Nygil works in the International Center for Spinal Cord Injury (ICSCI) at Kennedy Krieger Institute. Nygil performs many tasks, including running the computers that are hooked up to treadmills, making sure that equipment is set-up and broken down properly and cleaning mats and other equipment items after patients have used them. “My most important job is helping the patients that come to the spinal cord center each day,” he said. “I work with the therapists to make sure that the patients are safe while they are receiving treatment.”

“I like getting up every morning by myself and coming to work. Most importantly, I like making money and being able to help others.”

Nygil received a lot of help when he was looking for jobs in the community. His teachers and friends helped him find a job at a nursing home. He then entered the Project SEARCH program, where he had the opportunity to further work on his professional skills. “I like helping people so I knew that I wanted a job where I could help people,” he said. “I also like being responsible for things. I know that part of my job at ICSCI is being responsible for helping therapists with patients and keep the gym safe and clean. My supervisors have continued to give me more responsibilities which makes me feel good.”

Nygil loves his job. “I like getting up every morning by myself and coming to work,” he said. “Most importantly, I like making money and being able to help others.” He believes that people with disabilities benefit from working competitively in the community. “I believe that people with disabilities should work because it helps them to feel responsible and independent. By working in the community, you get to make money doing something you love and you get to make lots of friends.”