

Overview

Since 1935, Variety - the Children's Charity of the Delaware Valley has continued its mission to enrich the lives of children and young adults with disabilities through social, educational, and vocational programs that nurture independence, self-confidence, and preparation for life.

Variety offers a number of programs for children and youth with disabilities including summer programs such as Day Camp, Overnight Camp, Extended School Year (ESY), and Vocational Program. During the school year we also offer vocational and socialization programming, Saturday Arts, Adult Recreational Program, and weekend retreats.

The VarietyWorks program debuted in August of 2018, and affords us the opportunity to serve our population beyond the age of 21. This international award winning, individualized career training experience, uses a 4 tier approach which includes initial Assessment, Community Job Training, Supported Employment, and finally, Independent Community Employment. Since its inception, VarietyWorks has placed 29 people in jobs at or above minimum wage.

VarietyWorks

VarietyWorks was created to provide individuals with disabilities access to choices in type, level, and experiences related to employment.



Contact

For more information about VarietyWorks or other programs Variety offers, please visit our website:
www.varietyphila.org
or contact us:
(610) - 584 - 4366
programs@varietyphila.org



variety
the children's charity™



**Information on Variety's
international award winning
job readiness program for
individuals with disabilities**

www.varietyphila.org
610-584-4366

Assessment

Variety's Community-Based Work Assessment is an innovative tool that helps guide individuals in their search for community employment. We are all looking for our niche and where we can best contribute to society. The assessment gives individuals the opportunity to explore different jobs and careers through direct exposure to different tasks, utilizing Variety's large and accessible campus.

We evaluate six separate areas: job skills baseline, social skills baseline, functional behavior, preferences, sensory profile, and social supports web. We work 1:1 with each participant for 15 hours over a three day period at community businesses of the participant's choice.

The assessment will help to determine a career path that fits the interests and skill sets of the participant, while helping to determine the options for moving forward in that career.

Within 10 days of completing the assessment, Variety provides a full report to the participant that documents the entire process, including a recommendation as to next best steps moving forward.

Job Training

Farm-to-Table:

This model utilizes a customized approach to training, where participants receive exposure to a wide range of career areas, of their choosing, such as greenhouse, culinary, office/clerical, customer service, etc. During this phase, individuals are receiving vocational training in the community at local businesses, which is then reinforced and further developed in supported learning environments.

Community Training:

This level takes place 100% in the community, with participants operating at a 1:3 staffing ratio. Individuals have supported interactions with the community during this phase and they also receive pay for hours worked. Our Coffee Cart is a shining example of this model.



Job Coaching

Each trainee is paired with a job coach who works one-on-one with the trainee, which helps the team develop the most appropriate plan for transition to employment in the community. This includes finding open positions, creating relationships with an employer, obtaining employment, helping to train the individual on the job, and supporting them until they can do the job independently. The job coach will remain on the team for trouble-shooting and consultative purposes indefinitely, if needed.

In the Community:

The VarietyWorks program connects the individuals we serve to a host of experiences, while creating a number of revenue streams for our agency. Some of the funding we receive comes from OVR, ODP (waivers), school districts and private pay.

Variety has a strong network of community partners who make it possible for VarietyWorks to operate. Kreibel's Bakery, Grocery Outlet Bargain Market, Allan Myers, and Movie Tavern are among an impressive list of businesses who are helping our participants gain valuable independent work experience.