



Petland Topeka

1801 SW Wanamaker Rd
Suite K10
Topeka, KS 66604
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11/6/2024

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Liz Largent and I am the General Manager at Petland Topeka. Our company worked with The Lotus House, Topeka, to add a Temporary Employment (TE) position to our staff in August of this year. To date, we have had one placement in the position and are currently working to fill the position as the previous employee left the position at the end of October.

The owner of our Petland location was approached by The Lotus House with the opportunity to add a TE position to our company. After touring the Clubhouse and learning about The Lotus House and their program, we were happy to partner as a TE employer. We worked with the leadership at The Lotus House to create a TE position that revolves around areas that are easy to overlook in our establishment but are easy to teach to a new employee. The TE position is responsible for dusting, placing and printing price tags, and checking expiration dates.

Working with the leadership at The Lotus House has been simple and communication is open and honest. Having a position available that is trained, staffed and covered by an outside entity has been a good fit for our company as a whole. Trish and Laura have always communicated if there were concerns, issues or illnesses we needed to be made aware of. It has also been beneficial to have support if there are corrections or performance issues that need to be addressed.

In addition to the benefits of the TE position for our store in our daily operations, we are also appreciative for the work that The Lotus House does for the community. Petland has always been active in our community in regards to pet and owner support, rescue, and placement but it is so wonderful to see another facet of the Topeka community receiving support in such a meaningful and productive way. Having an opportunity to

work with employees that would usually not apply with us has been eye opening to our day-to-day operations and allowed for introspection as a company. We have also reflected on previous employees that could have performed more efficiently and had more successful experiences within our company if they had a support system like what The Lotus House provides. It has been refreshing to see the excitement and growth while helping TE Employees learn how to navigate employment within our company. Learning how to use the public transit system, properly logging shifts on time sheets, utilizing tasks lists, and learning how to communicate with a supervisor are just a few of the ways I have personally seen The Lotus House help their Clubhouse members in TE positions during our collaboration.

Topeka can only benefit and grow from a community outreach like The Lotus House, and I hope that more businesses and companies within Topeka will take the time to learn about The Lotus House, their Clubhouse, and everything they do for a marginalized and often forgotten part of the Topeka community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Liz Largent". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Liz Largent
General Manager