

Hard at Heinen's

BACKGROUND

The mission of the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to help local individuals with developmental disabilities live, learn and earn in the community. One individual, Katie Bruening, has found success at Heinen's Grocery Store in Chardon.

KATIE'S STORY

Katie has worked at Heinen's since the summer of 2012. She first started as an unpaid worker to build job experience in a two-week temporary position, but her manager liked her so much that she was hired full-time. Her current supervisor, Lynn, is happy that Katie decided to stay on as an employee.

"Katie is always smiling" Lynn said. "She has a positive attitude and a great work ethic. We love having her on our team."

Katie's main responsibility is maintaining the cafe and salad bar, ensuring that tables are clean and salad stations are filled. She also makes coffee and assists with bagging groceries when the store gets busy.

"We have a few individuals from the GCBDD, and they are great employees," Pritchard said. "They have great attitudes and are a joy to work with."

GCBDD'S COMMITMENT

The Geauga County Board is committed to finding employment for the individuals we serve by partnering with private providers and local businesses. Several businesses have embraced this idea, including the Weils of Bainbridge, Hamlet Village, Giant Eagle, Pizza Hut, Kuhnle Brothers, White House Chocolates, Bob Evans, Drug Mart, University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center, Heinen's and Sajar Plastics, LLC.

If your businesses would like to partner with the board, call **440.729.9406**.

