Kayla Breaks Efficiency Records at Will Leather Goods

“I really enjoy it. It’s super fun. I say that every day,” Kayla shares about her work at Will Leather Goods, a leather manufacturing company in Eugene. Kayla secured the job with the help of a job developer at The Arc Lane County. Her enthusiasm for the job shines through every task she takes on, especially when managing the pick orders as she fills boxes with products she gathers from around the warehouse floor.

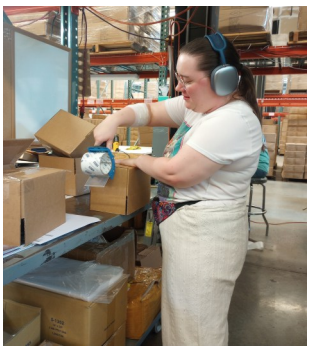


Starting her day as early as 5 a.m., Kayla is dedicated to showing up and giving her best every single day. She’s grown tremendously in her role, going from handling one pick order at a time to managing multiple pick orders simultaneously. By implementing new approaches Kayla helped her team break the record for one day fulfillment orders and she is setting new personal goals along the way.

Kayla takes pride in reaching new achievements. “I think the thing that excites me is finding the systems that work for me and the satisfaction of having it organized to the way that my brain can handle it, and not feeling overwhelmed at all,” Kayla explains.

Her supervisor, Patrick, has noticed her incredible work ethic. “What has surprised me is her willingness to get to work on time without a motor vehicle. She rides her scooter, I find that very impressive,” he says. “I think that people with disabilities tend to come with a more positive disposition. They’re thankful for the work, they’re motivated as employees, so they’re super easy to work with. As a boss, that is a virtue that is not universal.”

Having a supportive boss like Patrick who recognizes her strengths and hard work motivates Kayla every day. “I enjoy being able to push myself without even realizing how hard I’m pushing. Sometimes I overexert myself a little bit, but at the end of the day, I get to hear Patrick say that you did an outstanding job.”



When asked what advice she would give other businesses considering hiring someone with a disability, Kayla offers thoughtful wisdom: “I would say, listen to them, be patient and that they will get through the stresses in their life with just a little bit of patience and some compassion and understanding.” For Kayla this looks like accommodations of wearing noise canceling headphones or using a quieter tape gun.

Kayla’s record-breaking efficiency in her first month is a powerful testament to the teamwork between her, her job coach from The Arc, her supervisor and the team at Will Leather Goods. Their shared success is rooted in open communication, mutual support and a strong work ethic. This collaborative spirit has created a win-win situation for everyone involved—but especially for Kayla, who beams with pride about her new job, “I have been having an absolute blast since day one.”