

*Employment First Success Stories, continued...*

Eileen Cassimore, the General Manager at Gabe's, said of Knox, "Tracey has been with us since day one. She started with the store from the beginning, rising to every challenge that we as a team had to meet. She greets every day with an unbelievable energy that makes her an amazing part of Gabe's family."

Cassimore's willingness to support the right to competitive employment regardless of ability or disability, has been illustrated by hiring several people supported by KenCrest. The commitment has been win-win. "Thank you for bringing Tracey to us, she is such a huge member of the Gabe's team...and she makes the most amazing chocolate chip cookies for our pot lucks! She inspires all of my employees and inspires me to be a better manager and business leader," Cassimore said.

When asked what Divine brings to Goodwill, his manager said, "Isa is always smiling, charming and helpful with customers. He is very good at making others laugh. He always puts his best foot forward and is a very hard and dependable worker."

Management says they have seen a lot of growth in Divine since he started, and report he is "always willing to learn something new, pushes to be better at his job, and has proved to be a great worker." All of these things have led to increased hours and responsibilities for the young man on a path to more independence.

Below Tracy Knox (left) and Isa Divine (right) at work.

