Guiding Principles of A.C.E.S

* An Employment Specialist will help job seekers find "regular" jobs in the community (competitive employment) that pay at least minimum wage.

* Employment Specialists develop relationships with area employers by learning about their business needs and trying to assist them in fulfilling them.

* Employment services are integrated with other services and mental health treatment plans.

* The job search begins very soon after the individual expresses interest in working.

* Individualized job supports are not time limited. That is, they can continue until the individual determines they are no longer needed or desired.

* Every person who is interested in finding work is eligible for services regardless of diagnosis, symptoms, treatment decisions, or any other issue.

* All services provided by Employment Specialists are individualized and personalized.

* A goal of the Employment Specialist is to satisfy individual preferences for the type of job and for the way in which services are provided.

The Catskill Center for Independence provides services to individuals with disabilities, their family and friends, and members of both the private and business sectors of the community.

Core Services

Information & Referral
Systemic and Personal Advocacy
Independent Living Skills Training
Peer Counseling

Focus Areas

Employment Services
Transition Services
Benefits Advisement
Architectural Barrier Consultation

Catskill Center for Independence
P.O. Box 1247
Oneonta NY 13820
607.432.8000 Phone/TTY
607.432.6907 Fax
1.866.724.8666 Toll Free
ccfi@ccfi.us

Community
Of One

A.C.E.S

Assistive Competitive
Employment Services

The Catskill Center for Independence

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"Every Day Is Independence Day!"

What is A.C.E.S?

Assistive Competitive Employment Services (A.C.E.S) is a program offered by the Catskill Center for Independence designed to assist Schoharie County residents who may have a mental health diagnosis to obtain competitive employment.

A.C.E.S offers a wide array of services provided by an Employment Specialist that job seekers can choose from:

Education/Training

Assistance with obtaining education/training is provided by the Employment Specialist when it is related to a person's employment goals.

A.C.E.S Employment Specialists Help People Learn How Their Benefits Will be Affected by Work

Each person who participates is offered the opportunity to learn how their benefits, such as housing subsidies, disability, food aid, etc., would be affected by employment. Benefits advisement is only provided from a person who has had in-depth training with on-going updates.

Job Supports are Individualized and Ongoing

The type of support and level of involvement from the Employment Specialist depends on the needs and preferences of the job seeker in consultation with the A.C.E.S Employment Specialist.

The A.C.E.S Program provides job supports until the job is stable and the person no longer desires help from an Employment Specialist.

People Who are Interested in Work May Be Eligible for A.C.E.S

Even if you haven't worked in years, an Employment Specialist can help – it's never too late!

A desire to work is a strong predictor of success. Employment is part of recovery for many people.

How to Become Part of A.C.E.S

In order to receive assistance obtaining competitive employment through the A.C.E.S program you must be a Schoharie County resident who wants to work. A mental health clinical diagnosis is preferred, but not required.

If you are interested in participating in the A.C.E.S Program, contact the Catskill Center for Independence. You don't need someone else to make a referral, you can become involved in the program by contacting the Center.

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