

# STAFF MANAGEMENT | SMX HELPS SPECIAL NEED STUDENTS GAIN WORK EXPERIENCE

Staff Management | SMX's team at the United Pet Group site in Missouri hosted a local organization that helps special needs high school students gain work experience in a manufacturing setting.

## SUMMARY

We've partnered with Center for Head Injury Services and the Special School District of St. Louis County to provide job access to senior high school students. Before starting the job, the students are put through a workshop to simulate the work and they tour the warehouse to determine if the work is a good fit for them. The students work alongside Staff Management | SMX associates who train and help them as needed. A teacher and job coach are also there for support, but the students primarily work independently.

They are all in their last year of high school and transitioning into adulthood. This program is part of the school district's initiative to help the students find out what they want to do after school.

## STRATEGY

This is the second year that the Staff Management | SMX team is working with these students. Last year, three students were hired on as full-time associates after the school year was completed. This year there are 8 students working at the site.

The program aligns with Staff Management | SMX's mission of connecting people with work by helping them determine if manufacturing is right for them after they finish school.

If you want to get involved with similar partnership opportunities, contact Staff Management | SMX to get started.

## RESULTS



3

Students hired at site in 2018 as full-time associates

8

Students currently working in 2020 as full-time associates