

# Students, Parents, and Districts share...

"...love, love, love this program. My son is confident, independent, and ready for competitive employment."

"Pathways is awesome. I can do all kinds of things independently – ride the metro, go to the grocery and the bank..."

"The staff consistently goes the extra mile. My daughter has learned more in this program than she did her whole high school career."

"As a district representative, I am in full support of this program. What you are able to provide students is truly awesome!"

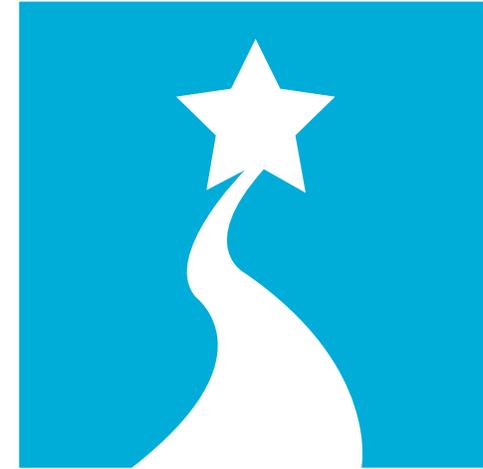
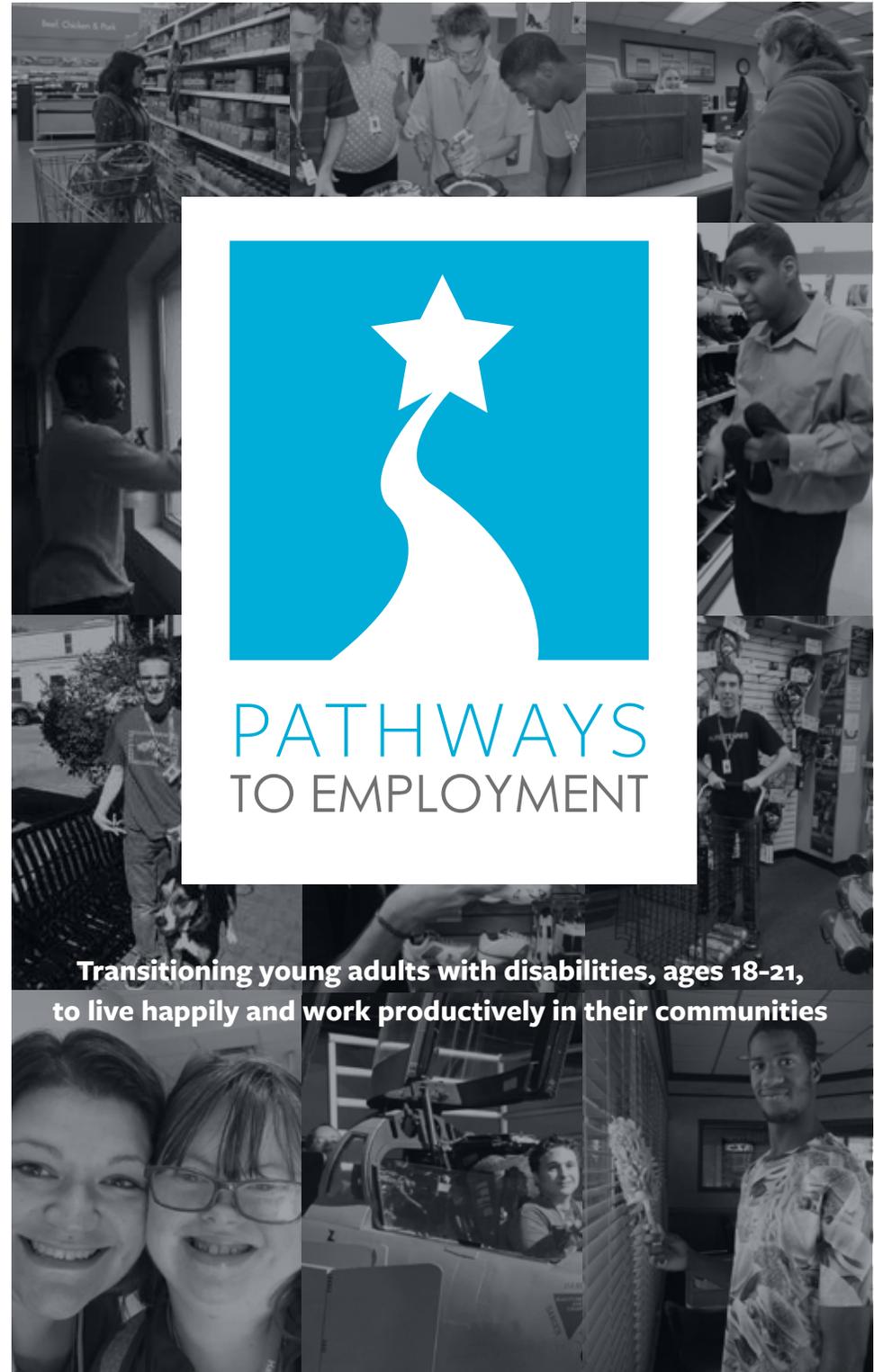
## FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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hamilton  
county



INTERVENTION &  
SUPPORT SERVICES  
Hamilton County ESC



PATHWAYS  
TO EMPLOYMENT

Transitioning young adults with disabilities, ages 18-21,  
to live happily and work productively in their communities

Pathways to Employment is a comprehensive program for young adults with disabilities, between the ages of 18 and 21, in need of a curriculum centered on work and life skills. The program prepares them to transition from a high school student to a productive member of their community.

Two classroom sites, one in Blue Ash and the other at Scarlet Oaks Career Campus, make the program accessible to all students in the Cincinnati and surrounding areas.



## Why Parents Choose Pathways:

**Excellent staff.** The intervention specialists, transition coordinator, and job coaches demonstrate sincere concern and respect for each young adult in the program. They evidence this by meeting each person at their readiness level and establishing appropriate steps toward achieving their chosen goals.

**Observable growth.** Successful adults possess numerous soft skills that are difficult to measure but easily observed. Pathways participants exit the program having gained maturity, independence, and greater confidence, as well as life and employment skills.

**Caring environment.** Leaving one's "home school" is scary for both parents and program participants. However, the routines, structures, and open communication practices implemented by the staff members enable the quick development of trust.

## Why Students Love Pathways:

**Applicable learning.** As a Pathways participant, young adults focus on functional academics as they apply to daily living. Everyday tasks, serving as the foundation of the curriculum, such as budgeting, shopping, cooking, and time management enhance both math and reading skills.

**Real-life experiences.** Young adults in the program enjoy several short-term (2-3 months) work experiences in the community. With the help of their one-to-one job coach, participants identify work fields best suited to their strengths, interests, and aspirations.

**Lasting friendships.** Throughout their time in the program, participants plan and attend community outings with their peers and their families. During which they practice travel training, experience new things, learn self-advocacy, and form life-long friendships. Best of all, they have fun!

## What Makes Pathways Unique?

**Individualized experience.** Pathways staff construct a customized daily schedule that aligns to the needs of each young adult. No two participants have the same experience.

**Job training.** All participants learn how to search, apply for, and interview for a job. They understand how to conduct themselves in a professional setting through on-the-job training and the assistance of their job coach. Most importantly, the work experiences provide students the chance to transfer classroom learning to real-world situations.

**Business Partnerships.** Pathways to Employment has an assortment of community partners from various industries such as clerical, pet care, retail, food service, entertainment, healthcare, personal care, hospitality, and childcare. Should a student desire an experience in a setting in which there is not an established partnership, the Pathways staff will build one!