

The unemployment rate in La Crosse County is 2.8% and workforce development remains an issue in the area. In contrast, the disabled unemployment rate is 9.1% nationally, meaning there is a large pool of people that want to come work for you!

HIRING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES CAN BE A TANGIBLE BENEFIT TO YOUR BUSINESS.

Jax Credits

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a federal income tax credit designed to help people gain on-thejob experience and achieve better employment outcomes. The WOTC program offers federal tax credits to employers as an incentive to hire people in several specific target groups. To see if your business qualifies, click <u>here</u>.



(608) 784-5488



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advantages of hiring people with disabilities

- Lower absenteeism rates
- Lower employee turnover
- Increased productivity
- Higher levels of innovation
- Higher ROI in training/development Overall more positive work environment Source: Think Ability Wisconsin (n.d.)

We are making America more prosperous, inclusive, and humane by continuing to open the doors of opportunity even wider for people with disabilities.

-Scott Iverson. President of ORC Industries

LADCO is proud to partner with ORC Sheltered Friends Foundation (OSFF) to address workforce development issues.



Unlock Untapped Potential:

SKILLS PEOP BRING TO THE WORKFORCE

- Resilience
- Adaptability
- Problem-solving
- Empathy
- Innovation
- Strong Work Ethic

Contact Us!





Success Stories

GUNDERSEN HEALTH SYSTEM

Gundersen Health System Project SEARCH provides education and training to students with disabilities. The primary goal is to secure competitive community employment for each student graduate by providing them with three different internships to build their work skills. In May 2024, eight students representing five Coulee Region schools graduated from the Project SEARCH program at Gundersen Health System. The interns at Gundersen are among the 1,800 Project SEARCH graduates nationwide and 200 in Wisconsin, hosted at 28 businesses across the state. **Of the local class, five have jobs lined up, one has an internship, and two are actively interviewing.** For more information, click <u>here</u>.

OUR RETAIL HELPERS ARE SOME OF OUR FAVORITE WORKERS

-Laura Couley, Kwik Trip

KWIK TRIP

In 2013, Kwik Trip launched its Retail Helper program. This program is designed for individuals with disabilities - providing them meaningful jobs with a great team of coworkers while earning an income and doing a job they are proud of. According to the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, the basic job functions of a Retail Helper include maintaining positive store image and sanitation standards, monitoring cleanliness and maintenance needs, ensuring a high level of customer service and assisting with essential functions such as stocking, unloading and filling coolers. Today, Kwik Trip has over 500 retail helpers working in their stores. For more information on the Kwik Trip Retail Helper Initiative, click <u>here</u>.

Are you...

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- Seeking reliable workers?
- Looking for a *risk-free* opportunity for hiring staff?

If so, let's chat!





