

Reaching People with Disabilities through Healthy Communities

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Ryan Easley	
<p>This project has impacted my life because:</p>	<p>I have been involved with this project as a <i>Good Food Here</i> Specialist and my life is better and more fulfilling because of this experience. I have earned a job in the community because of the skills I have learned through this project.</p>
<p>The most influential policy, system, or environmental change of this project to me was:</p>	<p>I have volunteered with the mobile produce pantry for the past three years. I am helping people in my community to access fresh fruits and vegetables and improving my skills at the same time. Now we all have improved access to healthy eating.</p>
<p>As a result of this, I/we: <i>(List how you have been impacted, influenced, affected – e.g. tell us something you can do now that you couldn't before, or what the change has helped to improve)</i></p>	<p>While volunteering at the mobile produce pantry, I have learned how to sort and pack produce, follow work instructions, and provide excellent customer service. This also has led to the opportunity to volunteer at another community produce pantry, where I get to use my skills and see some of the same people.</p>
<p>What was the emotional connection, self-efficacy, or “ah-ha” moment for this project?</p>	<p>I am now employed as an assistant at Marion’s weekly farmers market. When I interviewed for this job I was able to talk about my experience at the mobile produce pantry, and I know the skills I learned are very important. It now makes me feel very good when people tell me I am doing a good job at work and that they like having me there.</p>

Please note that testimonials may be edited for clarity by the NACDD Communications Department.