

Building Confidence and Pride

PARTNERSHIP FOR HOPE IN MACON COUNTY: BUILDING A BRIGHTER TOMMORROW

Dakota began services with Kirksville Regional Office and County Connections Service Coordination Program six years ago; at that time he was entering Junior High in Macon. Dakota was a quiet, shy man and the oldest of three boys in his family. Dakota experienced some struggles with academics and interactions with others. Dakota had and continues to have a good support system and team of advocates in his life that at that time helped link him with supports through the Partnership for Hope Waiver provided by Learning Opportunities Quality Works Inc.



These services were provided to support Dakota through role modeling to help him gain leadership skills, self-esteem, and social interaction skills with his peers. Dakota actively attended the LOQW Summer YES Program for the past three years and attended the Youth Leadership Academy- both of which

were made possible by the Macon County Senate Bill 40 Board. Dakota has become involved in his local YMCA. In school he joined and participated in work program, FCCLA, FFA, and attended his high school prom. As school was drawing to an end, Dakota's support team linked him up with Vocational Rehabilitation Services to help him pursue his goal of working.

By having the supports through the Partnership for Hope, Dakota has improved his life, socialization skills and built lasting friendships. He knows the importance of being honest, respectful, making independent decisions, has the confidence to interact with his peers and work in his community. Through these supports, he was also able to get a job at C&R grocery store and is receiving the assistance needed for him to be successful on the job. Dakota is still receiving services through the Partnership for Hope Program and continues to have goals that will lead to even greater independence and involvement in his community.

Submitted by Learning Opportunities Quality Work, Inc.



Improving lives THROUGH
supports and services
THAT FOSTER self-determination.