

# INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENT AND SUPPORT (IPS)

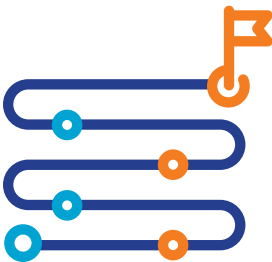
**Program Description:** *IPS is an international, evidence-based behavioral health model that aids individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) to choose, acquire, and maintain competitive paid employment in the community.*

## Benefits of Employment for People with Serious Mental Illness

- Increased self-esteem
- Better management of psychiatric symptoms
- Reduced psychiatric hospitalizations
- Reduced criminal justice involvement
- Increased self-sufficiency

## Sean’s Story

*“I was unemployed and wanted to find a job. By meeting with an Employment Specialist from the IPS program, I started to take small steps. And now I have a job I love.”*



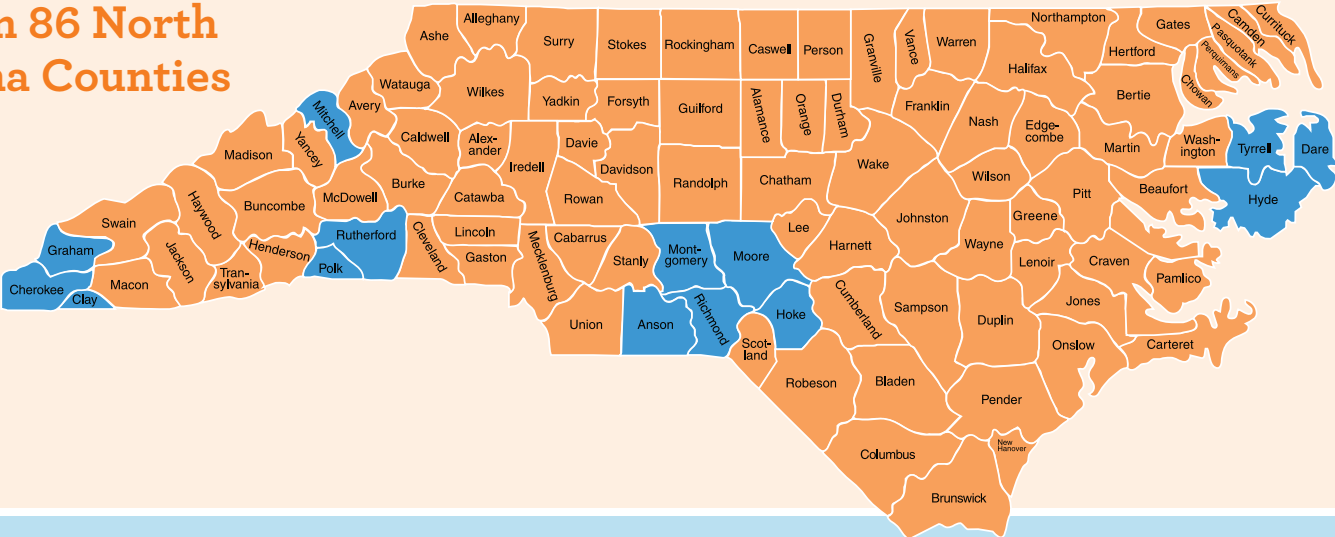
People living with serious mental illness want to work. IPS helps them attain their goals.

60%

15%

Studies show 60% of people with SMI want to work, but only about 15% are employed.

## IPS is in 86 North Carolina Counties



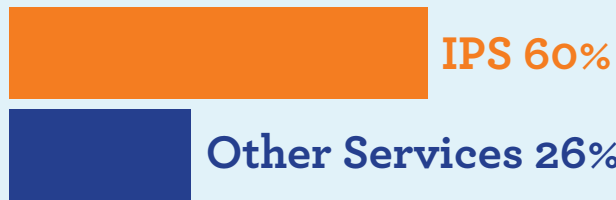
32 IPS  
Community  
Providers

• 2,025  
People served  
in FY24

40% Competitive  
Employment  
Rate

## The IPS Model is Cost- Effective

### Employment Rates:



For every 100 people who enroll in IPS in the US, 60 get a job, more than twice as many as those who enroll in any other employment program.

### Having a Job Can Reduce the Cost of Rehabilitation and Mental Health Services.

A 10-year follow-up study of people with co-occurring serious mental illness and substance use disorder found an average annual savings of more than \$16,000 per person in treatment costs for steady workers, compared to clients who remained out of the labor force.



**Benefits Cost Analysis:** in North Carolina on average, the IPS program benefits of \$11,163 per person exceed the delivery cost of \$4,369, resulting in a net benefit of \$6,793 per person, a return of \$2.55 per dollar invested in the program.

People who participate in IPS Supported Employment programs are **almost three times more likely to gain employment** than those who engage in other types of vocational programs.

The goal of IPS is to assist people in finding a good job fit that **contributes to the person's overall wellness and recovery**, rather than just find any job that could be short lived or not a good job match.



## The IPS Model Is Evidence-Based

U.S. and International Randomized, Controlled Trials show:

- **IPS greatly outperforms** standard employment supports.
- **IPS works** in both urban and rural communities.
- **IPS works** for youth and young adults.
- **IPS works** for people from different racial, ethnic, and minority backgrounds.
- **IPS supports** people with education goals.

For more information visit the NCDHHS website:  
[www.ncdhhs.gov/documents/individual-placement-and-support](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/documents/individual-placement-and-support)

*\*Claims in this document are supported by more than two decades of research. Visit [IPSworke.org](http://IPSworke.org) to learn more.*

IPS in North Carolina is provided in partnership with the NC Department of Health and Human Services: Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Use Services, Division of Employment and Independence for People with Disabilities, Division of Health Benefits, and North Carolina's network of Behavioral Health providers.

