



Connect to Work Experience

When the Connect to Work Experience Specialist started working with this customer, the customer shared that her passion was to be of assistance to Veterans. The Work Experience Specialist immediately contacted a Veteran's organization in the customer's geographical area and set up an interview for the customer. The customer was interviewed and was enthusiastically selected by the Manager for a work experience position as an Office Assistant.

The Work Experience Specialist and the customer's Case Manager worked closely together as the customer's work experience start date approached to provide support services that would assist with the customer's reentry into the workforce. As the start date became closer, the customer became doubtful regarding her abilities to start the work experience. The Work Experience Specialist and VCM provided support to the customer throughout the process. The customer felt encouraged by the support and agreed to begin her work experience. Once the customer started at the job site, her doubts were whisked away and after her first day, she called her Work Experience Specialist and stated, *"I love it! I whistle to work every day, thank you for giving me this opportunity!"* The customer successfully completed her work experience in May.

Connect to Careers

After completing a Work Experience through MHCC, this customer was then referred to Connect to Careers. The customer had identified his goal and career plan to work in a commercial or institutional kitchen. The VCM and Connect to Careers Job Developer assisted him with targeting his resume to demonstrate his new found skills and passion for the food service industry. The Job Developer made employer connections and connected him to targeted job leads, and his Job Developer and VCM assisted him with each of his online applications. He had interviews with several employers including an interview at one of Beaverton's largest employers with a large commercial kitchen. The customer interviewed with the Kitchen Manager and approximately two weeks later, the employer called him to fill in for someone who was out ill. He immediately showed them that he was highly capable and able to keep up with the fast-paced work. The employer hired him in April at \$10.00 per hour. When contacted recently, this customer reported that he "loves his team and his job".

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Connect to Work

This customer came into Connect to Work with solid work history in the medical field, but also with two drug-related Class II Felonies. After completing an orientation, this customer continued working with the Employment Specialist one-on-one to strategize on overcoming his barriers to employment. He attended Discover Your Roads to Success where he gained skills in interviewing, networking and other job search strategies. The Employment Specialist assisted the customer with creating a resume and they tailored it to various medical positions he was interested in at a large, well-known medical center in Portland. He applied for several positions and made it to the interview stage and was offered a position as a Sleep Technician at the end of March. This customer is making \$27.58/hour with full benefits.