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Opportunity Village Celebrates 20 Years of the Job Discovery Program

LAS VEGAS (May 8, 2023) – Opportunity Village has been helping make the transition from high school to the workforce more attainable for students with disabilities for 20 years through the Job Discovery Program, a partnership with the Clark County School District. To celebrate this milestone anniversary and the 26 students who are either aging out of the program or who have found employment and will be ending their participating in the program, Opportunity Village is hosting its annual recognition program at 9 a.m., May 18, at the Culinary Academy of Las Vegas, 710 W. Lake Mead Blvd.

“The Job Discovery Program is at the core of what we do at Opportunity Village,” said Bob Brown, president and CEO of Opportunity Village. “Helping young adults learn what it takes to be successful in the workforce are crucial skills that they learn while participating in the program.”

Students have to be aged 18-22 years old to be eligible for the Job Discovery Program. Once enrolled, they rotate through a series of nonprofit work experiences at 12 partner job sites, including the Mob Museum, Culinary Academy of Las Vegas, and Heritage Senior Center. Job sites are determined according to where participants live. While in the program, they’re able to experience different work scenarios while learning specific job and professional skills they may not otherwise be exposed to, all within a semi-controlled environment and oversight from their job coach.

Students also learn socialization and begin working toward gainful employment after high school. When a participant demonstrates job readiness, Opportunity Village’s job developers help facilitate next steps, usually helping them find a job. Once in a new career, Opportunity Village follows them throughout their professional life to help guide them and ensure a successful placement and job experience. Without the Job Discovery Program, students with disabilities often have a tough time transitioning from the high school environment to the workforce or other services.



About Opportunity Village

Since 1954, Opportunity Village has been dedicated to helping people with disabilities find the very best version of themselves. Through workforce development, community employment, day services, inclusive housing, arts and social recreation, they are able to find new friends, realize future career paths, seek independence and community integration, and unleash creative passions. Opportunity Village thrives with the funding from our social enterprises, signature events and the generous philanthropy of our donors and community partners. Together, we are successfully empowering, employing, and serving people with disabilities – positively impacting lives. For more information on Opportunity Village, visit www.opportunityvillage.org.