



**Workshops
Empowerment
Inc.**



SUMMER JET PROGRAM 2022

“People with disabilities are still twice as likely to be unemployed, compared to those without a disability.”

Empowering Hope

From birth, we look to major milestones to measure success and that doesn't stop when childhood ends. Children and young adults with different abilities have even steeper hills to climb. One such milestone, or transition as we call it, occurs between school age children and adulthood – employment.

The facts below are alarming and at Workshops Empowerment Inc., we aim to change that.

17.9%

Employment rate of persons with a disability

*statista.com

15%

Share of disabled persons earning less than \$5,000/year

19.5%

Share of disabled persons living below the poverty line

Job Exploration Training, known to us as Summer JET, is a program that helps to combat regression during the summer. It also provides an opportunity for high school students with disabilities to experience on-the-job paid training.

A Day in the Life

Maya, a participant of the Summer JET Program, says “I love it here at Sozo. It's fun and I've learned to run the cash register!”

Anna, employee of Sozo, one of our valued business partners, says “Maya and the other students have learned so much. Greeting customers with a friendly smile is just one way we show kindness to others.

We love having the students here. They are such a great help to us.”

Christine, Summer JET Teacher, says “I've learned so much from this group of kids. They are not only learning how to be good employees, but life lessons are learned here as well. Leading with love, kindness and understanding allows us to see others in moments that they may not find themselves at their best. We all have the power within us to extend a hand up.”

This program would not be possible without the support of the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services and our valued business supporters who believe in the students' abilities and our mission at WE Inc.



Clay + Irondale



**SHADES VALLEY
TRUSSVILLE
DOWNTOWN**

