

The Johnson & Johnson – Dartmouth Community Mental Health Programs and the Illinois Family Involvement initiative support Illinois' Individual Placement and Support project as part of a multi-state family led effort.

The Illinois initiative was established to educate families of people with mental illnesses about this evidence-based, high-quality program and inspire them to advocate for creation, expansion, and improved access.

Our goal is to empower and support individuals with mental illnesses in attaining and maintaining sustained competitive employment with as much or as little support as needed!

Family Involvement Opportunities

There are many ways families may support this initiative including:

Support family members who are going through the Individual Placement and Support process.

Educate families and providers about IPS and how work helps in the recovery process.

Provide employment opportunities to people with mental illnesses.

Advocate for access to IPS and influence public policy and funding for IPS services.



Employment Outcomes

- Increased economic independence
- Improved self-image
- Reduced problems associated with isolation
- Reduced symptoms
- Improved family relationships

For individuals with mental illnesses...
NOTHING SAYS RECOVERY LIKE A JOB!

INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENT AND SUPPORT

An evidenced-based approach to helping people with mental illnesses attain and maintain employment.

“Work is the most direct step to recovery, and Individual Placement and Support (IPS) is the only evidenced-based practice for helping people get work.”
The President’s New Freedom Commission Report (2003)



In comparing day treatment programs and traditional vocational approaches to IPS, there is clear evidence of improved employment outcomes for consumers engaging in IPS services.

To learn more about the
Johnson & Johnson -
Dartmouth Community
IPS project visit:
www.dartmouth.edu/~ips

Individual Placement and Support Practices

- Every individual who wants to work is eligible.
- IPS services are integrated with mental health treatment.
- Competitive employment is the goal.
- Personalized benefits counseling is provided.
- Job search starts soon after an individual expresses interest in working.
- Follow-along supports are continuous.
- Individual preferences are a priority.
- Employment Specialists build relationships with employers based upon client job interests.

Individual Placement and Support-- A Team Approach

Case managers or counselors share hopeful messages about employment, provide information for the employment plan, and help with personal issues that can impact the job.

Vocational rehabilitation (VR) counselors work with the client and other members of their teams to develop an employment plan.

Clients share their preferences for type of job, job location, work schedule, etc. Clients also share information about their previous jobs and about lessons they learned from past job experiences.

Employment Specialists provide as much assistance as needed to help their clients find good job matches. They also provide clients with ongoing job supports as needed.

Psychiatrists and Nurse Practitioners talk to clients about their employment goals and their jobs. Medications may be adjusted to help clients meet employment demands.

Family members identified by the clients may also be part of the team. Family members may provide helpful information, encouragement and practical assistance.

