

Building Partnerships

WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES

One of the many services Big Lakes' provides are employment opportunities for the clients we serve. Our clients have many skills to share and Big Lakes seeks out partnerships in the community to match their skills with business needs.

Our clients specialize in small parts assembly, mailings (whether that be folding, stuffing or labeling), collating, and assembling product boxes, just to name a few. They take great pride in their work and their impeccable attention to detail. With the right training, provided and supported by the Big Lakes staff, our clients can perform an essential service or skill to help your business be successful.

We currently have 18 partnerships in the community providing essential



services for throughout the year. Parker Hannifin, Army Corp of Engineers, Hobby Lobby, Clay Center Landfill, and Twin Valley, are just a few of the businesses we work with, both on or off-site. These partnerships play an important role for our clients to learn vocational skills, gain independence, earn a paycheck, and gain confidence and growth in their abilities. Take a moment and think back to your first job as a young adult; some of us might need to think farther back than others!

Do you remember the pure joy and excitement you felt when you received that first paycheck? Remembering, wow, I worked hard for this, and this money is mine! Our clients feel that sensation every time they learn a new skill or complete a job well done. Your business could be part of this amazing experience. Reach out to Karen Mitoska, Employment Services Manager, today at kmitoska@biglakes.org and learn how you and your business can benefit from the work our clients can do for you and also be a part of something very special.

Article by:

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Client Spotlight

Pamela 'Pam'

Say hello to Pam! Pam participates in the Big Lakes Day and Residential services. She loves the color blue, bowling, and hanging out with her friend Suzie. Pam sorts paper, assembles spools, and cleans the Hobby Lobby parking lot to earn her paycheck. "I love Big Lakes because it's where my job is," shared Pam. She is looking forward to the summer so she can go to the farm and plant seeds for the garden.

Annual Giving Campaign

Raised Over \$70,000

Each year during the holiday season, Big Lakes launches an Annual Giving Campaign to reinforce our mission and continue our relationship with our outstanding donors. This year, through the Annual Campaign, we raised \$71,717, which exceeded our goal of \$60,000. This shows our donor's strong commitment to our mission and the undoubting truth that this community wants to help and support individuals with I/DD. 100% of these funds will go towards our Raise the Roof Capital Campaign. Raise the Roof is at 38% of our \$2 million goal that we hope to achieve by the end of 2024 and begin phases 3,4, & 5. Thank you to everyone who donated; your generosity does not go unnoticed. Interested in supporting the Raise the Roof Capital Campaign or KS Tax Credits we have available? Contact Emma Clements at eclements@biglakes.org.



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