HOW TO WORK WITH VR

“Welcome to VR!” As your VR Counselor, it is my goal to help you identify your desire, ability, reason and need to work; this process can be a big change from where you are now. Sometimes the process can go very quickly; other times it takes a while to figure out if this is the right time for a change.

My primary role as your counselor is to explore these issues with you while considering your disability-related barriers and how they may prevent you for getting or keeping jobs. Our relationship is a partnership. In partnership, I will support your desire to make changes that will lead to a successful employment outcome.

Your active participation in the VR program is what drives your progress. I will help you understand where you are in the program and what activities are necessary to move your progress forward. Please don’t hesitate to ask questions or discuss your concerns as we move through the VR program together.

Counselor Role:

- To work with you to establish a relationship that fosters positive communication, trust, respect and understanding.
- To help you explore your desire, ability, reason & need to work.
- To help you identify & address your barriers to employment caused by your disability.
- To provide vocational counseling to support a successful employment outcome.
- To assess your skills, interests, aptitudes, concerns and capacities to work.
- To refer you to community resources and programs that can help you.
- To help you develop a written Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) that will lead you toward an employment goal.

Client Role:

- To communicate openly and honestly with my counselor about my disabilities and problems I’ve had with getting or keeping jobs.
- To enable my VR counselor to have access to information and records that will help her evaluate and assess my disabilities and capacities.
- To learn as much as I can about the VR program.
- To learn about my disability related barriers to employment and ways to minimize them in the workplace.
- To actively participate in VR activities to determine a vocational goal and explore the labor market.
- To attend all scheduled meetings and follow through with things I agree to do.
- To follow the recommendations made by my doctors or treatment providers.