

Achieve Employment:

The mission of the Achieve Employment Program is to ensure that individuals find and secure employment, if they so desire. The process begins with a referral to the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). DARS is responsible for conducting the initial assessments and screenings. This is to determine the type of employment that may be suitable for the individual. Once the DARS assessments have been completed, a referral is made to an Employment Services Organization (ESO), such as St. Vincent's Home, so that the person can be paired with a job coach to help them find and secure a job. (If DARS has a waiting list, it is possible to receive these services through one of the Medicaid Waivers listed below by contacting your support coordinator). Throughout this process, the job coach will provide transportation as needed, attend interviews, speak with employers, and advocate on the behalf of the individual. The job coach is also responsible for training any prevocational skills that may be needed such as professionalism, dress and appearance, hygiene, etc. Once the individual is hired, the job coach remains on site and continues to work alongside them to ensure that the placement is appropriate, the person is satisfied, and the employer is satisfied. Additionally, the job coach will work with the employer to help train the individual in any job specific skills that are needed for the person to be successful in their employment. Once it is determined that the individual can perform the job on their own, the job coach will systematically fade out as the individual continues to work more independently. After the job coach has faded, the job coach continues to provide monthly check-ins for no less than 1 year after fading. This ensures that the individual continues to perform their job duties to the satisfaction of the employer and it gives the job coach an opportunity to return on site, as needed, to retain any skill sets that may have diminished over time.

Funding provided through:

The Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)

Community Living Waiver (CL)

Family and Individual Supports Waiver (FIS)

Building Independence Waiver (BI)