

Jobs & Hope WV:

Empowering West Virginians for a Brighter Future

Lorrie Smith, Director, WVSDT & Deb Harris, Manager, Jobs & Hope WV



Jobs & Hope WV

Empowering West Virginians by collaboratively addressing barriers to employment and fostering access to career opportunities. Inspiring hope through community collaboration and sustainable employment pathways



Target Population



Individuals who are in recovery from a substance use disorder

More specifically, those who have completed or are in the process of completing a recovery and/or treatment program



Who Qualifies



18 years of age or older



Committed to recovery



Ready for training/ employment



Have barriers to employment



Willing to submit a drug test



How Jobs & Hope WV Works



Agents act as resource liaisons



Transition Agents Help With

Drug Screening

- **Legal Referrals**
- **Transportation Approvals**
- **Training/Education Referrals**
- **Employment Placement**
- **Additional Support**



Participants Receive

- Free or Reduced Training
- **Help Eliminating Barriers**
- **✓** License Reinstatement
- **Legal Guidance**

- Connection to Resources
- **Recovery Support**
- **Career Placement**



Key Partners

- West Virginia DMV
- West Virginia Military Authority
- Legal Aid of West Virginia
- Good News Mountaineer Garage
- Modivcare
- WVODCP
- WorkForce WV
- WV Adult Education



Success Numbers



Program Participants

1,602



Completed Expungements

47



Driver's License Reinstatements

2,771



Jobs & Hope WV Graduates¹

585

¹ Participant has removed barriers, received training, and achieved and maintained career employment



Success Numbers



Employed Participants as a Result of Program

9,650



Average Annual Salary²

\$26,069



Total Combined Salaries

\$93.1



No Longer Receiving SNAP Benefits³

1,810

²This was calculated by using salary information from current career employed participants and graduates. Career employed is defined as employment within the participants chosen field which may include full time, above minimum wage, employment with the option of health and retirement benefits and/or career advancement opportunities

³Average amount of benefits for West Virginia household is \$322/month



Employer Incentives

- Jobs & Hope WV Workforce Employment Program
 - Collaboration of Program Partners: Jobs & Hope WV, and the West Virginia Military Authority, offer subsidized job placement(s) for WV employers who hire Jobs & Hope WV participants
 - Salary reimbursement for wages up to 1,040 hours up to \$20,000 per employee
 - Free drug screening
 - Additional support services through Jobs & Hope WV



Reentry Liaisons

The West Virginia Schools of Diversion & Transition (WVSDT) has strategically positioned four Reentry Liaisons within state facilities offering Career and Technical Education (CTE) and other educational programs. These Reentry Liaisons engage directly with students, equipping them for a smooth reintegration into their communities and connecting them with Jobs & Hope WV Transition Agent.



AMANDA TROUT Reentry Liaison



KRISTON GRIEME Reentry Liaison



KAITLYN FERGUSON Reentry Liaison



JAMIE OATES Reentry Liaison



Success Stories: Bobby Burchett

- Barriers Overcome:
 - ✓ Transportation challenges
 - ✓ Justice-involved background
- Key Partners:
 - WV National Guard HEOC training
 - Northwood Health Systems Work attire assistance
 - Anderson Excavating Career opportunity

- Path to Success:
 - Graduated Ohio County Drug Court
 - Worked at Wheeling Island Casino
 - Completed peer coach training
 - Earned HEOC certification (June 2023)
 - Secured full-time employment with Anderson Excavating
- Jobs & Hope WV Support:
 - HEOC training
 - Financial assistance for work attire





SCANTO CONNECT

