

2018 Achievement Honor Roll Award Winners -- Consumers

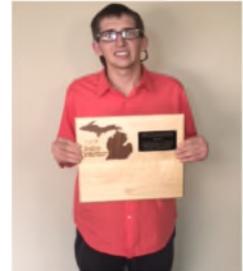
Melanie Ludy, Charlevoix

Melanie had extensive job experience and wanted to find and maintain employment once she moved back to Charlevoix. To help her reach her goals, BSBP provided her with skills of blindness training, orientation and mobility training, vocational assessment, rehabilitation counseling, adaptive technology assessment and training, and several adaptive devices.



Tyler Feil, Keego Harbor

With help from his BSBP counselor, Tyler participated in several work experiences and gained the tools necessary to obtain employment. Within two months of job placement and development services through BSBP, Tyler found employment and is successfully working part time without accommodations.



Randy Tindle, Dorr

With assistance from BSBP, Randy maintained his employment as a regional sales rep of industrial robots. "The vocational and mobility training from BSBP was paramount to my ability to still utilize my mind and experience while redefining my methods and presentation," said Randy. BSBP provided an adaptive technology assessment and adaptive devices, and independent living equipment and training.

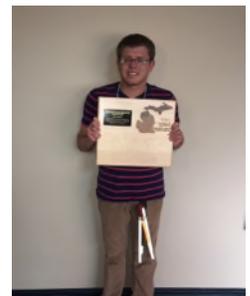


Anna Forest, Macomb

BSBP has been actively involved with Anna's vocational rehabilitation since 2015. BSBP provided several accommodations in high school so she could continue to excel academically: a Perkins Brailier, Braille Note Apex, laptop with JAWS, and a Braille Note Touch. Anna also attended the BSBP College Prep Program in 2017 at the BSBP Training Center. As an honors student, she is considering several universities for her postsecondary education.

Hunter Reed, Traverse City

BSBP's special education transition services, vocational rehabilitation services, and utilization of community partners have helped Hunter become gainfully employed and live independently. He began in BSBP's Youth Low Vision Program while in grade school, completed pre-vocational training through high school work programs, and transitioned into community placement opportunities through BSBP and TBA ISD Summer Work Programs.



Rupinder Sidhu, Rochester Hills

Rupinder graduated from Oakland University with a BA and MA in telecommunications. She also attended the U.S. Business Leadership Network 2017 Rising Leadership Academy in Florida (sponsored by BSBP). To assist with her accommodation needs, BSBP provided her with JAWS and computer training, and provided technical assistance during her transition to employment with the State of Michigan.

Taylor Arndt, Kalamazoo

Taylor received vocational rehabilitation services from BSBP since age 14 and participated in numerous BSBP programs that have provided instruction in both social skills and independent living skills to prepare her for employment and postsecondary training programs. She is a first-year college student in computer science with a goal of working in the accessible software industry as a software developer. Taylor is highly proficient in JAWS, NVDA, Braille Note Taking Displays, and other technologies. In addition to her studies, she is working part time as a help technician through the Accessible Technology Division of Western Michigan University's Office of Information Technology.



Gabrielle Allers, Fort Gratiot

Numerous job shadows and BSBP Pre-Employment Transition Services have helped Gabrielle narrow down career choices she's most interested in after college graduation. She participated in the Pre-ETS "Visions" program in St. Clair County and informational interviews from prospective employers.



James Lenfield, Kalamazoo

Jim, who lives with his wife in Kalamazoo, was able to continue all aspects of his full life and work around his vision loss by participating in BSBP's Independent Living program. He's utilizing an extensive collection of adaptive equipment provided by BSBP to facilitate his independence. Jim is also very pleased with the quality of resources and information available to him through BSBP's Braille and Talking Book Library.



Corenzo Bailey, Kalamazoo

Since "Cory's" arrival at the BSBP Training Center (BSBPTC) in November 2017, he completed Personal Adjustment to Blindness Training, gained math, spelling, verbal and social skills, and completed vocational assessments. Cory gained valuable work experience in BSBPTC's dietary department, enabling him to pursue a culinary occupation.



Kathy Manwaring, Davison

Kathy worked as a nurse for 26 years prior to her vision loss. Among her many goals, one was to learn adaptive kitchen skills and to attend the BSBP Training Center where she increased her skill level in several areas to an assessment of "performs independently." Kathy received several adaptive equipment items and training from BSBP that has enabled her to learn new things, and as she says, be a victor not a victim.

