

## Keshod (Missouri)



Keshod had many opportunities to prepare for work while in high school, making his transition to work seamless. He participated in the Vocational Rehabilitation Summer Work Program; job clubs and the LOQW/County Connections Youth Leadership academy and a work experience program at Hannibal High School.

“He was very quiet and shy,” Brock Sousa, Special Education Teacher at Hannibal High School, said of Keshod. “He’d get nervous and overthink everything, not wanting to step out. Throughout the course of the year, the more confidence he got.”

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Keshod was employed after his high school graduation in environmental services at Hannibal Regional Hospital, full time with benefits. This position was a result of his high school work experience program.

“I didn’t think I could achieve anything like this,” Keshod said. “They wanted me, and I decided to get the job. That made me feel good about myself. I have more confidence in myself.”

Keshod likes his independence, and feels like he belongs and contributes to his community. “What I did with my first paycheck was buy pizza for my family,” Keshod said.