

Vocational Services

Vocational Service support is for individuals with mental health, developmental or intellectual disabilities, or an acquired brain disorder (ABD). Any individual who is part of an NHS DD, ABD, or PDMS program is eligible for these services which support our individuals in exploring all aspects of employment including job development and career goals. Positions exist on both a volunteer and paid basis depending on the individual.

Our Vocational Staff are trained under the nationally-recognized Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators (ACRE) program and work hand-in-hand with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). Vocational coordinators utilize these services to help the individuals we serve to retain employment.

In supporting younger individuals, Vocational Staff work with local high schools and transitional students directly to find and support their employment.

What type of vocational services are offered?

- Assistance with job applications, resumes, interview readiness and other soft skills.
- Job shadowing, short-term job tryouts, business tours, informal meetings with area business leaders - help finding "the right match."
- Assistance in acquiring adaptive equipment for differently-abled individuals.
- Follow-up communication with employers to aid in job retention.
- An individualized support plan which takes into account the needs of both employee and employer.
- Aid for self-employment - marketing surveys, business-development and funding research.

Who is eligible to receive vocational services?

The vocational supports offered by Northern Human Services benefit both the individuals we serve and the communities of which they are a part. Many local businesses find needed help in our individuals, and our individuals in turn participate in jobs they enjoy and give back to their community. Some of the locations and services that employ our individuals are:

- The Mountain View Grande Hotel
- Littleton Coin Company
- Omni Mount Washington
- Berlin Main Street Program
- Walmart
- Morrison Nursing Home
- City of Gorham
- Storyland

How do vocational services provide a positive impact?

- Challenges individuals and provides them the opportunity to grow and develop.
- Supports an individual's sense of pride.
- Supports an individual's to be independent and explore their interests.
- Offers professional networking and greater accessibility to the community.
- Provides structure for a healthy social life.
- Improves physical and mental well-being.
- Creates a sense of happiness and self-worth.

For more information contact Jessica Smith, Regional Director of Employment Services 603.444.8553/jsmith@northernhs.org

