



Working Together to Make a Difference

L.E. PHILLIPS CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER MONDOVI YOUTH PURSUIT PROGRAM

OSSEO, WI., July 11, 2017- The L.E. Phillips Career Development Center helps individuals with disabilities or disadvantages in any chance they can. Our Programs & Services directors wanted to help these individuals who are in high school that are interested in finding jobs. They began a Youth Pursuit program to help individuals learn work skills to prepare them with the job readiness they need.

The program tours different areas of work around the Chippewa Valley to see where these individuals would be interested to work in their future. They also learn different skills such as how to apply for a job, what questions to ask a company and how to write a thank you letter after you go on a tour.

On Tuesday, July 11, the program toured Titan Air LLLP in Osseo to see how a manufacturing factory works. They saw the different steps it takes to make an air conditioning unit and learned that the company has their products in the U.S., Canada, Mexico and even Japan. They asked questions about words and phrases they did not know about, such as air turnover. This is when the ceilings are so high that the temperature is around seven degrees warmer by the ceiling than it is on the floor. The air turnover machine turns the air so the building is all the same temperature. They heard about different safety measures taken to keep everyone safe which was interesting, because just a few days earlier they had a day learning all about work safety.

The students were interested to know how to apply to a job and they learned that they can go in to fill out an application or do it online. Most of the workers there need a high school diploma to work there. Some of the more technical jobs such as an engineer or sales associate had a four year college degree.

After the tour, The Youth Pursuit program went back to their office to talk about how the tour went and what they learned. They noticed how happy and friendly everyone seemed while doing their job, which is the environment both of them want to work in. They both learned the term “networking” and how it works. They talked about the different employment opportunities and the training they would have to learn the skills to work there. Then they wrote thank you letters to Titan Air LLLP to express how much they enjoyed the tour and they learned. Lastly, they prepared for their next day’s tour at Mayo Clinic Laundry Department by looking up videos and writing down questions to ask while on the tour.

The Youth Pursuit program is enjoying learning about work readiness skills and seeing different places they can possibly work in the future.