beautiful Ability's guidance, became the cornerstone of Olivia securing sustainable employment.

Olivia's enthusiasm and dedication were evident when she began her role as a Stock Clerk at Seven Times Six. Working approximately 28 hours weekly, Olivia quickly adapted to her environment. Her need for job coaching diminished rapidly, thanks to the natural support from her colleagues.

The harmonious collaboration between Olivia, Kelli, Beautiful Ability and her employer has truly made a difference. The feedback from the CRP stands as a testament: "Olivia is doing fantastic at work. She has gained a lot of confidence since her first day. Management really enjoys having her as part of their team."

Indeed, Olivia's success story is an inspiration, and her radiant smile is its most genuine testament.