## Choice of employment is based on factors such as the individual's:

UNIQUE STRENGTHS

**ABILITIES** 

**INTERESTS** 

**PRIORITIES** 

**RESOURCES** 

**CONCERNS** 

**EXPERIENCES** 

**INFORMED CHOICE** 

### **WORKING TOGETHER**

Working together, trained vocational counselors and job placement specialists provide support needed for the individual to prepare for, retain, or regain employment.





## How do I find out more about Supported Employment?

#### **DISTRICT I**

(Calhoun, Coahoma, Desoto, Lafayette, Marshall, Panola, Quitman, Tate, Tunica, Yalobusha) 51 County Road 166 Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 234-3171

#### DISTRICT II

(Alcorn, Benton, Itawamba, Lee, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo, Union) 2620 Traceland Drive Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 842-1010

#### DISTRICT III

(Bolivar, Carroll, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Washington, Yazoo) 104 Professional Plaza Greenwood, MS 38930 (662) 453-6172

#### DISTRICT IV

(Chickasaw, Clay, Choctaw, Lowndes, Monroe, Montgomery, Oktibbeha, Webster) 317 Industrial Park Road Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 323-9594

#### DISTRICT V

(Hinds, Warren) 3895 Beasley Road Jackson, MS 39213 (601) 898-7004

#### DISTRICT VI

(Attala, Leake, Madison, Rankin, Scott, Simpson, Smith) 1032 Center Pointe Blvd. Pearl, MS 39208 (601) 709-5601

#### DISTRICT VII

(Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, Winston) 1003 College Drive Meridian, MS 39304 (601) 483-3881

#### **DISTRICT VIII**

(Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Copiah, Franklin, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lincoln, Lawrence, Marion, Pike, Walthall, Wilkinson) 1221 Parklane Road McComb, MS 39649 (601) 249-2498

#### DISTRICT IX

(Covington, Forrest, Greene, Jones, Lamar, Perry, Wayne) 17 J.M. Tatum Industrial Drive Hattiesburg, MS 39404 (601) 545-5619

#### DISTRICT X

(George, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone) 13486 Fastway Lane Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 575-3789

## Chris Howard, Executive Director 1281 Highway 51 North Madison, MS 39110 1-800-443-1000 mdrs.ms.gov

# SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

Combining strengths, abilities and training for success.





## What is Supported Employment?

Supported Employment provides the opportunity to assist individuals with the most significant disabilities in finding employment. The Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS) provides a team of professionals that identify the services and ongoing supports needed to maintain employment.

## WHO?

#### Who is eligible for Supported Employment?

Supported Employment services may be provided to individuals who have the most significant disabilities and require ongoing support services to succeed in competitive employment.

After evaluation and assessment, the Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor determines eligibility for Vocational Rehabilitation and for Supported Employment Services.

## WHY?



#### Why Supported Employment?

Supported Employment offers those with significant disabilities an opportunity to work in a competitive setting alongside non-disabled coworkers. They receive all the benefits of employment, including competitive wages, while learning social and work skills necessary for success.

The Supported Employment program provides a trainer on-site with the employee until job stabilization is secure.

#### Supported Employment clients receive multiple services.

**ASSESSMENT** 

DISCOVERY

**CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT** 

PERSON CENTERED PLANNING

**BENEFITS PLANNING** 

**ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES** 

**COUNSELING & GUIDANCE** 

**JOB DEVELOPMENT** 

**JOB TRAINER** 

**DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL SUPPORTS** IN THE WORKPLACE

**COORDINATION FOR EXTENDED SERVICES** 

Through networking with community support, the individual receives additional assistance in order to maintain the job successfully. The assistance provided is individualized and long-term. An entire team of committed professionals – the Counselor, Vocational Training Instructor, Job Trainer, Employer, and Community Organizations – work together to reduce and eliminate those barriers to employment caused by disabilities. Trained vocational counselors and job placement specialists provide support needed for the individual to prepare for, retain, or regain employment.