

Join the Emerge Family...

Becoming an Employer In the Community

Emerge Inc., incorporated in 1976 as a nonprofit agency supporting a national movement for reducing the number of people with disabilities living in institutions, offers care for individuals with developmental, physical and mental health disabilities. We refer to individuals entrusted to our care as “customers” to stress that their needs and preferences come first with us.

Many Emerge customers want to work at meaningful jobs, and are fully capable of working full-time in their local communities. For them, the opportunity to work for pay is a point of personal pride and a big boost to their sense of self-worth and independence.

That’s why, after thorough training, the Emerge team regularly places these individuals with employers in the Maryland communities we serve. These employers—proud members of the Emerge family in their own right—include Giant Food, Pizza Hut and Toys ‘R Us, among others. They consistently report that their Emerge workers are reliable, thorough and friendly; in a number of cases, individual Emerge customers have worked continuously for a community employer for five, ten and even 20 years.

If you are a potential employer, or just have questions about our employment program, we urge you to contact Jarred Urso (at 443.393.3735 or Jurso@emergeinc.org).

Most of our Emerge customers who work full-time in their local communities are fully independent, responsible for reporting on time on their assigned days and working full shifts. Most of them use public transportation to get to and from work.

An Emerge customer new to his or her job is required to earn this independence. During their first several weeks on the job they are accompanied for full shifts by an Emerge community job coach, an Emerge professional staff member who has guided them through the application and interview process. After this initial

period, the coach visits regularly to ensure that the customer is performing productively and—as is usually the case—thriving on the job.



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