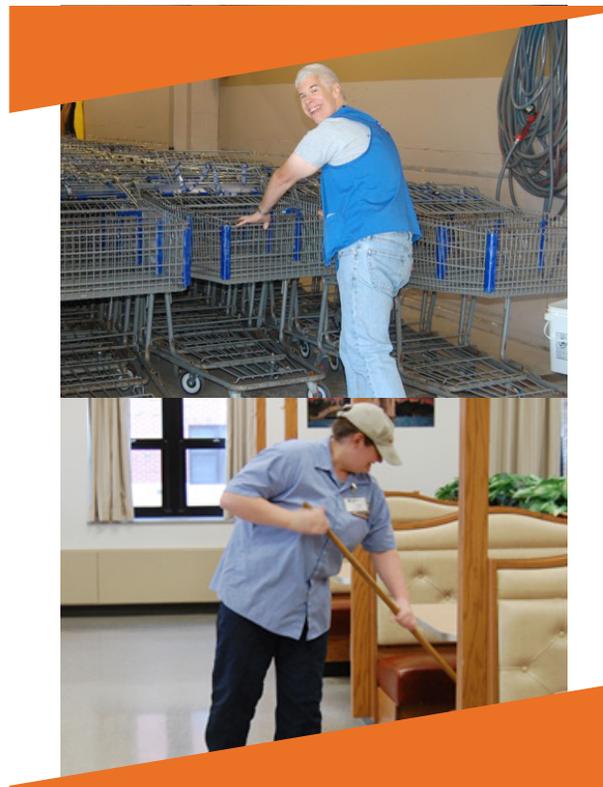


Would you like to access Vocational Services?

The Arc Jefferson - St. Lawrence offers many choices for qualified individuals, including people transitioning from the school setting. To access these programs (except ACCES-VR) the individual must apply for and be eligible for services through OPWDD. This process can take up to 90 days and may seem challenging, but staff members are available to assist!

Additionally, the individual must apply for Medicaid because most of the services are funded through a Waiver program called Home and Community Waiver Based Service. This waiver allows for OPWDD to obtain services in more variable manner to better meet individual needs.

Staff members will assist students and qualifying people, as well as their families with prevocational and/or vocational placement for individuals transitioning out of the secondary school setting to adult employment by linking them with their desired program. Additionally, staff members will collaborate with ACCES-VR, Care Coordinators, OPWDD personnel, and local school district staff, to create a person-centered transition plan.



The Arc

Jefferson - St. Lawrence
New York

JEFFERSON COUNTY

380 Gaffney Drive
Watertown, NY 13601
315-836-1420

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

6 Commerce Lane
Canton, NY 13617
315-379-0441

www.thearcjslc.org



The Arc

Jefferson - St. Lawrence
New York

Career and Vocational Services

Vocational programs provide support and training to adults with disabilities, so they may obtain and maintain meaningful employment. Programs are built around person-centered planning that focuses on the individual's interests, skills, and talents.

Mission

Providing lifelong opportunities that enhance the lives of people, so that they may achieve their hopes and aspirations.

www.thearcjslc.org

ACCES-VR:

The agency provides supported employment opportunities for those with any documented disability through ACCES-VR. Staff members assist people to find employment and provide job coaching, if needed. ACCES-VR services do not require OPWDD eligibility.

Community Prevocational Services:

The program develops employment readiness skills in an integrated, community work setting through volunteer efforts.

Participants are taught skills to be successful in a community based setting. Staff provide lessons to build on a person's strong points and assist with developing the abilities needed for future work.

Training includes skills such as: Attendance, Punctuality, Collaboration, Multi-tasking, Problem Solving, and Work Safety.



Employment Training Program:

This program offers internships and an on-the-job work experience for individuals with a developmental disability. Successful candidates have independence in the community; however may need one-on-one coaching.

Interns will be fully paid for a maximum of 12 hours per week by the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD). Interns may work over 12 hours while training by being added to the employer's payroll.

The placement at a work site lasts until the intern is fully trained. Once the intern is performing successfully, the work site will be asked to consider the intern for permanent employment.

Federal Contracts:

The Arc Jefferson - St. Lawrence provides services to border stations and the 10th Mountain Division in the areas of Custodial Services, Central Issue Facility, and Dining. These Federal contracts are available through the Source America's AbilityOne Program. The contracts with Fort Drum employ approximately 70 employees on three major contracts.

Pathway to Employment:

This program trains people with disabilities on pre-employment skills and guides them to identify a career/vocational direction. Individuals learn a variety of skills, including interview techniques and resume writing.

Staff members support people through observation to provide individualized guidance in real time.

The goal of this limited-time service is to assist people with integrated community career exploration and to identify a care goal in up to 278 hours or 365 days; whichever comes first.

Site Based Prevocational Services:

Site-based Prevoc. includes habilitation services that assist individuals to develop employment readiness skills. The services consist of work experiences that are not job-task specific, but contribute to an individual's ability to attain paid employment in the community.

Supported Employment:

The Supported Employment Program helps businesses thrive while providing long-term, community jobs for individuals with disabilities.

Job Coaches give individualized assessments and on-site training. After the individual is successfully proficient, the Job Coach offers long-term supervision and support to the person and to ensure a successful placement.



Vocational Exploration at Career Connection:

This program is designed to assist those with a mental health diagnosis to prepare them for employment with one-on-one sessions. The Vocational Counselor and Job Coach assist in all aspects of employment; developing relevant skills.

Sessions are typically on a weekly basis to review skill building, vocational searching, and resume development in a community, business setting.