## MARISA



MARISA LOVES WORKING AT A LOCAL COFFEE SHOP BECAUSE SHE HAS MADE NEW FRIENDS AND ENJOYS TALKING TO CUSTOMERS. SHE HAS LEARNED SO MUCH IN HER ROLE AS A BARISTA, WHICH WILL PREPARE HER FOR HER FUTURE AS A PASTRY CHEF.

## MARISA'S STORY

When Marisa spotted a "Help Wanted" sign on the door at a local coffee shop, she knew the opportunity would be a great fit for her. She reached out to her SSA, who, in turn, brought in Marisa's job coach. A connection was made, and Marisa has been happily working as a barista since July 2019.

Not only does Marisa love her job, but her coworkers are happy to have her there as well. Her coworker Olyvia says "Marisa has an outgoing, funny personality. There's never a dull moment with her around. Marisa is a pleasure to work with anytime, and I'm always excited to see that I am scheduled with her. She has become a wonderful barista throughout the time she has been here."

Through her work at the coffee shop, Marisa has learned to use all of the different machines, including the espresso machine, coffee grinder and steam wand. In addition to making the coffee drinks, she also waits on customers, cleans the dining room, takes out the trash, cleans the dishes, makes sandwiches and works the drive-through. Marisa has learned that it is important for all employees to be cross trained in every role so they can help each other. While she enjoys everything about working at the coffee shop, Marisa's favorite parts of the job are making sandwiches, talking to customers and getting to know her coworkers.

When she is not at work, Marisa has been studying to become a pastry chef and will soon graduate from the International Culinary Arts and Sciences Institute in Chesterland. Aside from work and school, Marisa loves going to LifePoint church in Mentor, enjoys listening to country music, going to concerts and skiing when weather permits. Marisa likes to volunteer a lot as well. She has a horse named BayLee and volunteers at Fieldstone Farm, as well as at Make-A-Wish as a Wish Granter. In addition to all of her activities, Marisa is an avid sports fan and likes hockey, basketball and baseball, with her favorite team being the New York Yankees.

## 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. More than 58 area businesses have embraced this idea and currently employ individuals with disabilities.

