Transforming Lives Through Employment: SAMHSA’s Supported Employment Grant Program (SEP)

Individual Placement & Supported Employment Program (AL-IPSSEP), Alabama

Implementation Sites: AltaPointe Health Care Systems (urban Mobile County) & Chilton Shelby Mental Health Center (rural Shelby & Chilton Counties)

Special Population Focus (if applicable): Veterans

Project Director: Jessica Hales

Project Team Members:

Description of Peer Involvement: Four IPS Supported Employment Specialists

Service Goals: 50 YR1, 100 YRS2-5 (450 total)

Project Description: The Alabama Individual and Placement Support-Supported Employment Program (AL-IPSSEP) is designed to enable adults receiving services from community mental health center sites to access and succeed in competitive employment. The program goal is to prioritize and offer full access to employment through IPS services for people with serious mental illness, including co-occurring substance use disorders and posttraumatic stress disorders (PTSD), who have often been considered inappropriate candidates for employment services. AL-IPSSEP is tightly integrated with the community mental health treatment team with the purpose of improving patient-centered treatment plans, patients’ treatment adherence, sobriety, and overall psychological health recovery.