

Topic of the Month

My Life: Work and Play

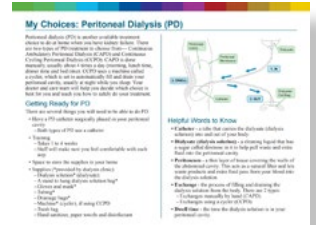


Step 1: Plan

Review the following Network and community resources to plan a patient engagement activity that explores services that support patients working, volunteering and being active by traveling.

Network Resources

- [My Kidney Kit](#) - All pages are available in English and Spanish. Highlighted MKK “My Choices” pages include:
 - [My Life: Being Active](#)
 - [My Life: Occupation](#)
 - [My Life: Traveling with Dialysis](#)
 - [My Network: Dialysis Facility Compare](#)



- [Frequently Asked Questions for Professionals- Guiding Your Patients through Vocational Rehabilitation](#) (staff handout)

- [Facility Peer Representative program](#) (poster)

- Patient Stories

- [“Don’t Wait for Transplant to Pursue Your Dreams”](#) a patient story on his journey to return to work.
- [Peter’s Success Story](#)
- [Very Important Patient Peer Sharing Call: Vocational Rehabilitation](#) - Conversation on Demand. (recording) Listen to a conversation with kidney patients sharing and answering questions from peers about their experience with vocational rehabilitation.



- [Rehabilitation: Getting Back to Work](#) (brochure)
- [Ten Benefits of Vocational Rehabilitation](#) this patient handout offers reasons patients have shared are benefits of using vocational rehabilitation.

- [Vocational Rehabilitation Lobby Day Ideas](#) and [Lobby Day Checklist](#). These tools have been developed to help clinic staff and FPRs to plan a lobby day or bulletin board with a focus on vocational rehabilitation.

- [Volunteering](#) (patient handout)

- [Vocational Rehabilitation Bulletin Board Kit](#). This kit was developed to provide the content for a bulletin board promoting the benefits of working and using vocational rehabilitation services.



Community Resources



- [Dialysis Facility Compare website](#). Look for a clinic to visit so you can travel.
- [Patient Grant Library](#). ESRD NCC hosts a webpage that provides information on funding sources to support ideas for education, advocacy, and/or helping others living with kidney disease.

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR)

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR) are offered in every state. They provide services to help people to prepare for, find and keep jobs. They work with job seekers to identify individual barriers to employment, find solutions to help you use your skills and abilities, and match you to the right job. If you are already working, they can help you get the accommodations you need to continue to be successful. Visit:

Illinois Department of Human Services
[Website](#)

Use the [DHS Office Locator](#)

(800) 843-6154
(Voice, English or Español)
or
(800) 447-6404 (TTY).

Employment Networks (EN)

Employment Networks (EN) are private or public organizations that may help with career counseling and assistance with job placement. Different ENs offer different types of services. [Choosing the Right Employment Network for You](#) (handout)

Ticket to Work

Ticket to Work is a Social Security program that helps people return to work without putting Social Security benefits in danger. Check out the website or call the Ticket to Work Helpline at 866-968-7842.

- [Ticket to Work Program basics](#)
- [Ticket to Work Videos](#)
- [Work Incentives Seminar Event \(WISE\) webinars and online tutorials](#) can help you to learn about the Ticket to Work program and other Social Security work incentives.

Volunteering

Volunteering has been shown to improve overall health and happiness. Visit these websites to find out more about volunteer opportunities in your community.



[United Way](#)
www.unitedway.org



[Volunteer Match](#)
www.volunteermatch.org



[Create the Good](#)
www.createthegood.aarp.org

Step 2: Act

Work with your staff and Facility Peer Representative (FPR) to complete a patient engagement activity.

- Talk with your FPR to discuss ideas on what resources and activities they would like to see at the clinic to educate patients on vocational rehabilitation, volunteering and/or travel.
- Review the MY KIDNEY KIT pages with staff and patients.
- Create a bulletin board sharing ideas for hobbies, “stay”cations and volunteer opportunities.
- Host a lobby day with resources from your local Vocational Rehab office, volunteer organizations and/or Social Security Administration.

Step 3: Share

Share what your clinic has done with the rest of the Network!

- Ask your FPR for their feedback and encourage them to attend the next [FPR Connection Call](#) (the third Wednesday and Thursday every other month starting Feb. 2020 at 2 pm CT) to share with others!
- Be sure to share your patient engagement activity with the Network. You can send your activities and photos to our [Patient Services Department](#).

Three Levels of Patient Engagement



For more information or to file a grievance, please contact
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