

A Journey to Confidence and Fulfillment



Heather's story is filled with grit, growth, and the excitement of finding where she truly shines. At D & K Powder Coating in North Mankato, MN, Heather has discovered not just a job but a fulfilling role that aligns with her goals and aspirations. Since October 23, 2024, Heather has embraced her duties with enthusiasm and a growing sense of pride. Each day, she contributes to the smooth operation of the business, proving herself as a valuable and dedicated team member.

Her journey to this accomplishment wasn't a straight path. Heather began with MRCI's IPS Employment Services program in Sibley County, initially unsure of what to expect. "When I enrolled in the IPS program, I thought it was just going to be like a temp service," Heather reflected. "But it was way better than that! They teach you how to be more self-confident, help you stick to your goals, and find the right job for you. I'm very happy to be part of this program and very grateful for everything they've done."

This shift in perspective was life-changing for Heather. With the guidance and encouragement of her MRCI Employment Specialist, Sandy Schlueter, Heather began to navigate the challenges she faced. "It has been a joy to watch Heather become successful with her job search and new employment," Sandy shared. "You can see the pride in her face while reaching and accomplishing each goal during this process!"

One of Heather's biggest hurdles was maintaining consistency, especially on days when things didn't go as planned. These moments could have derailed her, but

with Sandy's support, Heather learned to recognize patterns and develop strategies to stay on track. The progress she has made is evident not only in her work but also in her outlook.

"In the past, Heather felt that she was stuck in a job she didn't enjoy and couldn't see a way out," Sandy explained. "With help from the IPS program, she met her goals head-on and found employment she loves!"

Now, Heather's confidence shines as brightly as the pride she takes in her accomplishments. Her role at D & K Powder Coating is more than just a job; it highlights the impact of support, self-belief, and hard work. Heather's story serves as a reminder of what can be achieved with the right resources and determination.

For more information about MRCI's IPS program or to become an employment partner, call 507-386-5600 or visit mymrci.org.



About MRCI

MRCI provides genuine opportunities for people with disabilities and disadvantages at home, at work and in the community. To become an employment partner, or for more information, please call 507-386-5600.