



pa health
& wellness™

Access to Good Jobs:

Learn How Your Community HealthChoices Plan Can Help

April 2, 2025

11am – 12:30pm

Overview

- Welcome
- Housekeeping
- Community HealthChoices and Employment First
- How CHC Supports along Employment Journey
 - Not Sure about Working
 - Actively Seeking Work
 - Employed
- Closing

Welcome

- Theresia Kody, CESP
 - Employment & Vocational Specialist at PA Health & Wellness
 - Employment@PaHealthWellness.com

<https://www.pahealthwellness.com/community/SocialDeterminantsofHealth/EmploymentResources.html>

Panelists will introduce selves during presentation.

Thank you for being here today!

Housekeeping

- Navigating the Webinar
- Chat
- Q & A
- Presentation structure

Community HealthChoices and Employment First



- What does a “good job” mean to YOU?

Community HealthChoices and Employment First

- Act 36 of 2018 (known as Employment First Act)
 - Requires publicly-funded services to prioritize employment and community life when supporting individuals, including those with significant disabilities.
- Community HealthChoices (CHC) waiver supports participants along their employment journey.
- You CAN work and receive the CHC waiver.
 - Ask your Service Coordinator about benefits counseling.

Community HealthChoices and Employment First

- When PA Health & Wellness talks about employment, we're not just talking about employment.
 - Do you have stable housing?
 - Can you afford nutritious food?
 - Is your current job meeting your work/life needs?
 - How's your mental health?

These are a few areas that we support with employment being the pathway to having more control of your life.

How We Support Employment

- 36 CHC Waiver Services
- Refer and coordinate services with PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Assist with connecting to PA CareerLink® and other community resources
- Participant Newsletter
- Participant Advisory Committee meetings (Quarterly)
- <https://www.pahealthwellness.com/community/SocialDeterminantsofHealth/EmploymentResources.html>

How We Support Employment

- Not sure about working?
 - We'll help connect you with benefits counseling to make an informed decision.
- Post-Secondary Education or Certification
 - We can support you with planning for when you graduate:
 - Benefits Counseling – including savings account resources!
 - » Finding a Job
 - This may include an apprenticeship depending on your industry.
 - This may include discussions on supports you may need on the job to be successful.

How We Support Employment

- Actively Seeking Work
 - We'll connect you to services based on your goals and needs, which includes benefits counseling.
- Pending a Job Offer?
 - Let's get you connected with benefits counseling so you can feel confident about starting the new job!
- Working?
 - Thinking about a promotion or career change?
 - Could an accommodation at work help?
 - Want advice on navigating a pay raise conversation?
 - Want to know more about your work credits for Medicare?



Provider Panel

Employment Services

Provider Panel

- LeeAnn Fulena, achieva (benefits counseling)
- Abby Phillips, Cagney Robbins, and Lesley Beasom, achieva
- Chris Bellias, Informed Choices Benefits Counseling
- Christine Weikel, Inglis Community Services
- Valkyrie Williams, Voices for Independence (VFI/TRPIL)

We're Here for YOU!



Source: <https://affecttheverb.com/disabledandhere/>

You want to work?

We will help you make that happen!

- It doesn't matter if you want to work 1 hour per week, 5 hours per month, or more.
- Want to start your own business?

YOUR interests, YOUR goals

Workforce Webinar Series

Be sure to register for the other two webinars this Spring:

Webinar #2 (PA CareerLink®):

https://centene.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_w6KZLfR1TMq7UM2_gPax5Q

Webinar #3 (PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation):

https://centene.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RvElz0U4SjCB0xABIH0SnQ



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