Your Pathway to Employment - Working with a Spinal Cord Injury

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Dennis Heaphy
Pathway to Employment
Webinar Series

• Returning to work or entering the workforce for the first time for people with spinal cord injuries.

• Looks at various laws, benefits, and programs that promote

• How to overcome barriers that people with spinal cord injuries may face on their pathway to employment.
  – Job leads and searches
  – Job interview
  – Job options
Polling Question

What is the highest level of education you have received?
A. High school
B. Training in a trade or apprenticeship
C. Some college
D. College degree or above
Assumptions of the PTE Program

1. Work plays an important role in people’s lives. People with spinal cord injuries want to work, can work, and do work.
2. When a spinal cord injury disrupts a person’s worker role,
3. Many programs and services are available to support return to work for people with spinal cord injury.
4. A person with a spinal cord injury who is successfully employed can often assist others by sharing their experiences and offering support.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roles</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caregiver</td>
<td>Assisting other: Children other family members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home maintainer</td>
<td>Household tasks: cooking, cleaning,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend</td>
<td>Interpersonal relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Member</td>
<td>Participant in relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work/Employment</td>
<td>Worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>Education or learner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>Volunteer: i.e. in child’s school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hobbyist/Amateur</td>
<td>Recreation and Leisure activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participant in organizations</td>
<td>Community Life participation: member of community organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious Participant</td>
<td>Religion and spirituality involvement</td>
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The Worker Role

• The worker role is dependent on capabilities, habits and everyday routines, interest, and motivation.

• Following a spinal cord injury, people need to explore their capabilities and habits and everyday routines, and everyday interests and motivation to work.

• Capacity to work and interest and motivation may increase by learning more about programs that support return to work and learning more about the successful experience of others.

Polling Question

What activities are you currently engaged in activities outside of your house?

A. Volunteer work (community organization, religious organization, other volunteer program, or helping a family member in a business, tutoring, etc)
B. Part-time employment
C. Full-time employment
D. I am not engaged in activities outside my home
Polling Question

If you are not employed, what is the primary reason you are not employed?

A. Transportation
B. Personal Care Attendant issues
C. Government regulations
D. Can’t find a job
Resources


• United Spinal Asso Spinal Cord Resource Center Employment Resources
Feel free to contact Barbara Kornblau with any questions you may have

Email: BarbaraKornblau@gmail.com