

# SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

*the evidence-based practice | an overview*



**MAKE A CHANGE IN YOUR LIFE  
TODAY!**

For People Receiving  
Behavioral Health Services

## Supported Employment **INCREASES**

- Competitive employment
- Income earned in competitive jobs
- Satisfaction in employment

## Supported Employment **DECREASES**

- Unemployment
- Dependence upon public systems of care
- Mental illness symptoms and hospitalizations
- Stigma in the community about mental illness

## COMPETITIVE EMPLOYMENT IMPROVES

- Self Esteem
- Self-Management of symptoms of mental illness
- Independent living and autonomy

# WE FOLLOW 7 CORE PRINCIPLES

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## Zero Exclusion

All consumers who want to work are eligible for help! Even if they...

- Are still experiencing symptoms of mental illness
- Are still using alcohol or other drugs
- Have problems with transportation
- Don't know how to talk to employers
- Are afraid they may not fit in with others
- Have a criminal record

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## Member Preference

All job searches are built around your preferences! Preferences may include:

- Personal Interests
- Work environment and location
- Work hours per week
- Disclosure and accommodations

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## Rapid Job Search

Members set the pace for the job search. Research demonstrates that prolonged assessments, work readiness activities, and work adjustment activities do not necessarily result in better outcomes.

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## Competitive Employment

A competitive job:

- Pays at least minimum wage
- Occurs in the community
- Is a job that anyone can apply for regardless of whether or not they have a behavioral health challenge
- Is part time or full time

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## Integrated Services

Mental health staff and your Employment Specialist meet weekly to share expertise and plan services for shared members

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## Long-Term Support

Follow-along services occur for as long as members desire them. These may include:

- Problem Solving
- Workplace accommodations
- Symptom management
- Supporting job changes and advancement

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## Benefits Planning

Benefits planning ensures that members have accurate information about the effects of earned income upon their benefits.

**Talk to your Case Manager or Rehabilitation Specialist and get a referral today.**

Please send referrals to [referrals@copahealth.org](mailto:referrals@copahealth.org)

Please direct questions to:

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