

A Resource For Missouri Job Seekers

The Whole Person (TWP) provides Employment Services to people with physical and mental disabilities. We serve people who have orthopedic and neurological conditions, brain injuries, learning disabilities, Autism, and mental health disabilities. We work with clients who seek entry level jobs as well as those who have college degrees looking for more skilled positions.

The Whole Person Employment Team understand that being out of work or being in the wrong job can be discouraging, stressful, and overwhelming. You may feel “stuck” and unable to get interviews. You may feel you were screened out because of your disability or due to gaps in your work history. Perhaps you had an interview but then never got a call back. Our intent is to bring hope and assist you in finding a job that is a good fit.

We will help you:

- Find a job to match your strengths and interests.
- Learn of other jobs you may not be familiar with.
- Complete a sample job application to use in your job search.
- Build an effective resume to market your skills and experience.
- Compose a cover letter to increase chances of being called.
- Discover job banks and web sites to increase your options.
- Complete online applications so you are not screened out.
- Learn how to explain gaps in work history.
- Practice job interviews.
- Provide resources for transportation and professional clothing.
- Decide how to discuss your disability with employers.
- Learn how to ask for accommodations, feedback, and raises.
- Learn how your income will affect Social Security benefits.
- Find classes on subjects such as budgeting, health, and wellness.
- Receive support and encouragement before and after you get a job.

To help you return to work as soon as possible, we will:

- Meet with you on a weekly basis.
- Provide job leads.
- Work behind the scenes, or contact employers on your behalf to obtain job interviews.
- Work with you, Vocational Rehabilitation, and others who support you to help you reach your goal.



For more information, contact:

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Kansas Office Information

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thewholeperson.org

How to receive Employment Services through The Whole Person

1. Apply for Vocational Rehabilitation Services:

If you are not currently working with Vocational Rehabilitation, call for an intake appointment at the closest office. Learn more about VR at <https://dese.mo.gov/>, see "Adults & Community".

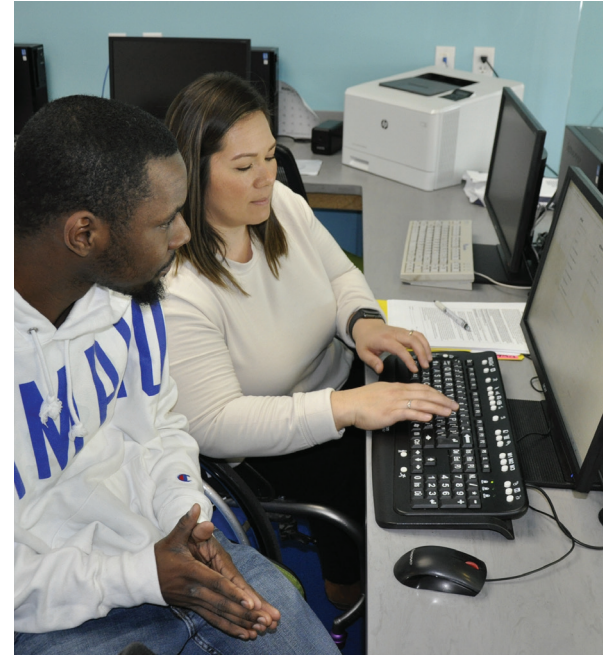
Kansas City Downtown: 816-889-2581; 615 East 13th Street, G-3, KC State Building Kansas City, MO 64106

Kansas City East: 816-743-8730; 8800 E 63rd St., Ste 260, Raytown, MO 64133 (serves Blue Springs, Grandview, Independence, South Kansas City, Lee's Summit, Oak Grove, Raytown)

Kansas City North: 816-467-7900; 8030 N. Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, MO 64118

Nevada: 417-448-1332; 621 East Highland, Suite 2, Nevada, MO 64772-3971 (Serves Cass County)

If you bring records of your disability, or proof of Social Security benefits, the time to determine eligibility may be shortened. To be eligible, you need to have a physical or mental disability that causes problems with working, and need VR services to be successfully employed.



2. Choose a service provider

If VR determines that you are eligible, your VR Counselor will help you develop an employment plan. He or she will provide guidance on choice of careers and service providers, including The Whole Person.

3. Attend an intake meeting

If you choose The Whole Person as your employment service provider, one of our Employment Specialists will meet with you to discuss your goals and services.

4. Begin your employment search

Following the Vocational Planning Meeting, you will begin weekly meetings with your Employment Specialist at a location in your community or in the city you wish to find work.

5. Follow-up support

We want to make sure things are going well once you start working. We will be in touch regularly to discuss any challenges you encounter and to discuss strategies on keeping up with work demands.

Other support through TWP

In addition to our Employment Specialists, TWP has an additional 40 staff who provide information and referral, advocacy, independent living skills training, peer support, transition services, home modifications, assistive technology, and to help hire and train a personal care attendant (for Medicaid eligible clients). Visit our website at www.thewholeperson.org for more information and a calendar of events.