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00:01:07,410 --> 00:01:12,190

My name is Mike Redman then one of the classroom teachers here at the San Marcos Adult Transition program

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00:01:12,190 --> 00:01:12,880

and this

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00:01:12,880 --> 00:01:17,680

program really beneficial to our students they've all finished high school now they just need a little help getting

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00:01:17,680 --> 00:01:22,140

on the whatever's next for them that might be spending time at Palomar College looking

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00:01:22,140 --> 00:01:26,390

at vocational skills for just learning how to get around better in their community

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00:01:26,390 --> 00:01:31,770

The adult transition program it's for students eighteen to twenty who usually graduated

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00:01:31,770 --> 00:01:36,290

after high school and this program is available to them if they

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00:01:36,290 --> 00:01:41,170

choose and their parents choose. The goal of transition programs is to help the students

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00:01:41,170 --> 00:01:45,430

become as independent as possible and that really expands

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00:01:45,430 --> 00:01:49,830

beyond the traditional walls of a classroom so students are out in the community, they

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00:01:49,830 --> 00:01:54,740

learn work and vocational skills, they get ready for employment or

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00:01:54,740 --> 00:01:59,300

obtain a job and learn how to function in their community and get around independently

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00:01:59,300 --> 00:02:04,440

as possible. Many of them also learn daily living or domestic kinds of

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00:02:04,440 --> 00:02:08,700

skills that they need to be more independent so it's just really a very different

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00:02:08,700 --> 00:02:13,480

look at educational services. They can learn how to cook and clean and learn

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00:02:13,480 --> 00:02:17,460

the job skills, they'll go out every day for about six hours a

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00:02:17,460 --> 00:02:22,270

day out into the community and learn how to use public transportation, they

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00:02:22,270 --> 00:02:27,670

learn so much in that program. So when they're in high school there's a lot of academics and they do

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00:02:27,670 --> 00:02:31,620

electives but when they're in the transition program it's all about preparing

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00:02:31,620 --> 00:02:35,190

them for adult life and being as independent as possible

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00:02:35,190 --> 00:02:40,090

and self-sufficient as possible. They gain life skills, many of them may not know

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00:02:40,090 --> 00:02:44,030

how to access the bus lines around here that's one of the things we work on,

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00:02:44,030 --> 00:02:47,920

they gain social skills by spending time with the same age peers over

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00:02:47,920 --> 00:02:52,530

Palomar College or Cal State College or just wherever we go in the

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00:02:52,530 --> 00:02:56,460

community it's great for them to be out-and-out.

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00:03:15,050 --> 00:03:18,470

How we found out about the program is through his high school teacher

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00:03:18,470 --> 00:03:23,540

Miss Cook at Mission Hills High school she told us about this program

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00:03:23,540 --> 00:03:28,060

the adult transition program, from there we came and sat down with some of the staff.

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00:03:28,060 --> 00:03:31,280

And began the process for him to start, he is beginning to understand

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00:03:31,280 --> 00:03:36,500

about the value of money by going shopping with the with the staff in his peers here

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00:03:36,500 --> 00:03:41,530

he makes different meals at home now, he usually just want something like just say a

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00:03:41,530 --> 00:03:45,310

cheeseburger now he loves to make his own sandwiches he

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00:03:45,310 --> 00:03:59,760

has helped me out with chores around the house even more now and I'm seeing him become a lot more self sufficient when it comes to

different things

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00:04:12,120 --> 00:04:16,990

I would say that you're looking at a population of students and,

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00:04:16,990 --> 00:04:20,260

citizens in their communities that are really an

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00:04:20,260 --> 00:04:25,510

untapped resource, students and people who are very committed and

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00:04:25,510 --> 00:04:30,280

wanting to the employed and are people that will

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00:04:30,280 --> 00:04:33,780

not take unwanted breaks, will be there on time

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00:04:33,780 --> 00:04:36,540

will stay and work really hard and they are

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00:04:36,540 --> 00:04:40,590

so desirous of a job and desiring employment that

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00:04:40,590 --> 00:04:45,270

they will be very committed as the really good employee, very

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00:04:45,270 --> 00:04:48,970

dependable and trustworthy and just

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00:04:48,970 --> 00:04:53,860

they're really an untapped resource that most people are not aware of.

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00:04:53,860 --> 00:04:58,640

My name is Diane Wheeler, I am the local franchise owner here in San Marcos. Casey started

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00:04:58,640 --> 00:05:03,180

with us shortly after we opened. Karen Thompson from San Marcos High

School workability program

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00:05:03,180 --> 00:05:08,560

contacted me to see if I would be interested in working with the program. She brought Casey

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00:05:08,560 --> 00:05:11,000

in to me and

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00:05:11,000 --> 00:05:16,470

instantly we could see that Casey had a real natural ability with dogs so we did

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00:05:16,470 --> 00:05:20,740

hire her as part of the program which lasted about two months. After

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00:05:20,740 --> 00:05:25,020

her two months in the program we actually hired as an employee.

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00:05:26,130 --> 00:05:32,310

And she's been here since right after we opened in 2008. I go in the back in the

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00:05:32,310 --> 00:05:37,160

kitchen and put my stuff down their and after I clock in I'll go and look at

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00:05:37,160 --> 00:05:41,710

the dogs. It's a fun job. I worked with Casey for two years

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00:05:41,710 --> 00:05:45,420

as well and Casey is a great worker she does awesome she

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00:05:45,420 --> 00:05:51,170

plays with the dog tons, she is always very active with them running around and they all

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00:05:51,170 --> 00:05:55,600

love her, she's a really great worker she learns really quickly does

everything that, you know,

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00:05:55,600 --> 00:05:57,250

we need her to do, yeah it's

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00:05:57,250 --> 00:06:02,080

been really great experience, highly recommend it definitely I think it's really great that

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00:06:02,080 --> 00:06:06,490

these individuals get the opportunity to do what they really love

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00:06:06,490 --> 00:06:11,320

And that businesses are willing to give these students the opportunity to do that

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00:06:11,320 --> 00:06:15,210

kind of thing, I've seen Casey blossom in so many ways

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00:06:15,210 --> 00:06:20,210

The duties are typically the same as any other employee so they are interacting playing with the dogs making sure

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00:06:20,210 --> 00:06:25,270

the group stays safe so that there's not any issues so if you notice to dogs that are not getting

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00:06:25,270 --> 00:06:29,350

along you might have to separate them, they clean-up after the

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00:06:29,350 --> 00:06:34,330

dogs which is a lot of work, Casey's amazing if you ever watch as we have webcams

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00:06:34,330 --> 00:06:38,250

she never stops from the moment she gets there from the time she goes home

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00:06:38,250 --> 00:06:43,520

playing and interacting with every dog. It's a really great opportunity I think for them and the

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00:06:43,520 --> 00:06:49,730

businesses definitely. First of all getting involved in the communities is really important for any small business

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00:06:49,730 --> 00:06:55,190

and the students, most of the students Iâve had been amazing, you know, when

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00:06:55,190 --> 00:06:59,860

they find their niche and like Casey has here at Dogtopia, like Joshua has here

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00:06:59,860 --> 00:07:03,540

at Dogtopia, they are excellent employees and I wouldnât trade them for anybody else.