

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)
Between Township of Union Public Schools and Sorriso Kitchen
Training Program Partnership
2025–2026 School Year

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between Township of Union Public Schools, located at 855 Lehigh Avenue, Suite 200, Union, NJ 07083, and Sorriso Kitchen, located at 252 Main Street, Chatham, NJ 07928, hereinafter collectively referred to as “the Parties.”

1. Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to establish a collaborative partnership between Township of Union Public Schools and Sorriso Kitchen to provide students, ages 16–21, with hands-on training opportunities during the 2025–2026 school year. This partnership is designed to enhance students' career readiness, workplace skills, and transition planning through structured training experiences.

2. Student Participation

Two groups of students will participate in the training program during school hours:

High School Students (ages 16–18): Students will participate in supervised training activities appropriate to their age and ability, such as basic customer interaction, light cleaning, and organizational tasks.

Transition Program Students (ages 18–21): Students will receive training in areas such as front-of-house support, dishwashing, restocking, or other structured, non-customer-facing activities.

Only minor students who have submitted a parental permission form may be eligible to participate in the program.

3. Sorriso Kitchen's Responsibilities

Sorriso Kitchen agrees to:

Provide a safe and structured training environment for student participants.

Assign staff members to act as on-site mentors and trainers for students.

Coordinate with school staff to ensure training tasks support students' Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals, when applicable.

Ensure all activities comply with workplace safety and labor regulations.

Notify the school promptly of any issues, concerns, or incidents involving students.

4. District Responsibilities

Township of Union Public Schools agrees to:

Provide appropriate staff support (e.g., job coaches, paraprofessionals) to assist students as needed.

Prepare students for the training experience through pre-site instruction and ongoing support.

Maintain open lines of communication with Sorriso Kitchen staff to monitor student progress and address any concerns.

Ensure all activities align with NJDOE training program requirements and Special Education regulations.

5. Confidentiality

The Parties agree to protect the confidentiality of all student information in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and applicable state and federal laws.

6. Term and Termination

This MOU shall be in effect from September 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

Either party may terminate this MOU with 30 days' written notice.

7. Non-Discrimination

The Parties agree to follow all applicable federal and state laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in carrying out this agreement.

8. Liability

Each party shall be liable for its own acts, omissions, and any resulting liabilities, in accordance with governing laws.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this MOU on the dates indicated below: Township of Union Public Schools

By:

Name:

Title:

Date:

Sorriso Kitchen

By:

Name:

Title:

Date: