

eet Michael, who thanks to NOVA Employment, has been in the workforce for 16 years working at Campbelltown Catholic Club. It didn't take long for the club to realise his potential and the value he brings to their workplace culture.

Michael currently works as a kitchen hand under chef Tim Fuller who has nothing but praise for Michael's ability.

"Working with Michael has definitely changed my perception of working with people with disabilities.

At first, I was kind of sceptical, I didn't expect a lot, but he has helped to increase my respect and open my eyes to what people are capable of," Fuller said. NOVA Employment took the time to match Michael to a job that suits his needs and personality. Michael enthusiastically greets every shift.

"I put on my apron and gloves, make my way to the sink and get started, stacking the crates with the plates, then put them through the dishwasher. I always do a good job," he said.

Employment comes with its financial benefits, but also brings much more. Michael is a people person, and his work enables him the social interaction he desires.

"My favourite thing about working is being out in the public and being very social with other people," he said.

His enthusiasm is contagious and fellow team members glow when they chat about Michael.

"He is a joy to work with. Very reliable, always has a smile on his face and gets the job done. It's quite rewarding as well to see someone come in and be so happy to have an opportunity, "Fuller said.

Michael got the job through NOVA Employment, who continue to check in and ensure he is on the right track. Julie Multari is the local NOVA Employment manager. "Any business in any industry can hire someone with disability, whether it's an entry level position or even a qualified position," she said.

Campbelltown Catholic Club prides themselves in a diverse workforce and HR manager, Amy Walker said "diversity for the club is extremely important for us and Michael is a valued member of the team."

If you are a person with disability seeking employment, living in Sydney or the Southern Highlands, or want to learn more about hiring people with disability, give NOVA Employment a call on: 02 8886 5800 or visit: www.novaemployment.com.au