



**KITSAP
MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES**

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Great for Employers. Excellent for Employees.

- ❖ Being an inclusive employer means providing a work environment that embraces all employees. Studies show when an employer is inclusive, staff morale is higher, turnover is less, and productivity increases.
- ❖ The **Supported Employment** program at Kitsap Mental Health Services can help you create this inclusive work environment. Our program not only identifies and brings qualified and motivated applicants to you, we continue to support them after hiring occurs to assure that you are getting the best employee possible.

❖ What is the Supported Employment Program?

One in five U.S. adults experience symptoms of mental illnesses each year. Chances are you have been personally or professionally impacted by someone who has a mental health concern. You or your company may not have even known that an individual was struggling with depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, bipolar disorder or other mental illnesses. In fact, anxiety and depression are the most common of all of these illnesses and affect many of us at some point in our lives.

Our Supported Employment program helps those who want to have a healthy and productive lifestyle while managing their symptoms. We do this by helping people find meaningful employment and establish their career path. Our Supported Employment program is carefully designed to attain the best outcomes, with components based on years of national research, and approved by the Washington State Healthcare Authority. Kitsap Mental Health Services is pleased to deliver this program through contract with Washington State assigned program administrator, Amerigroup.

The sense of purpose and accomplishment that results from the right employment is invaluable and has a "ripple effect" improving the quality of life for employees, co-workers, company, and community. We know a quality Supported Employment Program achieves this rewarding goal and we look forward to working with our local employers and their employees to achieve it.

PROGRAM BENEFITS TO EMPLOYERS

- Creates a larger hiring pool of pre-screened applicants
- Gain a motivated employee who has support of employment professionals committed to the employee's success on the job
- Potential for tax benefits and other financial incentives from partnership with a Supported Employment program
- Positions employer for future preference in government contracting
- Knowledgeable support and resources for assisting existing employees who may be experiencing mental health challenges
- Be identified as part of a broad network of employers and community resources committed to improving quality of life for local citizens
- Enhanced community reputation for building leadership and an equitable workplace
- Improved business creativity, problem-solving and customer satisfaction, a research-based outcome of an inclusive and diverse workplace employing people of all skill levels, backgrounds and perspectives



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Aja Cheslik

Supportive Employment Supervisor
5455 Almira Drive NE, Bremerton, WA 98311
Office: (360) 415-5820 | Cell: (360) 516-7991

