

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Steve Pillatzke and I work 20 hours a week as an afternoon porter at Macy's. I keep the bathrooms clean, I wash the glass doors and mirrors and I vacuum.

I was working full time for Associated Food Stores in 1985. I had a wife and three kids to support. I was driving home and hit a patch of ice and slid into a telephone pole. I was in a coma for five weeks and in the hospital for three months.

The accident left me with a brain injury. I had to retrain the right side of my body and my brain. I lost my job and I lost my family.

Voc Rehab referred me to Helena Industries. Over the last 25 years, they have helped me obtain several positions in the community. I don't know where I would be without them. If it wasn't for Helena Industries, I really don't think I would have had a positive outcome.