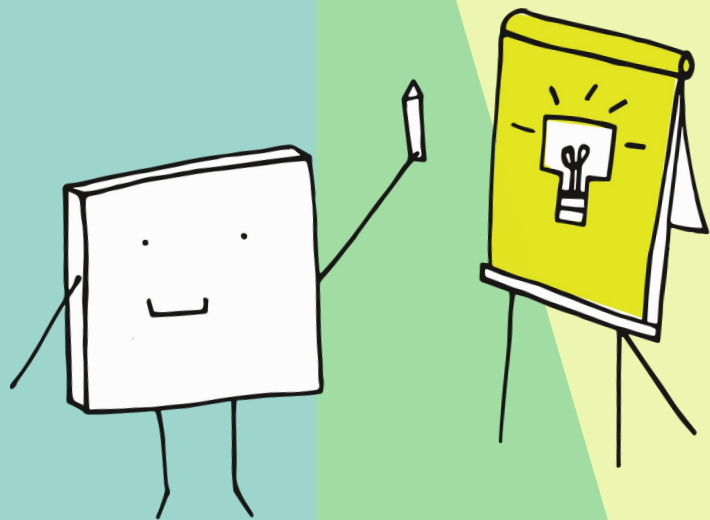


Starting Successfully:

An Overview of Pre-Employment Supports



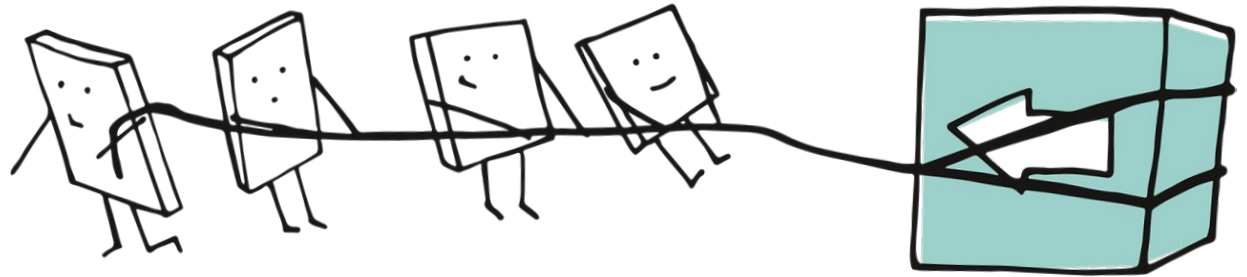
Samantha Goldfarb

Director of Training and Consultation Services

The Arc of New Jersey



Why?



Does this sound familiar?

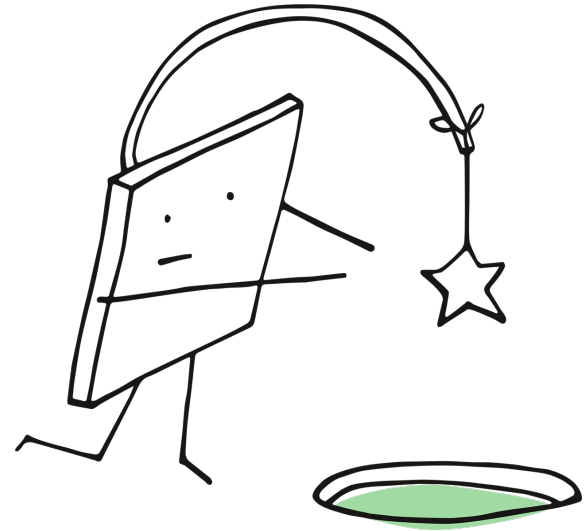
“They won’t be able to perform a job.”

“They won’t be able to be alone at work.”

“They don’t know how to make a resume.”

“They won’t be able to pass an interview.”

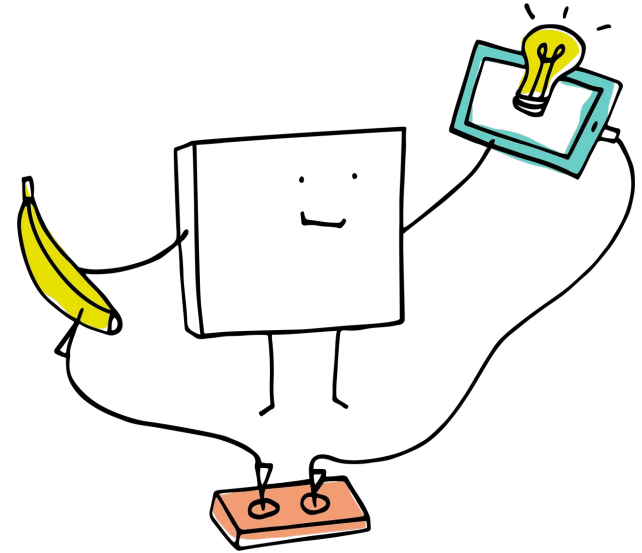
Pre-employment services ask: **“Why not?”**
and provide support to help!



What are pre-employment services?

Provides skills, experiences, and supports needed to start **competitive integrated employment (CIE)**

- Job exploration and counseling
- Workplace-readiness skills
- Workplace experience (job shadowing, volunteering, apprenticeships etc.)
- Peer support (ex. job clubs)



Who funds pre-employment services?

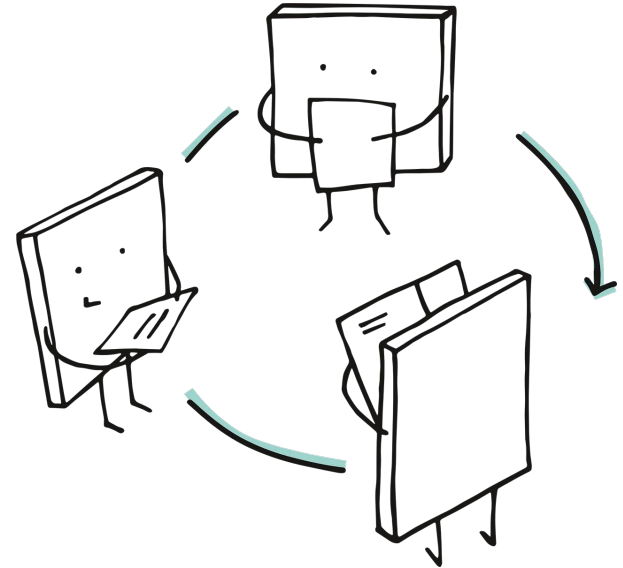
- **DDD** - Division of Developmental Disabilities
- **DVRS** - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- **CBVI** - Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

May be eligible for services through multiple programs in the person's lifetime!



Funding-source eligibility

- **DDD eligibility:** a developmental disability that meets need requirements and Medicaid eligibility (low-income)
 - Supports adults (mostly 21+)
- **DVRS eligibility:** a disability that impacts employment/employability
 - Supports adolescents/adults (14+)



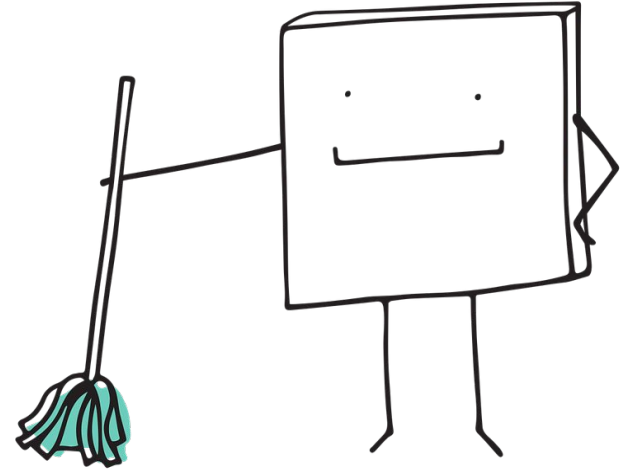
Pre-Employment Transition Services

- Common name: “**Pre-ETS**”
- Funded through DVRS
- Available to individuals aged 14-21 with a documented disability
 - IEP or 504 plan are examples!
- Can be received through schools and/or service providers



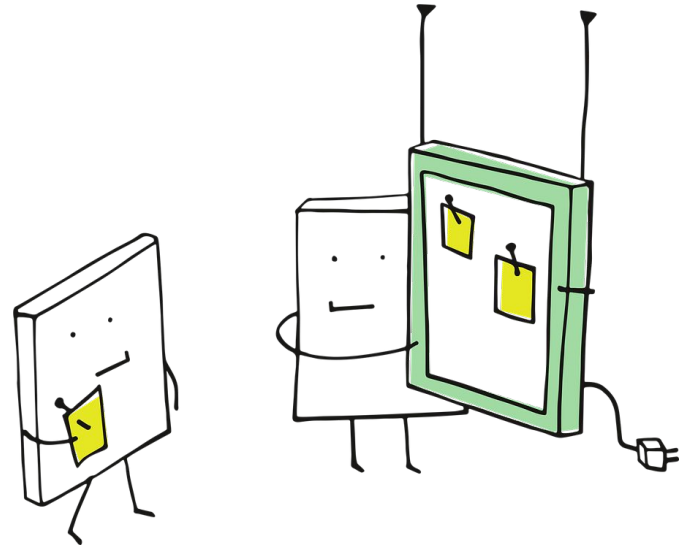
Prevocational Training

- Common name: “**Pre-voc**”
- Funded through DDD
- Available to individuals aged 21+ receiving DDD services
 - Must also be ineligible for services through DVRS
- Received through service providers



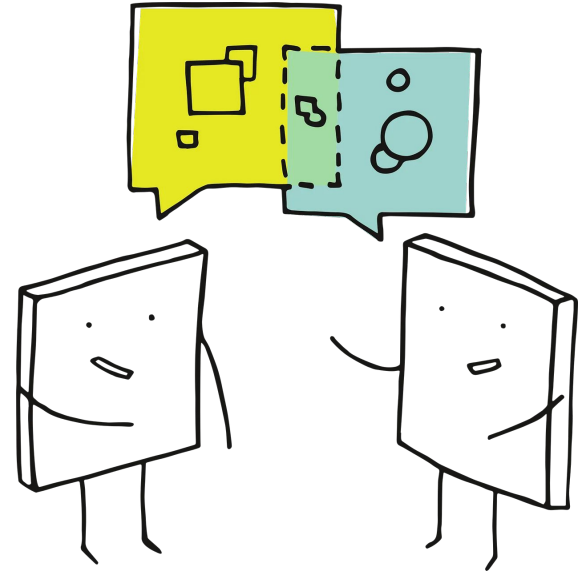
Project SEARCH

- Funded through DVRS
- Year-long experience
- Combines pre-employment instruction and workplace experience
 - Guided curriculum
 - Intensive supports
 - Three unique internships
 - Job placement assistance



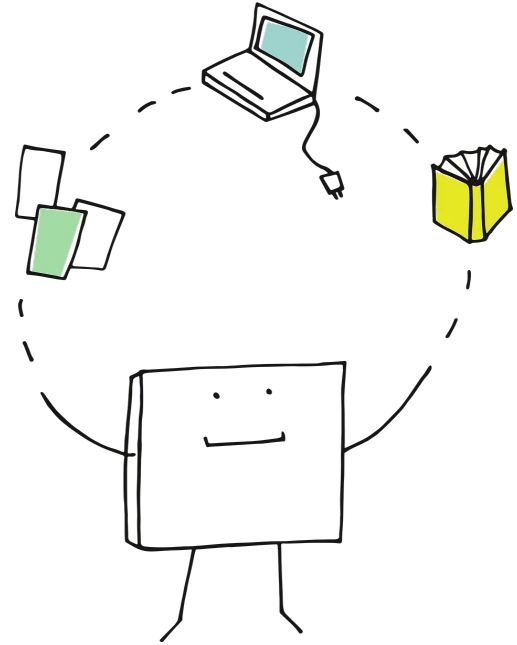
DDD and DVRS partnership

- After pre-employment services, DVRS and/or DDD offer employment services
- DVRS gets “first dibs” on anyone seeking employment services in NJ
 - Even DDD-eligible individuals!
- If the person’s disability cannot be supported by DVRS, DDD supports can be used as soon as they come of age



Benefits Counseling

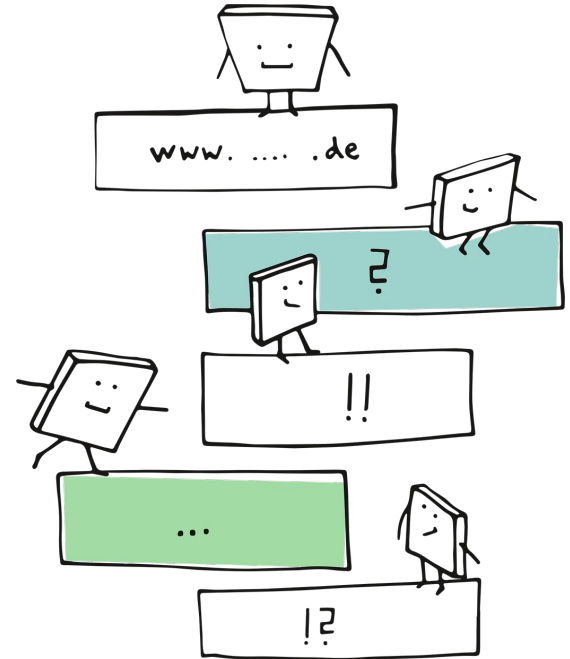
- Expert advice on benefits and work!
 - Maintaining eligibility
 - Reporting earnings
 - Maximizing support and pay
- Available through pre-employment or employment services
 - DVRS is recommended, but DDD may have options



What do I do next?

Contact **PFAL** (Planning for Adult Life)!

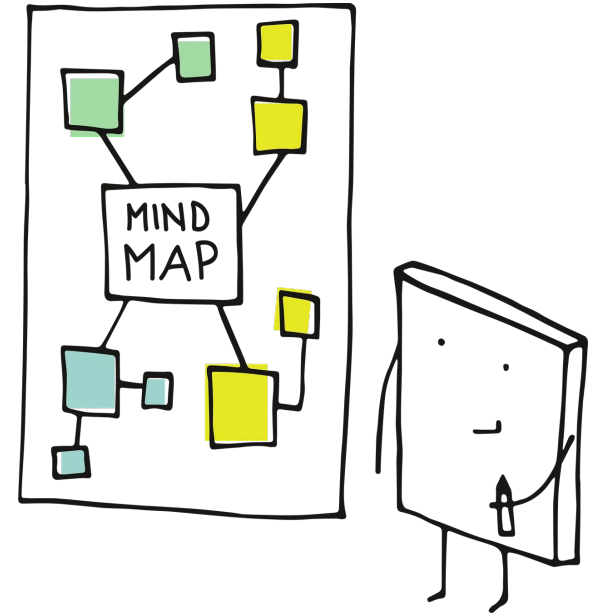
- Website:
<https://planningforadulthoodlife.org/>
- Helpdesk email:
helpdesk@planningforadulthoodlife.org
- Helpdesk webpage:
https://planningforadulthoodlife.org/help-desk/help_desk.html



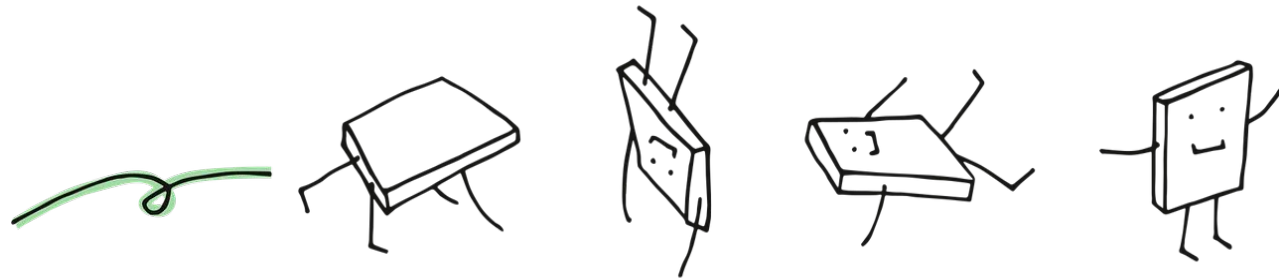
Resources

Available as a flyer with this presentation!

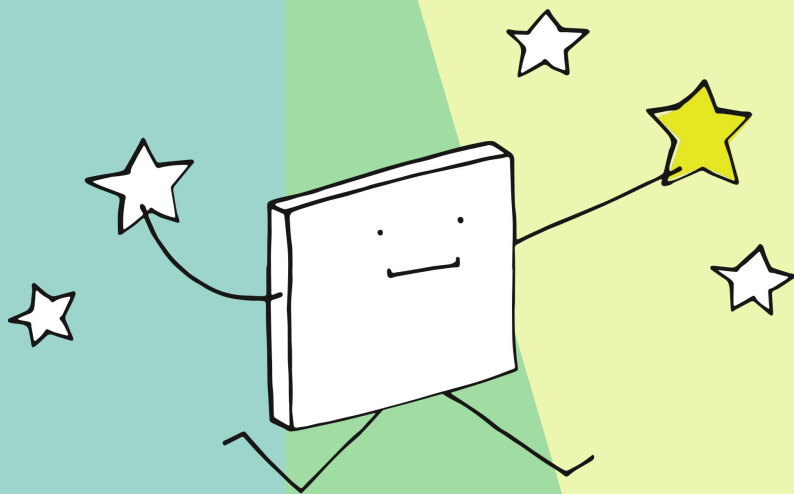
- Pre-ETS overviews
- DDD employment-services overview (includes pre-voc)
- Benefits counseling information
- Disability-benefits navigation tool
- DVRS online referral page
- One-Stop Career Center information



Questions?



Thank you!



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