

Focus on Non-Profits



Message from Rachel Lee Cummings, Executive Director

Welcome to Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC)! I'm delighted to share the work of CSAC in the Chamber's May magazine, as May is Mental Health Awareness month. CSAC is committed to promoting community wellness by helping people live emotionally healthy and satisfying lives. We strive to provide the best mental health, substance use, and developmental services to improve the quality of life for all community members. We work collaboratively with community organizations to help individuals and families achieve maximum wellness.

CSAC is here to help. We offer a variety of services to help improve the lives of individuals and our community at large including emergency and crisis, substance use services, adult mental health, developmental services, case management, youth and family services, and employment services. You'll learn more about Steve Reigle's work as CSAC's Supported Employment Operations Coordinator in this spotlight. Supported Employment is one of the many services we provide to help people achieve maximum wellness.

I want to invite you to join us: CSAC is hosting the June 16th chamber mixer, and we'd love to see you there! I also invite you to learn more about CSAC at www.csac-vt.org and sign up for our newsletter, Reaching You. Finally, I hope you will join us on September 17th for the return of CSAC's beloved Bocce tournament!

Staff Spotlight: Steve Reigle

Steve is CSAC's Supported Employment Operations Coordinator. He and his team provide supported employment services to CSAC's consumer community. Steve has been with CSAC for almost twelve years. Prior to joining CSAC, Steve worked at Middlebury College, where he trained and employed many of our consumers. **Want great employees?** Read on to find out how CSAC's Supported Employment team can help!



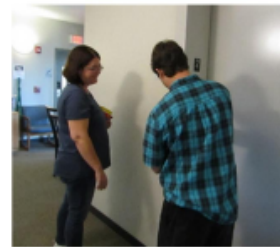
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Supported Employment is a service that helps individuals find and maintain meaningful jobs in our community. Led by Steve, CSAC's team offers competitive job placement and consulting services to individuals with disabilities and, by doing so, provide the business community with quality employees. We match the needs of businesses with the skills and interests of individuals with disabilities, providing support and consultation for a successful working relationship. Steve's team has placed employees at 61 distinct employers since March of 2020.

Researchers have studied different types of programs that help people with barriers to employment find and keep employment. These studies consistently find that the Supported Employment model assists more individuals in getting and keeping a job than any other approach.

CSAC's Supported Employment services team focuses on competitive employment and community jobs that anyone can apply for, pay at least minimum wage, and include both part-time and full-time positions. Choices and decisions about work and support are individualized based on the person's preferences, strengths and experiences.



Across all programs, CSAC supported employment assists an average of 185 individuals each year to find or keep paid employment in the community

Follow-along supports continue as long as the individual wants the assistance. CSAC's Employment Team also provides ongoing support for our employers. Employer supports include job coaching and consultation, training and re-training assistance, job customization, site modifications, and coordination of benefits (tax credits, etc.).

Supported Employment includes benefits planning. Steve and CSAC's other employment specialists help individuals understand how benefits such as Social Security or Medicaid are affected by working. Most people can work and continue to receive some benefits.



CSAC supports people in finding meaningful employment.

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Are you looking for great employees?

For more information about supported employment please contact Steve by phone (802) 989-3261, or by email sreigle@csac-vt.org.

Know someone looking for a great place to work?

CSAC is a place where your compassion gives comfort, your talent drives innovation, and your care makes a difference! www.csac-vt.org/careers.

Join us for Bocce! September 17th— Middlebury Recreation Field.

CSAC's beloved Bocce tournament returns September 17th! Businesses, community members, CSAC families and clients come together for a fun day of camaraderie, competition, and goodwill. We'd love to see you there.



Join as a sponsor, send a team, or both! Your tax-deductible sponsorship is a great way to gain visibility for your company or organization, reward your staff, or have a great day with friends. And it's a great way of personally making a difference by supporting CSAC's work to promote community wellness by helping people live emotionally healthy and satisfying lives. Contact Beth Tarallo at btarallo@csac-vt.org or 802-388-0302 x 413 to learn about the many sponsorship opportunities (sponsor a team, a court or more!). Stay tuned for registration details on our website, www.csac-vt.org.