

TRANSFORMING
LIVES

**Creating EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
for People with Developmental Disabilities**

The Transforming & Improving Practices (TIP) initiative provides funding for experts to assist service providers working with hundreds of people with developmental disabilities and their families around the state. They are improving the way people with developmental disabilities are supported to get and keep jobs in their communities. Providers are learning to create supports in the community that are individualized and lead to better employment outcomes. As a result, more people with developmental disabilities will have jobs of their choice and make more money.



Why this is important

People with developmental disabilities have the highest unemployment rate of any group of Americans. Support is improving and outcomes are substantial.

- 14 Community service providers are improving their ability to help people with developmental disabilities get the jobs they want.
- Families, providers and employers are increasing their expectations about people with developmental disabilities in the workforce.
- Increased use of new and innovative approaches that lead to employment.

Council efforts create lasting changes:

- Transforming supports to ensure community participation.
- Shifting work culture, values and expectations.
- Better supporting people with developmental disabilities to become employed.
- Closing segregated sheltered workshops that typically pay sub-minimum wages.

“ **This grant is enabling us to better support the individuals we serve and ensure our team has access to tremendous subject matter experts.** ”

14 Organizations throughout Maryland are improving their ability to help people with developmental disabilities get and keep jobs