



## October 2012: National Disability Employment Awareness Month *Employment Success Stories*

In an effort to promote October National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), the North Carolina Employment First Steering Committee would like to collect *Employment Success Stories* from consumers and family members.

As part of the Employment First Initiative in North Carolina, this campaign seeks to promote the idea that people with disabilities can and do work and employment is possible! This is also an effort to offer hope, promote mentorship, self-advocacy and empowerment to people with disabilities considering employment as an avenue for personal growth.

### ***Submission Details***

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Please know that we would like to highlight your success stories on the Division of MH/DD/SAS Employment webpage, possibly an Employment First website, and potentially in a written publication.

#### **Send us stories about:**

- How you achieved successes in both your career and in the community
  - How you overcame obstacles and barriers
  - Who helped you along the way
  - What services helped you
  - What are you doing now – where do you work, live, what you do for fun
- ✓ You can include your name in the story if you would like, or write anonymously if preferred.
  - ✓ No more than 2 paragraphs, if possible.
  - ✓ At the end of the story, please include your full name and best way to contact you (phone, email)- this will not be published
  - ✓ You may also submit high-quality photos of you on the job
  - ✓ All submissions need to complete the attached Consent Form (can also be found here: [http://www.ncdhhs.gov/publicaffairs/forms/photo\\_consent.pdf](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/publicaffairs/forms/photo_consent.pdf) )
  - ✓ Stories should be typed and emailed to [employmentfirstNC@gmail.com](mailto:employmentfirstNC@gmail.com) along with consent forms and/or any questions.

***Deadline is September 26, 2012***

#### ***For more information, visit these sites:***

National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)- <http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/ndeam/>  
NC Employment First Initiative- <https://sites.google.com/site/employmentfirstnc/>  
National Employment First Resource List - [http://www.selnmembers.org/components/com\\_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/emp\\_first\\_resources\\_2012.pdf](http://www.selnmembers.org/components/com_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/emp_first_resources_2012.pdf)