

# Press Release

## For Immediate Release

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Evergreen Presbyterian Ministries

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### **EVERGREEN CELEBRATES NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH**

Evergreen Presbyterian Ministries provides numerous vocational services for people with developmental disabilities including training, day programs and supported employment in the community. As we enter "National Disability Employment Awareness Month," Evergreen recognizes and celebrates clients who play a vital role in the workplace.

October is designated "National Disability Employment Awareness Month." In 1945, Congress enacted Public Law 176 which named the first week in October as "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." The name was changed in 1988, and the entire month of October became "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

If you have ever ordered a pizza from Papa John's in Knoxville there is a good chance that the box it was delivered in was folded by Seth, a client from Evergreen's Knoxville division. Seth has been an employee at Papa John's for four years and divides his time between the two Knoxville Papa John's locations. When it comes to his performance at Papa John's, he does an extraordinary job according to his manager and his co-workers. He is capable of folding 600 or 700 boxes in a four-hour shift!

Seth is just one example of how having a job can provide a sense of purpose and accomplishment for people with disabilities. He, like so many other Evergreen clients that are working, feel a deep sense of pride knowing they are contributing meaningfully to the workplace.

Evergreen's mission is helping people with disabilities build better lives. A large part of that mission is to continue to integrate people with disabilities more fully into every aspect of the community, including vocational settings. For 50 years, Evergreen has successfully fulfilled its mission. Evergreen is a nonprofit, premier provider of services to nearly 1,000 individuals in six states.

Evergreen provides services in Tennessee, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas and Kentucky, and is corporately based in Haughton, Louisiana. Evergreen has offices in Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville and Greeneville, TN.

Please visit our Web-site at [www.epmi.org](http://www.epmi.org) to learn more about Evergreen. ###