



SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

the evidence-based practice | an overview



Are you ready to make a change in your life?

Do you want to work at a job in the community?

If so, Copa Health's Supported Employment program can help!!

Our Employment Specialists can assist you with meeting your employment goals!

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

1

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

2

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

3

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.

4

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

5

Integrated Services

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

6

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

7

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

Please direct questions to:

Betsy Alpers

Supported Employment

Program Manager

(480) 797-4058

betsy.alpers@copahealth.org