My Job at the National Bank of Middlebury

by Delsie Farnsworth

I have always worked even when I was in school.

I volunteered at a child care center when I was in high school.

Before going to the bank I worked at Middlebury College for three years.

I had help finding my jobs by Employment Associates of Addison County. I had someone who helped me train at both the college and the bank.

It was hard for me to leave the college for the bank job because I was afraid to change. But with the help and encouragement of Employment Associates and my family I was able to do it.
I have been working at the National Bank of Middlebury in Middlebury, Vermont for nine years. My position is Mail Room Clerk.

There are three other branches of the bank. I do the outgoing mail for all of the branches.

Some of my other duties are:
★ Sorting federal checks
★ Recycling
★ Taking mail to and from different departments
★ Unrolling and counting pennies

I live on the shuttle route so it is easy to go to and from work. Sometimes I need help from my caseworker at Employment Associates with paper work so we meet and she helps me fill it out or shows me how to fill it out.
I like having a job because I like the income that I make. It pays the bills I have and I am able to buy my own clothes and other things I want. I also like that my job gives me something to do each day.

My mother wants me to work. She thinks it is important to earn a living. I no longer receive SSI but I have worked enough to be able to get some of the other programs that are available for the working disabled.

I recently moved into my own apartment. I looked for a place that was near the bus line and my parents. I have worked hard to be independent.

**The best part of my job is...**

...helping my co-workers and having them help me. They all treat me with respect. They do not put me down for having a disability.

**Timeline:**

- Volunteered at a child care center during high school
- Went to Employment Associates (EA) to get help finding a job to make some money
- Got a job at Middlebury College and worked there for three years after high school
- I decided I wanted a different job. The people at EA helped me find a job to apply for at the National Bank of Middlebury.
- People from EA helped me train for both jobs.
- Someone from EA comes to see how I’m doing every week.
- I’ve been working at the bank for 9 years now!
What can we learn from Delsie?

Did Delsie ask for help? From whom?

Who are some of the people you can turn to for help?

And you?

Is there an agency where you can get help with work?

And you?

How does Delsie get to work?

What are some ways you could get around?

And you?

How does Delsie know her schedule and stick to it?

If you had a job, would you need any accommodations?

And you?

What kind of help would you need?

And you?

I like having a job because I like the income that I make. I am able to buy my own clothes and other things I want. I also like that my job gives me something to do each day.