



EMPLOYING AMAZINGLY TALENTED INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

## The Raw Carrot Honors National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) 2022

National Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM), held in October, was established to increase awareness of the positive outcomes of hiring persons with disabilities in Canada. Employers like The Raw Carrot are encouraged to participate in a nationwide campaign that highlights the positive contributions that employees with disabilities make to Canadian workplaces.

According to Statistics Canada, an estimated 80% of working-age adults without disabilities are employed, while an estimated 59% of working-age adults with disabilities are employed. An estimated one in five Canadians (or 6.2 million) aged 15 years and over have one or more disabilities that limit them in their daily activities, and an estimated 30% of people with a disability are also living in poverty.

### The Raw Carrot is Removing Work Barriers

***The Raw Carrot is a social franchise that believes that every person who WANTS to work should have the opportunity for a Hand Up (instead of just a handout) in life!*** We partner with churches and nonprofits across Ontario to create meaningful employment for amazingly talented individuals living with disAbilities and mental illness. They're "stirring up" change in local communities by cooking up delicious, handcrafted gourmet soup.

As part of DEAM's awareness campaign, we're joining the national conversation and proud to share how The Raw Carrot has been breaking down work barriers since 2014 at our four locations. We have countless stories to tell about the positive contributions our 32 staff with disabilities make at our four locations in southwestern Ontario. Here are just a few facts about our staff experience:

- Staff earn, on average, 15-25% more per month through having a job
- 96% increased self-confidence
- 96% increased self-reliance
- 92% increased well-being (\*Source: The Raw Carrot Employee Survey 2021)

Here's what disability awareness means to our amazingly talented Raw Carrot staff:

- Honouring people's differences
- Recognizing that disabilities are not just things you can see
- Understanding that many people have hidden disabilities like chronic pain and mental health
- Spreading the news about October's Disability Employment Awareness Month and celebrating people for their different abilities

By providing opportunities for supportive employment, The Raw Carrot believes they are removing barriers to employment for people with disAbilities and mental illness so they can participate in all areas of life to the fullest, help restore dignity, and provide earned income that contributes towards food and livelihood security. To learn more about our impact, visit our [website](#) or connect with us on social media.



***We believe that, together, one bowl of soup CAN change our communities!***