



supported • employment • associates

- Supported Employment Associates was founded in response to an expressed need by parents and school personnel for increased services and choices for persons with disabilities after graduation. A new and innovative approach was needed to respond efficiently and effectively to these needs.
- From 4 transition students in 1993, SEA has grown to serving a total of 191 people in 2009. SEA specializes in individual community jobs. The structure of SEA allows for continued future growth in response to need, and flexibility in staffing and funding.
- The response to this innovative approach to providing employment services has been overwhelmingly positive from customers, funders, and employers.
- In 2009, SEA provided services to 191 people, ages 18 to 69, in 36 communities in DuPage County, Illinois. A total of 100 jobs were supported by SEA during 2009, with an average wage of over \$9.00 per hour. Ninety-four of these jobs were retained for three months or more, with sixty-six of these jobs retained for one year or more.
- The key to SEA's success is personal, individualized service utilizing contracts funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services and other funders. All SEA staff possess college educations, and there is no cost to customers or employers for SEA services.
- In 2009, SEA again received the highest level of accreditation after review by CARF, the nation's leading accreditation body in the rehabilitation field.

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