

RochesterWorks Offers Resources for Job Seekers with Disabilities

By: Lindsay Murphy, Disability Resource Coordinator, RochesterWorks

RochesterWorks employs a Disability Resource Coordinator, Lindsay Murphy, under NY SCION (workforce funding under NYS Department of Labor). Disability Resource Coordinators (DRC) are located across NY state, covering almost every county. DRCs provide a variety of services aimed at supporting job seekers with disabilities, including:

- Acting as a resource for staff at career centers regarding working with customers with a disability.
- Strengthening relationships with businesses to promote the hiring of individuals with disabilities.
- Providing resources and support for implementing accommodations in the workplace.
- Coordinating Integrated Resource Teams (IRT).*
- Facilitating the Ticket to Work Program.**
- Administering benefits advisement.***
- Offering disability-specific themed workshops.****

Explanation of Terms-

***Integrated Resource Teams (IRT):** A customer of RochesterWorks may already be receiving assistance from other agencies/individuals in a variety of areas and IRT meetings allow everyone to meet to collaborate on how to achieve the customer's employment goal. If a customer is not currently receiving other assistance, Lindsay can assist with developing an IRT that matches the customer's needs. For example, a customer shares they are struggling with mental health and are working with a case manager and a therapist in addition to RochesterWorks. An IRT might be convened to assist with any barriers they are facing and ensure all are on the same page with the support they are each providing. Additional services, such as [ACCES-VR](#) may also be suggested to be added to the customers "team" so they might be able to get more intensive services.

****Ticket to Work Program:**

The [Ticket to Work Program](#) is a Social Security Work Incentive program that allows employment service providers ("Employment Networks") to assist participants with disabilities in securing meaningful employment without risk to the participant's benefits.

Upon assigning your ticket to RochesterWorks, Lindsay will be able to offer you intensive, one-on-one support and assistance. Support is provided for job search and application, resume writing, interview preparation and practice, accommodation requests, and general career guidance.

*****Benefits Advisement:**

Lindsay can work with SSI/SSDI beneficiaries to understand the impact of working on their benefits, inform beneficiaries of the work incentives available to them to return to work/try work for the first time. Lindsay can assist clients in other local programs that might not have a benefits advisor on staff. Lindsay also facilitates the Ticket to Work program.

******Disability Workshops:**

Lindsay currently offers three RochesterWorks monthly disability-specific workshops; Disability and Disclosure, Increase Your Income, and

(dis)ABILITY Job Search Group. You can find dates for these, as well as other RochesterWorks workshops on our calendar [here](#).

How Can You Take Advantage of RochesterWorks Services and Supports for Those with Disabilities?

For more information about disability resources and supports or to set up an appointment with our RochesterWorks Disability Resource Coordinator, contact Lindsay Murphy directly via [email](#) at lmurphy@rochesterworks.org or by phone at 585-258-3500, ext. 3513.