

A Season of Progress



Summer is in full swing, and so are many of Greenleaf's biggest initiatives! As we reach the halfway point of the year, we are taking time to reflect on the incredible progress made by our participants, staff, and supporters and the exciting work still ahead.

Spring Campaign Success

This past spring, Greenleaf worked to raise awareness for one of the most overlooked employment barriers: transportation. Public transportation is often inaccessible for individuals with disabilities, limiting their ability to attend job interviews, maintain steady employment, and even take part in Greenleaf's career training programs.

With the help of our dedicated staff members, participants, and generous donors, our team was able to raise \$6,084 in support of transportation services and other Empowering Employment programs. Thank you all for helping to make our spring campaign such a resounding success!

Connect With Us!



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Participant Stories: Overcoming Transportation Barriers

Henry once relied on public transportation to get to and from work, but limited bus schedules made it nearly impossible for him to accept certain opportunities, including a position at the new Westerville Goodwill store. With support from Greenleaf and resources like FCBDD waivers, Henry now has access to rideshare services. This has enabled Henry to accept new professional opportunities that were once out of reach.

Before coming to Greenleaf, Will had never used public transportation and was unsure of how to navigate it alone. With guidance from one of our Employment Specialists, Will was able to master the COTA Mainstream and can now confidently take the bus to Greenleaf's weekly training meetings, opening up a whole new world of possibilities.

Greenleaf's Summer Youth Program

Greenleaf's Summer Youth Work Experience program is underway. In each of our sessions, high school students work alongside our many community partners for five weeks, including Lifetime Fitness Easton, The Ohio Wildlife Center, Victoria's Secret & Co. Warehouse, and more.

These paid internships are a great opportunity for youth looking to gain valuable independence, confidence, and professional experience.



Celebrating EmpowerU

This summer, our team was also thrilled to host our second annual EmpowerU: a summer program for participants ages 13 to 18. During this workplace development course, students are able to learn important life and professional skills, including communication, self-advocacy, and professionalism. Past Empowering Employment students will also serve as classroom assistants and guest speakers, offering their own insights and career expertise.



Recognizing Al's Popcorn

We also wanted to take this opportunity to recognize one of our long-time partners and previous Employer of the Year: Al's Popcorn. Al's Popcorn has remained dedicated to creating opportunities for individuals with disabilities and to supporting their employees, including Greenleaf participant Jesse. They not only make thoughtful accommodations and offer flexible scheduling, they foster a welcoming workplace for all.