



## Ken's Kids program gets a new name

09-30-10

Since 1997, THD has partnered with Ken's Kids Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides vocational training and support to adults diagnosed with intellectual and learning disabilities.

Home Depot co-founder Ken Langone helped start the program after learning about the hardships of people who are intellectually disabled. Although many of these young adults are willing and able to work, most end up unemployed because companies aren't set up to properly train and help them over a long-term period.

That's where the Ken's Kids program helps. By providing training and skills assessments and ongoing support, participants of the program find jobs in our stores or in another retailer involved in the program. Ken's Kids associates learn how to stock shelves, clean displays, mix paint and help customers find products. There are currently more than 120 Ken's Kids working as associates in more than 70 Home Depot stores across Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

"We love our partnership with Ken's Kids," said Fred Mecadon, store manager at Store 4101 in Philadelphia. "Through our involvement with Ken's Kids, we can live our values of taking care of our associates and our customers. At the same time, we're building great relationships within our communities."

To better reflect the age of the young adults who participate in the program, as well as their hard work and contributions to our business, Ken's Kids has officially changed its name to Ken's Krew. All associates in stores that employ Ken's Krew associates will receive new apron patches to symbolize our commitment to the program.

"We are very appreciative of the dedication of our



*The Ken's Kids program is now called Ken's Krew – check out the new apron patch*



*Ken's Krew associates from the Philadelphia area met recently at Store 4188*

Ken's Krew associates," said Brad Shaw, VP of corporate communications and external affairs for The Home Depot and Ken's Krew board chairman. "These individuals are an outstanding example of the spirit of The Home Depot and the work ethic and commitment found in all our orange-blooded associates."

---