



LOOKING FOR YOUTH STORIES

The Natural Supports Project at University of Wisconsin-Madison is looking for youth and young adults ages 14-18 with developmental disabilities who are currently employed in community-based, competitive-wage jobs to be featured in a set of transition stories.

Youth, their family members, their teachers, employers, and other community members would be featured in the stories, which would focus on what factors, experiences, opportunities, and supports were critical to each youth's success.

We are particularly interested in featuring stories about youth who are actively involved in their communities and who use natural supports, as well as paid supports, both at work and in other community activities. We would like at least one

or two stories to feature students who have complex communication challenges and/or who use technology to communicate.

Youth who are chosen to participate will receive a \$25 gift card. If you or someone you know is interested, please provide:

- Name, age, and contact information (phone, address and email).
- A short description of your employment and other community participation.
- Names of other key people who could be interviewed for the story: family members, teachers, employers, friends, community members.

These stories will be featured in a booklet that will be disseminated statewide through the Pathways to Independence Project to teachers, families, human services staff, employers, and others interested in youth transition. This project is funded by the Wisconsin Medicaid Infrastructure Grant through the Department of Health Services Office of Independence and Employment through the Waisman Center's Natural Supports Project.

For more information or to submit the name of a youth or young adult, contact Beth Swdeen at (608) 263-6745 or swdeen@waisman.wisc.edu

