

What is LINK?

The LINK program is a complimentary MEIA funded Employment Program for Persons with Disability (EPPD) pre-vocational program for clients who have a mental health disability, and in addition face other challenges/barriers to their employability (such as addiction, cognitive impairments, learning disability, severe anxiety physical disabilities, transgender issues, etc). The primary goal is to assist each individual to become engaged in and get ready for work, to be placed in volunteer/employment and/or to be referred to core EPPD services.

Services include:

Individual one to one and/or group programming with flexibility, intensive support and outreach services as needed.

Working with a multidisciplinary vocational team including an occupational therapist, life-skills coach, job coach/job developer and peer support worker.

Clients receive (as needed):

- ❖ Outreach services to engage clients in the program.
- ❖ Intensive support.
- ❖ A close working relationship with his/her treatment team.
- ❖ A needs assessment- other assessment as appropriate e.g. For learning, life-skills, interest, aptitude testing, and/or functional assessment.
- ❖ A personalized wellness plan with disability management strategies.
- ❖ Connection to support services such as medical/dental, mental health supports, concurrent disorders, and other specialized services as needed.
- ❖ Life skills and pre-employment skills modules.
- ❖ Educational upgrading including literacy, GED, ESL, study skills, computer training.
- ❖ Vocation planning including research and informational interviewing.
- ❖ Volunteer and/or work experience placements (highly supportive with hands-on job coaching as needed).
- ❖ Opportunity to work with supportive employers.
- ❖ Ongoing life and employment skills development such as time and stress management, communication and interpersonal skills.
- ❖ Outreach and support services provided at worksites, training facilities, community support services and community venues.

Who is eligible?

- ❖ Youth (15 yrs) and adults who have a permanent mental health disability and a secondary condition/barrier.
- ❖ Reside in Vancouver, North Shore, Lower Mainland or Fraser Region.

To make a referral, please contact:

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