



Photo courtesy of Shorehaven

Intern Mason Masino, 21, and Shorehaven staff member Sam Kwiatkowski navigate the ice-cream cart through Shorehaven households for residents' enjoyment.

More than an internship

Journey21 participant makes friendships at Shorehaven

OCONOMOWOC — Not only did Journey21 participant Mason Masino, 21, learn employment skills while fulfilling an internship at Shorehaven, he also was able to make a positive impact on its residents.

Masino participates in the 18-21 Transition Academy at Journey21, whose mission is to provide safe, supportive and enriching living and learning options for adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities in Waukesha County.

As part of his internship, Masino was able to make new friendships, grow his self-confidence and work in various ways, from helping with happy hour to movie parties and escorting seniors to activities and games.

“When I first came here I was a little nervous. But I slowly started to open up. I met staff member Sam and she got me more comfortable with the residents. I realized we were all just people, trying to make a connection,” Masino said. “Volunteering at Shorehaven is a good way to grow, to learn and most importantly, to become a leader. My goal is to hopefully brighten a day every time I’m here. I can find ways to keep learning here, and that’s really important to me.”

Masino said he hopes to remain involved at Shorehaven even after his internship is over.