Cape May County Employment Resource Guide:

A Manual of Resources for Consumers, Families, and Professionals Supporting Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities

Revised September, 2010
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Introduction

Employment is an essential part of recovery for people living with psychiatric disabilities and co-occurring disorders. It has a positive impact on self-esteem, self-sufficiency, mental health and community integration. The majority of people with psychiatric disabilities want to work, yet only 15% are successfully employed.

This manual has been developed to assist individuals to become employed by providing information about resources and services that can assist with employment in Cape May County. It also includes other resources people might find useful such as supported employment services, transportation, housing, educational services, self help drop in centers, family services, and clothing resources.

Acknowledgements

This manual was developed by: The Consortium on Employment for People with Psychiatric Disabilities in Cape May County.

The following individuals are recognized for their contribution toward developing this resource manual:

Elizabeth Van Houtte, Integrated Employment Institute, September 2006
Revised by the members of the Consortium on Employment for People with Psychiatric Disabilities in Cape May County and the Integrated Employment Institute, September 2010
Governmental Employment Services
One-Stop Career Centers:
Cape May County Office of Training and Employment Services

Services:

- Assist applicant in registering for services
- Assess the applicant’s job qualifications, experience, readiness, abilities, etc.
- Refer the applicant to employers with appropriate job openings
- Refer to other agencies for job training
- Refer to other agencies for supportive services (health, housing, legal, etc.)
- Teach classes in how to get a job, including interviewing techniques, resume writing, etc.
- Professional Service Group (mutual support group of professionals looking for work)
- Employers can post job openings for free on our Internet Job Bank
- Phones, faxes and copiers available to the public only for job search activities
- Public access to computers featuring the Workforce New Jersey’s One-Stop website (Job Bank, Resume Bank, directories of training and services, etc.)
- Classes in how to use a computer to get help from One-Stop computers
- Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Contact Information: One-Stop Career Center
3810 New Jersey Avenue
Wildwood, NJ 08260
609-729-0997
http://www.wjnpin.state.nj.us/

Hours: Monday—Friday
8:30AM — 4:30PM
Governmental Employment Services

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS)

Mission Statement: The mission of the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services is to enable individuals with disabilities to achieve an employment outcome consistent with their strengths, priorities, needs, abilities, and capabilities. Its goal is to prepare and place employment eligible individuals with disabilities, who, because of the significance of their disabling conditions, would otherwise be unable to secure and/or maintain employment.

Eligibility: Your counselor will determine your eligibility based on the following:
  - That you have a disability that is a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that results in a substantial impediment to employment and that you can benefit from vocational rehabilitation services in terms of employment outcome; and
  - That vocational rehabilitation services are required for you to prepare for, enter, engage in, or retain gainful employment.

Services: NJDVRS services which can help you reach your career goal may include:
  - Diagnostic evaluations: NJDVRS will determine the extent of your disability using already existing records, when available. Additional evaluations will be obtained as needed to help in understanding your abilities and limitations.
  - Vocational counseling and guidance: You and your NJDVRS counselor will work together to plan a suitable vocational objective and the steps leading to successful employment.
  - Job-seeking skills training and selective job placement: NJDVRS provides the tools to find employment and will work with you to find jobs within your physical and mental abilities. This service may include supported employment services.
  - Follow-up services: NJDVRS will monitor your progress to ensure employment success.
  - Post-employment services: If needed, you may return to NJDVRS for supplemental services in order to maintain your employment after your case has been closed.
  - Physical restoration: NJDVRS may provide services in order to improve your ability to work. These services are determined based upon your specific employment related needs.
  - Job coaching, vocational, professional or on-the-job training: NJDVRS will enable you to secure employment consistent with your strengths, priorities, needs, abilities, and capabilities. If you do not possess the skills necessary to reach your vocational goal, training such as vocational, professional work adjustment or on-the-job training, and/or job coaching can be provided.
  - Other goods and services may be provided if they are required to prepare you for employment.

Contact Information:

Cape May County
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
3810 New Jersey Avenue, Wildwood, NJ 08260
Phone: 609-523-0330  Fax: 609-523-0212
Supported Employment Services

Supported Employment is an individualized service that assists people with disabilities to obtain and retain competitive integrated employment. This service emphasizes personal choice to identify a match between the employment candidate’s skills, abilities, and interests and the needs of employers. Long term support is offered on and off the job site to facilitate the employee’s success.

Employment Services Network

Eligibility: Significant and persistent mental illness that has caused termination of employment or has made employment difficult.

Services:
- Identification
- Assessments
- Individualized Career Planning
- Job Site Training and Advocacy
- Ongoing Mentoring
- Job Retention and Extended Follow Along

Contact Information:
STEP Program
Employment Services Network
1121 Route 47 South, Units 7 and 8
Rio Grande, NJ 08242
609-889-6803, ext. 11, 12

Career Quest, Inc. (A program of Community Quest, Inc.)

Eligibility: Supported Employment is intended for individuals for whom competitive employment has not traditionally occurred or has been interrupted or intermittent as a result of a disability.

Services:
- Pre-Placement Services
- Job Coaching Services
- Follow-Along Services

Contact Information:
Contact 609-677-0421 to learn more about how you may qualify for Supported Employment Services
http://cqinc.org/home.php?action=view&id=100119
Jersey Cape Diagnostic, Training, and Opportunity Center, Inc.

**Eligibility:** Jersey Cape provides employment and training services for individuals with developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, psychiatric disabilities, blindness and visual impairments.

**Services:**
- Supported Employment
- Vocational Evaluation
- Work Adjustment Training
- Extended Employment
- Job Placement
- School-to-Work
- Work Crews
- Welfare to Work Programs
- Youth Employment Services

**Contact Information:**
152 Crest Haven Road  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210  
Phone: 609-465-4117  Fax: 609-465-3899

**Mailing Address:**
4 Moore Road, DN606  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
Transportation Services

New Jersey Transit Access Link

Eligibility:
- Attend an in-person assessment at a assessment agency
- Must be at least five years of age
- The impact of the disability effects ability to navigate the bus system independently
- Appropriate accessible features are not available on the local fixed bus route system
- Cannot get to or from a bus stop because of the impact of the disability and environment

Services:
- ADA para-transit service that provides curb to curb transportation for eligible people with disabilities
- Comparable to the NJ Transit local bus network
- Transportation is provided during the same hours and days and the same fares as the local bus network
- Shadows local fixed bus routes in the pick up and drop off points must fall within ¾ of a mile on either side of an eligible local fixed bus route
- Requires a 20 minute window before and after requested pick up time

Contact Information:  http://www.njtransit.com
Phone:  1-800-772-2222

NJ Transit Reduced Fares for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

Eligibility:  62 years of age or older; people with disabilities

Services:
- Offers half-price fares to people over the age of 62 and to the disabled
- Call or write for an application
- Applications processed at this location and ID cards sent to clients
- Disabled clients may also show Medicare card

Contact Information:  180 Boyden Avenue
Maplewood, NJ 07040
Phone:  973-378-6327
Telephone Information Center
1-800-772-2222
Cape May County Fare Free Transportation

Eligibility: senior citizens, persons with disabilities, veterans, individuals of low-income and general public on a first come-first served basis

Services: Fare-Free Transportation is a client service oriented organization dedicated to providing safe, efficient, and effective accessible transportation to the residents of Cape May County. These demand responsive, modified-fixed route, and subscription services operate within an environment of coordination and cooperation with other public and private sector providers, and are executed in a manner consistent with all applicable local, state, and federal policies. Fare Free Transportation is dedicated to utilize all technological and personnel resources to continually improve efficiency, placing a strong emphasis on creating and maintaining a user-friendly environment.

As a community paratransit system, Fare Free Transportation provides demand-response, subscription, and modified-fixed route bus service to senior citizens, persons with disabilities, veterans, individuals of low-income and general public on a first come-first served basis.

Contact Information: 4 Moore Road, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
Phone: 609-889-3700
Monday thru Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
http://www.capemaycountygov.net/Cit-e-Access/webpage.cfm?TID=5&TPID=8504
Housing Services and Advocacy
PATH Program

Eligibility:
• Homeless and have a serious and persistent mental illness

Services:
• Help the seriously mentally ill in locating services necessary in securing housing in
  the community of their choice
• Assists those that are homeless and/or at risk of being homeless in finding safe and
  affordable housing

Contact Information:  PATH worker can be located at Cape May County Board of
Social Services.
Phone:  609-886-6200 ext. 351

Community Health Law Project

Eligibility:
• Individuals with mental health, developmental, physical and visual disabilities;
  people living with HIV/AIDS and their families; the frail elderly; and organizations
  that serve the disabled and the elderly

Services:
• Public entitlements (SSI/SSD) county and municipal welfare, emergency assistance,
  food stamps
• Medicaid, Medicare and other health insurance benefits, as well as fee-for-service
  and managed health care disputes
• Housing advocacy (habitability, landlord-tenant issues)
• Consumer law (debt collection, bankruptcy, contracts)
• Family law (child support, visitation, domestic violence)
• Discrimination (housing, employment, education and public accommodation)
• Barrier-free accessibility
• Advance directives and living wills
• Outreach and support for the frail elderly
• Systems coordination (information, linkage and referral)
• Training, counseling and technical assistance

Contact Information:  Station House Office Building
900 Haddon Avenue, Suite 400
Collingswood, NJ 08108
Phone:  856-858-9500
Fax:  856-858-9545
Email:  Collingswood@chlp.org
Social Security & Medicaid Resources

Cape May County Board of Social Services

Services:
- Medicaid
- General Assistance
- Food Stamps
- Housing
- NJ Workability/Medicaid Program

Contact Information: 4005 Route 9 South
Rio Grande, NJ 08242
Phone: 609-886-6200

New Jersey WINS—Advancing Opportunities

Eligibility: Individuals receiving SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance) or SSI (Supplemental Income) cash benefits who are between the ages of 14 and 65

Services:
- Free and Confidential Social Security benefits planning assistance - phone or on site
- Information and referral on all SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance) and SSI (Supplemental Security Income) issues
- SSDI and SSI benefits analysis and advisement
- Problem solving and advocacy
- Benefits support planning
- Ticket to Work training and assistance
- SSI / SSDI Work Incentives
- Impact of Employment on SSI or SSDI Benefits
- Protected Medicaid Status for Working and Unemployed Individuals
- Trial Work Period and Extended Period of Eligibility
- Impairment Related Work Expenses
- Group Presentations

Contact Information: New Jersey WINS - Advancing Opportunities
PO Box 1015
Wildwood, NJ 08260
609-522-0853 (office)
877-659-4672 (toll free)
609-522-0854 (fax)
Email: osext0@cpofnj.org OR njwins@cpofnj.org

Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Web address: http://www.njwins.org/
Social Security & Medicaid Resources

NJ Workability Medicaid Program
Medicaid Insurance Coverage for Workers Who Have Disabilities

Eligibility:
- Must be determined to have a permanent disability by Social Security or Cape May County Board of Social Services
- Must be currently employed full or part-time
- Age 16 through 64

Services: Medicaid coverage that costs $25 per month per individual for:
- Doctor, Dentist, Podiatry, Psychiatry
- Hospital
- Personal Care Assistant Service, Home Health Care
- Laboratory Services
- Outpatient Psych Services
- Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy
- Medical Transportation
- Surgery
- Prescription Drugs
- Durable Medical Equipment, Medical Supplies
- Eye Glasses, Hearing Aides, Dentures
- Nursing Facility

Contact Information: Division of Disability Services
New Jersey Department of Human Services
PO Box 700
Trenton, NJ 08625-0700
Phone: 1-888-285-3036 or 609-292-7800
Fax: 609-292-1233 or TTY: 609-292-1210

Cape May County Board of Social Services
4005 Route 9 South
Rio Grande, NJ 08242
Phone: 609-886-6200
Self-Help Services

The Learning Recovery Center

Services:

The center is currently open Thursday 1 to 6 pm, Friday 2 to 9 pm, and Saturday 2 to 6 pm. The center works closely with the Cape May County PACT Team to host many of the program activities. The center is working to secure GROW, and Double Trouble groups. The center sponsors a weekly pizza and movie night. The center has representation on SCAC and CSP Board Meetings.

- Information
- Referral
- Advocacy
- Peer Employment Support (PES) Group
  - Share thoughts and feelings about work with others
  - Increase knowledge about self and the world of work
  - Receive support from other group members
  - Develop skills that lead to gaining and keeping employment
  - Set employment goals and take action to achieve these goals
  - To become employed
  - To receive the support needed to stay employed

Contact Information: 4410 Pacific Avenue
Wildwood, NJ 08260
Phone: 609-523-7100
Hours: Thursday, 1PM—6PM, Friday, 2PM—9PM, Saturday, 2PM—6PM
PES Hours: 2nd and 4th Friday at 5PM

Coalition of Mental Health Consumer Organizations (COMHCO)

Services:

Consumer groups throughout New Jersey have joined together to create COMHCO, a consumer advocacy organization comprised completely of consumer/survivors

Contact Information: 408 Sussex Street
Paterson, NJ 07503
Phone: 973-778-7361
Family Services / Advocacy

Intensive Family Support Services
Cape Counseling Services - Families FIRST

Eligibility: Offers services to family members who have an adult loved one with a psychiatric disability

Services:
- Family Consultation and Support
- Psycho-Education and Support Groups
- Mental health care providers that are available to meet families in the community
- Provide support to families and reduce stress

Contact Information: Phone: 609-463-0014 ext. 6136 or 6138

Atlantic—Cape Alliance for the Mentally Ill

Eligibility:
- Offers services to family members who have a loved one with psychiatric disabilities

Services:
- Helpline available during the week from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm to provide support and information
- Education courses are offered twice a year that provide comprehensive information for families on mental illness and on recovery
- Educates the community and families about mental illness

Contact Information: Phone: 609-927-0215
nami1557@comcast.net
Educational Resources

Atlantic Cape Technical School District

Services:
- General Education Development (GED)
- Adult Basic Education (ABE)
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- ESL/Civics

Contact Information:  Phone:  609-465-2161
188 Crest Haven Rd.
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
http://www.capemaytech.com/GedAbeEsl.htm

Atlantic cape Community College

Disability Support Services

Services: To create an educational environment that is conducive to learning for students with disabilities through

- reasonable and ethical accommodations;
- a faculty/staff that integrates sensitivity with expertise; and
- transitional planning that promotes a sense of community through the utilization of networking, resources and supports.

Contact Information:  Phone:  609-343-5090
Visit Counseling and Support Services Office in J-117 or e-mail Lucille McGlynn at lmcglynn@atlantic.edu,
http://www.atlantic.edu/studentServ/counselAdvise/specialAccom.htm

The Bridge Program: A Supported Education Program for People with Learning and Mental Health Challenges

Services: This program is designed to help participants gain the foundational academic skills and confidence needed to be successful in higher education. The program includes individualized mentoring and group modules.

Contact Information:  Phone:  609-626-6018
Email: victoria.schindler@stockton.edu
Clothing Resources

ARC Thrift Shop

Services:
- Clothing
- Household Items
- Furniture

Contact Information: Phone: 609-465-7697
FEEDBACK FORM

Please provide feedback on the usefulness of this manual:

1. How useful was this manual in helping you identify employment information and resources?
   _____ Very Useful      _____ Somewhat Useful      _____ Not Useful

   Please explain your answer:
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

2. What information is missing that could have been included?
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

3. What suggestions do you have to improve this manual?
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

Please send your comments to:

The Integrated Employment Institute
Dept. of Psychiatric Rehabilitation
UMDNJ-SHRP
40 East Laurel Road, Suite 2105
Stratford, NJ 08084
Phone: 800-593-2434
Fax: 856-566-6820