



*Community
Options*

Compassion Community Commitment

LOCATIONS

- Region 1 – Williston
- Region 2 – Minot
- Region 3 – Devils Lake
- Satellite Office – Fort Totten
- Region 4 – Grand Forks
- Region 5 – Fargo
- Region 6 – Jamestown
- Region 7 – Bismarck
- Satellite Office – Ft. Yates
- Region 8 – Dickinson



PEOPLE WE SERVE

- People who have experienced a brain injury
- People on TANF
- People who have been justice involved
- Vocational Rehabilitation clients
- Young parents
- People who experience a dual diagnosis (Mental Illness and addiction)
- People on SNAP
- Ticket to Work participants





COMMUNITY OPTIONS SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

EVIDENCED BASED MODEL OF
SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

8 Evidence-Based Principles of Supported Employment

- Zero exclusion criteria
- Consumer preferences drive the plan
- Treatment is integrated
- Rapid job search
- Competitive employment is the goal
- Follow-along supports are time unlimited
- Personalized benefits planning
- Systematic Job Development

Ticket to Work Services

- One of several programs offered through Community Options to assist individuals to meet their employment goals.
- Services provided: benefits planning, resume development, career development, employment search and follow along.
- Individuals are referred to other programs and services that will assist with removing barriers to employment such as housing and health care.

Approach to Ticket to Work

- Serve Ticket Holders in North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Minnesota.
- Agency receives referrals through Choose Work web site, internally, partner agencies and word of mouth.
- Face to face and virtual delivery of services.
- Community Partner Work Incentives Coordinator completes a screening interview with the Ticketholder to discuss benefits status, accommodations they may need and earnings goals.
- The Ticket to Work Program is explained to the Ticket Holder so they understand the intent of the program.
- Information is provided on basic work incentives.
- Individual needs to have a goal to become self sufficient.
- If TTW will not meet the individuals needs staff will try to refer the person to other services internally or outside the agency.

Story # 1 - Sarah

- Sarah was in a very dark place in her life and actually lived in the dark in her apartment.
- Sarah was referred to us from a program that serves people with co-occurring disorders of mental illness and substance abuse.
- CO staff tried several employment situations but Sarah was unsuccessful, yet staff continued to support her efforts to maintain part time employment.
- Gradually was able to maintain employment for longer periods of time. Assigned her ticket to CO.
- Eventually secured employment in a financial institution; doing great; looking great; is now off of SSDI.
- She went from having a payee to now handling other people's money.
- Wants to move up in the banking industry! Constantly training!

Story #2 – Eric

- Eric moved to North Dakota from the south.
- Eric, a disabled veteran, was an SSDI beneficiary with a history of unsuccessful work attempts
- He had never received services to support his efforts to maintain employment. He was employed at the time of his ticket assignment but worried he would not be able to maintain job
- Eric had not always reported wages to SSA, therefore his record was not current.
- CO provided benefits planning to help him bring his work history up to date with SSA. Since several of his Trial Work Period months dated back more than five years, he had several TWP months remaining.
- He earned \$19 an hour and received with regular raises. However, parts of the job were labor intensive and physically Eric was struggling
- TTW staff worked with Eric and his employer to carve out duties that he could do without putting his health at risk.
- Eric is now doing great on his job. His SSDI benefits will suspend in the next couple of months.

Story 3 - Carol

- Moved to North Dakota in 2019. Assigned Ticket to EN in another state.
- EN never developed an Individual Work Plan with Carol but the EN sent an e-mail monthly requesting pay stubs after Carol found the employment on her own.
- Carol met with our agency seeking benefits planning services and development of a PASS plan.
- It took Carol several months to get her ticket unassigned so she could re-assign the ticket to us.
- Carol is going to work with CO to develop a PASS which will help her to return to school.

Questions?

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