

WINTER 2025

EMPLOYMENT HORIZONS



# ON THE HORIZON



EMHORIZONS



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EMPLOYMENT HORIZONS, INC.

2024  
IN REVIEW



## MOST POPULAR PROGRAMS

- 1 Supported Employment
- 2 Vocational Rehabilitation
- 3 RISE Program
- 4 Evaluation
- 5 Culinary & Janitorial Training



## CLIMBING THE CAREER



### Stevenson's Path to Leadership

At Employment Horizons, we are committed to helping individuals thrive. Stevenson Colon's promotion to Supervisor at our AbilityOne Contract at Picatinny Arsenal is a testament to his hard work and the support he received along the way.

Hired as a Cleaner in June 2018, Stevenson's strong work ethic and reliability quickly set him apart, earning him a spot on a specialized team handling complex assignments. "Stevenson is incredibly dependable," said Gilsenia Castro, Director of Commercial Services. "I trust that when I give him a task, he will do it

well."

As Stevenson took on new challenges, his attention to detail, organizational skills, and leadership potential became clear. By October 2024, his growth and accomplishments culminated in his well-deserved promotion to Supervisor. Reflecting on his journey, Stevenson shared, "I really like my new role. I love helping people, whether it's getting them supplies or assisting with their tasks."

We are proud of Stevenson's achievements and excited to see what he accomplishes next.

## A MESSAGE FROM LISA MONTALBANO

As we reflect on 2024, I am filled with pride and gratitude for all that we have accomplished together. This year has been a remarkable journey, marked by growth, resilience, and unwavering dedication to our mission of creating meaningful opportunities for people with disabilities.

One of our most exciting milestones was the launch of our classroom-based Culinary Arts Program. This initiative has been a resounding success, with three cohorts completing the program this year. Each graduate has not only developed valuable skills but also built confidence and independence, setting the stage for fulfilling careers in the food service industry.

We also expanded the scope of our cleaning contract with Picatinny Arsenal, enabling us to employ even more individuals with disabilities. This growth is a testament to the quality of our work and the trust placed in us by our partners.

On the fundraising front, 2024 was a record-breaking year. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our team, our events exceeded expectations, providing critical resources to sustain and grow our programs. Equally significant was the advocacy work we accomplished, amplifying the voices of individuals with disabilities.

As we look ahead to 2025, I am inspired by the momentum we have built. We are eager to continue expanding our programs, forging new partnerships, and deepening our impact. Together, we will pursue new opportunities to empower individuals with disabilities, fostering a world where everyone can thrive.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Here's to another year of breaking barriers and creating possibilities!



*Lisa Montalbano*  
**LISA MONTALBANO**  
Chief Executive Officer

## 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



Peter Mellusi (middle right) celebrated receiving the Anthony Pennucci Award for Outstanding Achievement with his family at Employment Horizons' Holiday Party. Peter, who works in EH's fulfillment center and on the janitorial team, is known for being reliable and always having a great attitude.



Program Participant Christine Moraski (left) and Manager of Culinary Arts Kaylee Wickersham (right) wowed Taste of Spring attendees with their lemon dessert. Photo by Sweet Dreams Studio.



# win - WIN

## AT OUR FULFILLMENT CENTER

At Employment Horizons, our Fulfillment Center isn't just a workspace—it's where lives are transformed. Since 1957, we've been helping businesses tackle time-consuming tasks while providing meaningful work for individuals with disabilities. With a team of 115 program participants, we've built a strong reputation for delivering exceptional results. It's a win-win!

Our participants take immense pride in their work, delivering results that exceed expectations. As one participant shares, "Working here has given me a purpose, and I'm proud of the difference I make every day."

We don't just get the job done—we get it done right. With rigorous quality checks, on-time delivery, and competitive pricing, partnering with Employment Horizons makes sense for businesses. As one customer says, "Using Employment Horizons' Fulfillment Center saved my team hundreds of hours of work."

Most importantly, every task we take on helps our participants build confidence, learn new skills, and gain independence. Director of Fulfillment Sam Castro sums it up perfectly, "These partnerships create opportunities that change lives, solve real business needs, and benefit our entire community."

**Let's work together to make a difference!**



Email [worktogether@ehorizons.org](mailto:worktogether@ehorizons.org)

### Our Services

Mailings

Document Shredding

Packet & Folder  
Assembly

Labeling & Collating

Packaging & Assembly

Kitting

Re-Conditioning

# FROM SAUTÉ TO SERVSAFE

## A Year in the Kitchen

In just one year, our Culinary Arts Classroom-Based Training Program has cooked up a batch of success stories. Since its launch in February, the program has produced three cohorts of skilled food service professionals. Fourteen participants have earned their white chef coats, and 100% of those who tested for ServSafe certification—a key credential for success in the food industry—successfully achieved it.

This year's cohorts dove into culinary essentials, mastering knife skills, recipe execution, and customer service. The crowning achievement? Two pop-up restaurant events, where participants wowed guests with their teamwork and delicious dishes—offering a real-world taste of working in a professional kitchen.

The program's impact is already evident. One graduate secured a position as General Assistance Manager at Wawa, while others are actively pursuing food service careers with new confidence and marketable skills.

"This program is about building careers, creating opportunities, and helping individuals grow," says Kaylee Wickersham, Manager of Culinary Arts. "Seeing our participants support each other and develop into skilled professionals has been so rewarding."



*In their white chef coats, Justine Stubbs (left) and Shawn White (right) celebrate their graduation from the program with their families and friends.*

Graduates feel the same. Dario Torres, who was in the first cohort, shared, "I feel good that I learned knife skills, safety, and working as a team. I am excited that I am taking the next step forward by looking for a job."

By blending hands-on training with industry-recognized certifications, the Culinary Arts Training Program is opening doors to meaningful employment. As we celebrate the success of our first year, we're excited to see what's next for these talented graduates—and to welcome the next class of aspiring culinary stars in 2025!



## OUR MISSION

Employment Horizons is dedicated to assisting people with barriers to employment to achieve their individual vocational objectives and establish self-sufficiency in the community.

## CONTACT US

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## VISIT US

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