

Disabilities Network of Eastern CT, Inc

Consumer: Louis D. Phelmetto Jr.

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My name is Louis Phelmetto Jr., I have been working with Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut for year.

I am 63 years old, I have five child one deceased. I live independently in Groton, CT.

Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut helped me purchase this lingraphica so I can become more independent.

I had a stroke either years ago that caused limited use of my right side of my body and aphasia.

After the stroke I had to learn how to function as a left-handed person, which is not an easy task.

However with hard work and a lot of help from Deborah Hunsicker from L&M in Groton I was able to learn.

After the stroke and therapy all I wanted to do was to go back to work.

I volunteered and still do at L&M in Groton.

Understand many years before my stroke I worked at Electric Boat as an Electronic Engineer.

I have pride in my work experience and a few years after my stroke all I could think about was going back to work.

I would with BRS, however I wasn't successfully placed.

I then started working with Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut on job placement.

They worked with me for over a year on placement and would come monthly to also help me with my lingraphica

The helped me learn more about my lingraphica and would come monthly to help to develop new icons for me.

No other agency has ever been able to do that with me.

I worked with Precious Putnam on both job placement and the lingraphica, she never gave up on me.

Finally with lots of work and patience I was given the opportunity to work at the Navy Base in Groton.

Together BRS and Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut were able to assist with this work opportunity.

It ended up a successful placement. I can now say that I work for CW Resources on the Navy Groton Base.

My supervisor, Michael Young, who is retired from the Navy reminds me of my son who is currently service in the Navy.

My job is more than a paycheck, it gives me independence, a sense of accomplishment and most of all a sense of community.

I love going to work and having co-workers to laugh with as well as doing physical labor.

There is nothing like coming home from work and feeling tired from a long hard day at work.

If it wasn't for Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut, I don't think I would be here telling you a successful story.

Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut helped me reach my biggest goal since the stroke, which was to go back to work and become a productive person in the community.

Thank you for listening to my story.