

Veterans Eligibility and Referral Requirements

- Eligible for VA services and enrolled in the Alaska VA Healthcare System.
- Unemployed at time of referral and seeking competitive employment.
- Currently engaged and in compliance with treatment of mental health issues, including substance use disorders.
- Medically stable and cleared for work activity.
- Have a significant barrier to employment (physical, psychological, substance abuse diagnoses, and/or homelessness).
- Motivated to pursue a long-term goal of improved life functioning.



Eligible Veterans can be referred through a VA medical or mental health provider.

The mission of VHA VR is to provide high quality vocational rehabilitation services to all Veterans living with mental illness or physical impairment with barriers to employment and who want to secure and maintain meaningful community-based competitive employment that fosters self-esteem, dignity, respect, and independence.



**Alaska VA Healthcare System
1201 N. Muldoon Road Anchorage, AK**

CWT Staff

Vocational Rehabilitation Specialists

Theo Thompson, MAM 907-273-4072

Aneta Murphy, MA 907-273-4015

Azzulla Forde, MPH 907-273-4053

Lead Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist

Toni Trend, LMHC, MCAP 907-273-4077

Community Employment Coordinator

Charles Gorman, MA 907-273-4044

VHA Vocational Rehabilitation Service

Transitional Work

**Community Based
Employment Services**

Supported Employment



**Alaska VA Healthcare System
HCHV/VA DOMICILIARY
3001 C Street
Anchorage, AK 99503**

TRANSITIONAL WORK (CWT/TW)

For Eligible Veterans who...

- Are unemployed
- Are interested in returning to work
- Need to learn job seeking and general work skills
- Could benefit from new job skills
- Have had difficulties in the past keeping a job or poor work history
- Need to improve work habits and attitudes independently
- Need an increase in self-esteem and confidence

- ➔ Based on an individualized vocational plan, CWT/TW Veterans may be required to participate in weekly Job Club activities to help develop their job seeking skills.
- ➔ This therapeutic work activity provides structured support and training while participating in an actual work environment.
- ➔ These paid work experiences are temporary and typically last 3-6 months, depending on the individuals need.
- ➔ CWT/TW is designed to help Veterans cope with personal changes and return to their highest level of functioning by becoming more productive members of society.

COMMUNITY BASED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (CWT/CBES)

For Eligible Veterans who...

- Are unemployed
- Are interested in returning to work
- Have an immediate goal to work in a competitive, community-based job
- Have had difficulties in the past keeping a job, or difficulty initiating and following through on their job search
- Are unable to obtain competitive employment by themselves

- ➔ Based on an individualized vocational plan, CWT/CBES Veterans may be required to participate in weekly Job Club activities to help develop their job seeking skills.
- ➔ CWT/CBES can be provided to Veterans regardless of mental health or physical diagnoses, severity of symptoms, legal concerns, history of substance use, availability of other income sources, financial concerns, or housing instability.
- ➔ CWT/CBES provides individual and flexible, vocational support designed for each Veteran based on their strengths, needs, abilities, and preferences.

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT (CWT/SE)

For Eligible Veterans who...

- Are unemployed
- Are interested in returning to work
- Diagnosed with serious mental illnesses, psychosis, TBI, spinal cord injury, PTSD, or polytrauma
- Have had difficulties in the past finding employment independently
- Have been unable to obtain competitive employment independently
- Seek employment that is a match for their skills, interests, and abilities

- ➔ Based on an individualized vocational plan, CWT/SE Veterans may be required to participate in weekly Job Club activities to help develop their job seeking skills.
- ➔ CWT/SE is an evidence-based practice intended for individuals with serious mental illness to access meaningful competitive employment. Veterans are able to engage in full-time and part-time employment with appropriate supports and work place accommodations.
- ➔ Support services are ongoing as long as they are therapeutically necessary. Job loss is not a reason to terminate services, but rather a learning experience to help determine a better job fit.

Recovery through work