

Marcie's Story

Marcie S, 28, gained employment as a dishwasher at Sunrise Assisted Living in March of 2007 with the support of the St. Louis Arc. Since day one, Marcie maintained a good track record at Sunrise and continued to lead a very structured and well-rounded life at home with her family. Through the years, Marcie had very few, if any, setbacks until March 26, 2012 when she had surgery to remove a brain tumor.



Marcie's parents, Jackie and Bob, her Arc job coach and Sunrise her employer were all very concerned; not only for Marcie's health, but whether she would be able to recover and go back to work. Marcie was considered to be such an asset that Sunrise agreed to hold her job open and allow her to return to work after being out on medical leave for over three months. While Marcie was recuperating, her co-workers worked over-time, and her managers stepped in and helped out whenever needed. Marcie's job coach also advocated for her and made frequent visits to Sunrise, the hospital and to her home.

Marcie's mother kept in constant contact with all parties to make sure everyone was aware that Marcie was strong and recovering nicely. After three months of recovery, Marcie returned to work on June 25, 2012.

When Marcie went back to Sunrise she had a new boss and changes had been made to her position. However, on Marcie's first day back to work, she didn't miss a beat. She returned to her job like she had never been gone and learned how to communicate with her new boss and how to take on her new job duties. Marcie was a trooper through it all and her supervisor, Chris, stated: "Marcie is the hardest working person I have ever seen."

Through constant communication and hard work, Marcie has recovered nicely thanks to everyone involved. Marcie is very much a success story due to her own strength, her drive to succeed and her support team who advocated for Marcie's long term success.