



Building for the Future

Engaging Business. Empowering Youth.



Atlanta Youth Spotlights

Bridges, a program of the Marriott Foundation for People with Disabilities, links youth who receive special education services to competitive, paid employment, assisting them with job retention and vocational growth. Bridges celebrates the achievements of program participants from the following school districts: Atlanta City, DeKalb County, Cobb County, and Fulton County:

- ◆ (DeKalb) M.L., a former Bridges Youth Leadership Award recipient, has worked at **Panera Bread** since March 2005. He has a mild intellectual disability.
- ◆ (DeKalb) Bridges participant J.G., who has a learning disability, has been employed at **Home Depot** since August of 2006.
- ◆ (DeKalb) S.C. is a Deaf young adult who worked at **Chick-fil-A** for nearly two years. She left that job to work with the **IRS**, where she has been employed since March 2009.
- ◆ (Atlanta) Bridges participant R.S., a young man with Autism, has been employed as a courtesy clerk with **Publix** since September of 2004.
- ◆ (DeKalb) B.C. has been employed with **Marshall's Distribution Center** as a warehouse worker since August 2007. B.C. has a health impairment.
- ◆ (Atlanta) C.S., a graduate of South Atlanta High School with a learning disability, has been employed at **Hospice Atlanta** as an office assistant and C.N.A. since July 2008. She is now married and studying nursing at Atlanta Metropolitan College.
- ◆ (DeKalb) T.B, a young lady with a mild intellectual disability, has been employed at **Greenforest McCalep Early Learning Center** since February 2006 as a teacher assistant.

- ◆ (DeKalb) C.M. has been employed since December of 2008 at **College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center** as an After School Site Counselor. C.M. has a learning disability.
- ◆ (Cobb) J.D. is a young man that sustained traumatic brain injury in a car accident. J.D. has been employed at **Publix** as a courtesy clerk since May 2007.
- ◆ (Atlanta) N.G., a young lady with a learning disability, worked as a file/insurance clerk with **Capital City Bank** from 2005-2009. She has completed studies at Atlanta Metropolitan College, Georgia Southwestern University, and earned a bachelor's degree from Kennesaw State University. Since August 2012, she has worked as a member of the **American Red Cross** Disaster Relief Team. She plans to enroll in GA Regents University-Augusta to pursue graduate studies.
- ◆ (Atlanta) K.F., who has a learning disability, has been consistently employed since March 2011, first at **ARAMARK-Turner Field**; then with **Sodexo at Morehouse College**; and since September 2012, as a banquet aide at the **Renaissance Concourse Hotel**.
- ◆ (Atlanta) A.G., who has a learning disability, has been employed consistently since November 2010, first at **Philips Arena** in guest services, then at **McDonald's**, where she was promoted to a crew leader, and since October 2012, as a cashier in the M Store at the **Marriott Marquis**.
- ◆ (Cobb) E.A., who has a learning disability and emotional behavioral disorder, was employed with the **Georgia World Congress Center** for one year as a Guest Services Specialist and is now in the **United States Air Force Reserves**.
- ◆ (Cobb) J. F., who has a learning disability, has been employed at **K-Mart** since June 2012.
- ◆ (DeKalb) P.N., a young man with a health impairment, has been employed at **BrandsMart USA** since September 2011.
- ◆ (Cobb) C.M., who has a learning disability, has been employed at **KFC's Big Chicken** location since March 2012.
- ◆ (Atlanta) T.C., who has a mild intellectual disability, has been employed at **TJ Maxx** since March 2011.
- ◆ (Atlanta) G.R., who has a learning disability, has been employed consistently since November 2010, first in guest services at **Philips Arena**, then with **Sodexo** at Morehouse College, and since August 2012, as a banquet aide at the **Marriott Marquis**.

- ◆ (Fulton) C.D., a young lady with a learning disability, has been employed at **Kids R Kids** since October 2011.
- ◆ (Fulton) X.L., a young man on the Autism spectrum, has been employed at the **Landmark Theatre** since October 2011, and attends school at Southern Polytechnic State University.
- ◆ (DeKalb) P.R., a young man with a specific learning disability, has been employed at **UPS** since August 2011.
- ◆ (Fulton) C.S., learning disability, has been employed in food and beverage departments at the **Alpharetta Marriott** since April 2011.
- ◆ (Cobb) S.B., who has a learning disability and is legally blind, has been employed with **Publix** since April 2010.
- ◆ (Fulton) J.W., learning disability, has been employed at **Marshall's** since March 2011.
- ◆ (DeKalb) M.B. is a young lady with a learning disability who has been employed as a hostess/server with **Olive Garden** since July of 2010.
- ◆ (DeKalb) S.M., a young man with a mild intellectual disability, has been employed as a courtesy clerk at **Kroger** since April 2009.
- ◆ (DeKalb) D.W., a young man with a mild intellectual disability, has been employed as a photographer at **Kodak/Qualex** for more than four years.
- ◆ (DeKalb) R.B., a student with Autism, was hired at **Office Depot** as a stock clerk has been employed since December 2007.
- ◆ (DeKalb) V.C. has been employed with **Publix** as a front end service clerk since August 2007. V.C. has a mild intellectual disability.
- ◆ (Atlanta) A.H. worked in the kitchen of **Wellstar Hospital** from September 2008 until May 2011 and is currently working full time at Airserv at Hartsfield Jackson International Airport. A.H. has a learning disability.
- ◆ (Fulton) R.C. has been employed with **Community Friendship** as a receptionist since November 2008. R.C. is a young man with cerebral palsy.
- ◆ (DeKalb) D.D., a Bridges participant with autism, has been employed at **Kroger** since August 28, 2007 as a courtesy clerk. He was featured in an *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* article in April 2008.

- ◆ (Cobb) Bridges participant S.F. has been employed at **Wal-Mart** in sales since August of 2005. S.F. has a mild intellectual disability.
- ◆ (Atlanta) Bridges participant J.K., has been employed as a banquet set-up aide at the **Renaissance Concourse Hotel** since May 2008. He has a mild intellectual disability.
- ◆ (DeKalb) K.S. has been employed in the housekeeping department of the **Marriott Century Center Hotel** since June 2008. He has a learning disability.
- ◆ (DeKalb) R.A., emotional and learning disability, has been employed at **Kroger** since May 2011.
- ◆ (DeKalb) D.A., learning disability, has been employed at **Kroger** since September 2011.
- ◆ (DeKalb) G.C., learning disability, has been employed at **Burlington Coat Factory** since September 2011.
- ◆ (Atlanta) H.R. has been employed since 2002 at the **Four Season's Hotel** in the kitchen as a utility worker and in the employee cafeteria.
- ◆ (Fulton) D.W., a young man with ADHD, worked at **Checker's** from August 2011-October 2012, resigned, and completed truck driving school through C.R. England in Utah. He now drives an eighteen wheeler.
- ◆ (Atlanta) Bridges participant D.O. has been employed since February 2008 as a dining room attendant and in banquet set-up at the **Renaissance Concourse Hotel**. He has a learning disability.
- ◆ (Cobb) S.M., who has a mild intellectual disability, has been employed since June 2008 at the **Marriott Atlanta Northwest** as a banquet server.
- ◆ (DeKalb) A.C. has been employed as a courtesy clerk at **Kroger** since June of 2009. A.C. has a learning disability and speech/language impairment.
- ◆ (Cobb) B.L., a young lady with a learning disability, has been employed at **Goodwill** since May 2011.
- ◆ (Cobb) P.W. is a young man who has been employed at **RaceTrac** since March 2011.

- ◆ (Cobb) L.T., with an emotional and behavioral disorder, has been employed steadily since July 2011, first at **Chick-fil-A** and now at **Starbucks**.
- ◆ (Cobb) A.H., with a learning disability, has been employed at **Home Depot**, since March 2011.
- ◆ (DeKalb) D.B., a young man with ADHD, has been employed at **BrandsMart USA** since May 2011.
- ◆ (DeKalb) H.R., a young man with a health impairment, has been employed at **Kroger** since October 2011.