



ACADEMY
AT GLENGARY

SUMMER 2022

**Special
Employment
Edition**

941-921-9930

www.AcademySRQ.org

1910 Glengary St., Sarasota, FL 34231

HIRE CONFIDENCE

When Eric walks into the Academy dining room, a chorus of greetings ensues. It's lunchtime but Eric is just arriving, straight from his shift as a dietary aide at the Pines of Sarasota. His feet still hurt, he says, but it was otherwise a great day. It's his third week on the job and the first week that he has worked without an Academy job coach by his side. He sits at a table with one of his job coaches, Jeffrey, and Sylvia, a fellow Academy member who has not held a paid position in over fifteen years. "I'm getting the hang of it" Eric says with a satisfied smile. "I had a few questions today, but I was able to figure it out."



Eric Broderick on his Transitional Employment job at Pines of Sarasota

As Eric runs through his day - they were extra busy, so he had to pick up some of the slack, he had a sweet conversation with one of the residents about her son who was on his way to visit - Sylvia is listening intently. It becomes clear that while Eric speaks about his job, Sylvia is picturing herself in the role. It is in this way that members begin to glimpse their possible futures.

The Academy offers a stepwise approach to job success that includes

Transitional and Supported Employment. Transitional jobs are six-to-nine-month assignments that offer a high level of assistance and job training from Academy job coaches. Supported jobs are more permanent, competitive placements in a member's field of choice, such as prep cooks, cashiers, drivers, case managers, receptionists, tutors, landscapers, accountants and more.

After lunch, Eric walks Sylvia back to the employment wall in the Business & Technology team, a floor to ceiling grid of photos of Academy members on the job. Eric points out the Transitional Employment section and suggests that Sylvia consider one of these positions as a first step into competitive

employment. Sylvia's interest is piqued. She has some of the best employers in town to choose from: the Public Defender's Office, Gettel Automotive, Gecko's Restaurants, Sarasota Memorial Hospital and Sunset Automotive.

It will be another six months before Sylvia gets her opportunity. After expressing an interest in several Transitional Employment positions, she decides on the scan administrator position at Sunset Cadillac. And just like that, the cycle continues. A few weeks into her new job, she arrives at the Academy after a day of work. Despite her fatigue - she is still getting used to the sustained hours requiring mental precision - her back is a little straighter and there is a spring in her step. She is more than happy to tell anyone who asks just why that is. Her job means much more than a paycheck to her; the opportunity to use her

skills, find purpose, build confidence and create a better future for herself is priceless.



Stephen Anderson proudly shows his first paycheck from his position at Sunset Cadillac.

(left to right) Academy job coach Idanes Paredes shows member Chanaka Weerasinghe the ropes at Tripletail Seafood & Spirits



The Academy at Glengary

AcademySRQ.org

VALUES-BASED

Values inspire our journey and guide the pathway to recovery.

SO, WHERE'S THE KIMCHI?

One of our favorite condiments at home is kimchi, a spicy, fermented Korean cabbage and vegetable mixture. It's a great side dish for all types of meals, but it's not easy to find at your average grocery store. I decided to look for it at our local Sprouts Farmers' Market. I knew that I would not have to search the entire store because I could count on the assistance of Nicole Pendleton, one of our Academy members, who has been working at Sprouts for more than a year. I was sure that she'd point me in the right direction.

Experiences like this have become one of my biggest pleasures nowadays—I love walking into an area business and finding one of our members busy at work. From Sarasota-Bradenton Airport to Gettel Acura to Gecko's Restaurants, our members can be found working throughout the county. But it wasn't always like that.

When we first opened the Academy five years ago, we set a high goal: we wanted our Academy members to gain employment at the best businesses in town—companies with a reputation for quality and for which any of us, or our family members, would be proud to work. We knew that the process would take time. First, we needed to prepare our members through participation in our work-ordered day. It's how we provide members with the opportunity to brush up on the hard and soft skills needed to succeed in the workplace. At the same time, we asked our Board

members and Academy Ambassadors to identify and build relationships with high profile employers. It's been a fun and fulfilling process.

Back to Nicole. Well, when I asked her about kimchi, she knew right where to direct me, to the left of the deli in the sauerkraut section. In her role as an online orders fulfillment specialist, Nicole has become an expert on product location at Sprouts, so I was in good hands. Oh, and by the way, I was delighted to discover that Sprouts offers several varieties of kimchi.

William McKeever

Director



Nicole Pendleton and William McKeever at Sprouts

OUR AMBASSADORS

The Academy Ambassadors fill a vital role by sharing our mission and helping us build strong roots in the community.

Peter Abbott • Rob and Ruth Anderson • Steve and Barbara Armstrong
Jon and Kris Berg • Ed Bertha • Stewie Bitterman • Kim Bleach • Veronica Brady
Kim Burns • Warren and Cecile Collmer • Linda Cournoyer • Phil Delaney • Larry Eger
Scott Eller • Robert Geyer • Al and Polly Giuffrida • Ric Gregoria • Hal Hedley • Michael Klauber
Tom Knight • Sharon Lerner • David Maglich • Pat Mahoney • Brian Mariash
Robert Meade • John Overton • Reverend Bruce Porter • Mike and Mary Quillen
Rich Segall • Jeff Steinwachs • Paul Steinwachs • Sharon Steinwachs
Debbie and Dave West • Joan and Brian Wides • Honorable Charles E. Williams

COMMUNITY • WORK • QUALITY • FRIENDSHIP • RESPECT • WELLNE





Carla Giuffrida

MEET CARLA

When I reflect upon all of the ups and downs these past few years, the Academy has definitely been a huge up. I became a member in 2019. I was attending a couple days a week and, slowly but surely, gained my confidence back. The Academy helped me grow and find a pathway to a career at Centerstone as a Certified Recovery Peer Specialist on their FACT team. I was working with my Academy job coach Jodi-lee Weiss when this position became available. It was a very different type of job than the ones I was pursuing, but Jodi encouraged me to apply and I'm so glad I did! Talk about getting an opportunity coming out of left field! I can definitely say that I have run with it! I have been on the job for 2 1/2 years now and have the pleasure of helping others. It is so rewarding! I am so grateful to the Academy.

I work a 40-hour week, right across the street from the Academy, so I often stop by for lunch or a movie night. It's nice to come to a place where everyone knows your name and welcomes you back. It's like coming home.

“The Academy helped me grow and find a pathway to a career.”



Eric Broderick

MEET ERIC

Thanks to the Academy, I am working at my dream job. I've shopped at Publix since moving to Florida eight years ago. "My store" is a five-minute walk from my home. Every time I'm there, I notice how happy and helpful everyone is, and I've wanted to be on their team. I've applied in the past, but never got called. My job coach at the Academy followed up with them so many times. We even went in together just to drop off my resume and try to meet the managers. It finally paid off! I had two interviews, and I was offered the job as a front-end clerk at the end of the second one.

Before I got this job, I worked at the Pines of Sarasota as a dietary aide, as part of the Academy's Transitional Employment (TE) program. That was a temporary job that helped me build stamina, confidence, and job skills. That job got me back on my feet and prepared me for this one.

It's great to earn a paycheck, but the best part of working is being of service. Also, I love the feeling of belonging to a team. My whole family is proud of me, and so is everyone at the Academy. My self-respect has increased, and I feel happier now that I am working. I still attend the Academy because I love it there too, but now I have a lot more going for me.

“...the best part of working is being of service.”



SS • SERVICE • KINDNESS • PURPOSE • ACCEPTANCE • STRUCTURE



4th Annual

Hosted by:
Cayman Seiffert and
Jodi-lee Weiss

Wed.
Aug. 31
7-8 pm

"LIVE from
the Academy"

TELETHON

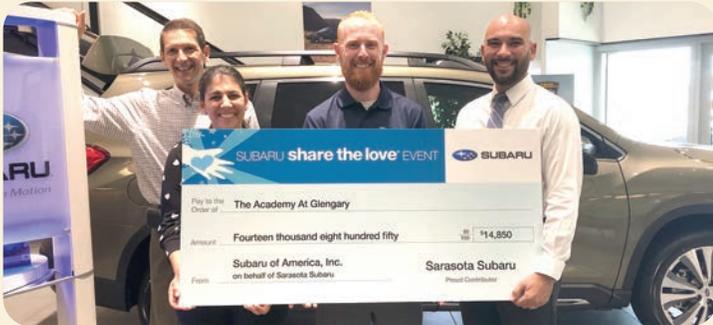
AcademySRQ.org/Live



ACADEMY
AT GLENGARY

SARASOTA SUBARU SHARES THE LOVE

The Academy was honored to be chosen by Sarasota Subaru as the hometown charity for Subaru's signature "Share the Love" event, held every year from November – December. During July, we received a gift of \$14,850, based on a donation for every Subaru sold during the 2021 "Share the Love" campaign. We would like to thank Mr. Chris Doherty, owner, and Mr. Tim Reeher, General Manager, for their generous support. A big thanks to Sarasota Subaru for being part of the solution in mental health. Stay tuned for updates on this year's upcoming 2022 "Share the Love" event!



(left to right) William McKeever, Carla Giuffrida, Tim Reeher, and Marcus Molano

TRAINING LAW ENFORCEMENT

We recently hosted officers of the Sarasota Police Department for tour and lunch as part of their Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). The Academy is one of several mental health providers who help train local law enforcement on strategies designed to redirect individuals experiencing a mental health crisis into treatment. Special thanks to CIT trainer, Ret. Lieutenant Charles Kenniff.



Member Nicole Pendleton (in pink) provided the tour to the CIT group.



Want to learn more?

The first step is to take a tour!

Families, applicants and community providers are welcome.

To schedule a tour, or for more information,

please contact 941-921-9930 or Info@AcademySRQ.org.

Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

DONATE today and become part of the solution
in mental health. Please visit:

AcademySRQ.org

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