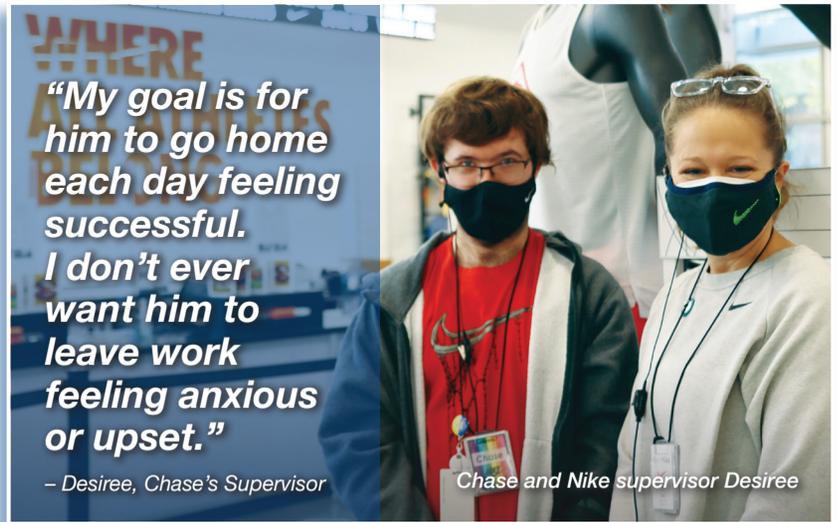


Dear Friend,

## One year ago, my son Chase almost left his job.

After 8 years on the sales floor at Nike's community store, Chase began to have difficulties keeping up with his work. He was feeling the impacts of pandemic isolation and struggling to get the support he needed.



**"My goal is for him to go home each day feeling successful. I don't ever want him to leave work feeling anxious or upset."**

— Desiree, Chase's Supervisor

Chase and Nike supervisor Desiree

## His whole team saw it. Chase would often become overwhelmed, clamming up and retreating to a corner of the store when customers approached him with questions.

But when Kathy signed on as his job coach, things quickly began to change. She took the time to attend an all-staff training alongside Chase so she could better understand the culture and expectations, and she collaborated with his Nike supervisors to rework his role and job tasks.

The Nike team really wanted him to succeed, and they were willing to get creative. They focused on his strengths—like keeping tee shirt displays tidy and making sure each customer has a shopping bag—and removed tasks that caused him anxiety, like using an employee phone app while working on the floor. They also helped Chase craft short scripts to use with customers and roleplayed to build up his confidence.



Chase and Nike supervisor Leonna

## These days, Chase is back on track.

By getting back to basics and letting go of the expectations that did not serve him, he has been able to venture outside his comfort zone and take on responsibilities we didn't previously think possible. He greets customers, helps answer questions and find products, and high-fives his coworkers first thing in the morning. He's even busted out some dance moves on the sales floor.

I know my son is capable of more than society expects from him. I believe that people of all abilities deserve access to meaningful employment and community inclusion.

## If you agree, will you join me in supporting Exceed Enterprises?

Your donation helps clients just like Chase access skills training, job coaching, peer mentorship, fun community activities, and so much more.

**I hope you will join me in creating opportunity for people of all abilities by supporting Exceed today.**

With thanks,

*Susan*

Chase's Mom

## P.S. Chase isn't the only athlete at Exceed.

In fact, just last month Exceed started offering weekly fitness classes for clients looking to get active, as well as music therapy and meditation classes.

But these services aren't possible without community support. Please consider making a monthly gift to support this ongoing and essential programming.



From left: Kathy, Chase and Susan

**EXCEED!**  
enterprises