



Capitol Centre Foods
111 N. Brooks Street
Madison, WI, 53705
608-255-2616

John Leemkuil, Owner; www.capcentrefoods.com

Background Information

Capitol Centre Foods, located in the heart of downtown Madison, is the city's only full service supermarket. Consumers can shop online and, for minimum purchases of \$40, the grocers will be delivered right to your door. When the store in 1983, it began providing opportunities for disabled individuals by giving them something they never had before....independence. Capitol Centre Foods currently employs approximately 90 individuals, and five percent of them have disabilities.

Capitol Centre Foods

- Proactively employs individuals with disabilities through referrals from Goodwill Industries and With a Little Help, Inc. to provide the disabled community with job opportunities.
- Donates money to ARC to fund activities and resources for disabled citizens.
- Participates in yearly Winter Ball where ARC and the Autism Society celebrate the holidays by having a dance, food, and beverages.
- Employees are supportive and helpful with workers and function as a team helping, working with, and looking out for one another.

Story

John Leemkuil recalls the first individual with disabilities he hired. It was pay day and Roy was about to receive his first pay check. "When I handed the paycheck him," John said, "Roy looked at me like he never had before. His eyes got big and lit up and he smiled for the rest of the day knowing what he had accomplished, becoming independent." According to John, "Special people like Roy are hard to forget."

Reported by Cory Schilt, Edgewood College, March 2007, for Professor Denis Collins (dcollins@edgewood.edu) and the 2007 Good Samaritan Award, co-sponsored by the Samaritan Counseling Center and Edgewood College.