The Arc of Palm Beach County Food Service Program

Contact Information

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Award Details

Amount awarded: \$15,000 Date awarded: April 30, 2025

Final Report to Wycliffe Charities

The generously awarded \$15,000 from Wycliffe Charities was utilized to support The Arc of Palm Beach County's Food Service Program, which provides Palm Beach County adults with disabilities with culinary service industry and hospitality skills while simultaneously addressing food insecurity within the community. The Food Service Program serves adults with disabilities who have diagnoses including developmental disabilities (76%); mental illnesses (15%); physical disabilities (8%); and hearing &/or visual disabilities (1%).

Individuals with disabilities are much less likely to be employed compared to those without, and the Food Service Program resolves this discrepancy through training in our south campus' full commercial kitchen café, where participants learn culinary skills and can practice socialization skills by providing nutritious, delicious meals to 90 individuals with disabilities per day through the Café.

During the grant period, 22 clients were served. Anticipated outcomes as listed in the original proposal included:

- The number of Food Service Program trainees who receive employment skill services.
 - The aim is to train at least 20 adults with disabilities.
 - This goal was exceeded; 22 clients were trained.
- The number of trainees graduating from the program and who are placed in community employment.
 - This outcome will be achieved if at least five (5) trainees obtain community-based employment.
 - This goal was met.
- The percentage of trainees who meet their own personal goals and objectives related to life and employment skills, as specified in their Implementation Plan.
 - Success will be met if at least 80% of trainees demonstrate progress on their Implementation Plan.
 - This goal was exceeded; at least 85% of trainees demonstrated progress on their Implementation Plan.
- The average number of individuals with disabilities who receive meals each day.
 - At least 90 people per day will receive meals, regardless of their inability to pay.
 - This goal was met, over 90 people per day received meals.