



Vocational Rehabilitation Resource Guide

Valparaiso Office

Serving La Porte, Porter, Starke, Jasper, Pulaski Counties

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Career Planning Resources

Resume building, interview skills, and assistance with applying for jobs.

Job Placement and Educational Resources

WorkOne Northwest: LaPorte, Porter, Pulaski, Jasper, and Starke Counties

- Most offices are open Monday through Friday 8:00am-4:30pm (please check individual offices for exact hours of operation)
- Free resume building and interview tips. Free assistance with job searches and networking. Vocational Training Assistance may also be available. Employment Network for Ticket to Work holders.
- <http://www.in.gov/dwd/WorkOne/regions/region1.html>
- <http://gotoworkonenw.com/>

Operation: Job Ready Vets- covers the following counties: La Porte, Porter, Starke, Jasper, and Pulaski

- 9130 Otis Ave., Suite A Indianapolis, IN 46216
- Phone: (855) 456-2732 (1-855-4 Job Ready)
- Employment training and transition assistance services for Veterans of the US Military (who received other than dishonorable discharge), Spouses of Veterans, Military and Veteran Caregivers, Members of the Indiana National Guard or Reserve, Active Duty, National Guard, or Reserve Spouses.
- <http://www.ojrv.org/>

National Able Network- La Porte, Porter, Starke, Jasper, and Pulaski Counties

- 3737 North Meridian Street, Suite 404 Indianapolis, IN 46208
- Phone: (317) 396-7800, (855) 994-8300
- Monday through Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm by appointment only
- Provides OTJ training to low-income adults age 55 and older.
- Eligibility requirements: Living in Indiana, Age 55 or older, Household income at or below 125% of Federal Poverty Guidelines, Currently Unemployed, Eligible to work in the United States
- Free resume building and interview tips. Free assistance with job searches and networking. Vocational Training Assistance may also be available. Employment Network for Ticket to Work holders.
- <http://www.nationalable.org/>

Ticket to Work-Employment Networks

Social Security Administration: Ticket to Work – covers the following counties: LaPorte, Porter, Starke, Jasper, and Pulaski

- Assistance with Ticket to Work information for current SSI/SSDI recipients.
- <https://choosework.ssa.gov/>
- Help Line: (866) 968-7842 or (866) 833-2967 (TTY); Monday-Friday 8am-8pm EST

1. Globe Star, LLC

- Contact: Vanessa Willis vwillis@globe-star.org
- 621 Broadway, Chesterton, IN 46304
- Phone: (219) 921-5492

2. New Star, Inc.

- Contact: Charles Young cyoung@newstarservices.org
- 833 W Lincoln Hwy Suite 400, Schererville, IN 46375
- Phone: (708) 755-8030

Employment and Educational Resources

LaPorte County

1. Social Security Office
 - 636 Pine Street Michigan City, IN 46360
 - Phone: (866) 248-2393 or (800) 325-0778 (TTY)
 - Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-4pm; Wednesday 9am-12pm
 - Assistance with SSDI/SSI Benefits and Ticket to Work
2. Pax Community Center
 - 605 Washington Street La Porte, IN 46350
 - Phone: (219) 575-7842
 - Hours: Monday 11:30am-1pm, Wednesdays 12pm-1:30pm, 5-6:30pm, Thursdays 12pm-1:30pm, Saturdays 9am-10:30am
 - Assistance with job application completion, Job board, clothes pantry
 - <http://thepaxcenter.com/>
3. Grace Learning Center
 - 1007 West 8th Street Michigan City, IN 46360
 - Phone: (219) 879-6788
 - Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30am-5pm; Thursday 8:30am-12pm
 - Adult Basic Education, GED/HSE Test Instruction, Life Skills Education
 - Requirements- Must reside in LaPorte County
 - <http://www.citizens4homeless.org/grace-learning-center.php>
 - gracelearningcentermc@gmail.com

Porter County

1. Social Security Office
 - 3810 Calumet Ave Valparaiso, IN 46383
 - Phone: (888) 472-6120 or (800) 325-0778 (TTY)
 - Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-4pm; Wednesday 9am-12pm
 - Assistance with SSDI/SSI Benefits and Ticket to Work
2. Valparaiso Adult Learning Center
 - Trinity Lutheran Church 201 Washington St. Valparaiso, IN 46383
 - Phone: (219) 266-6236
 - Hours: Vary depending on class
 - Adult Education, HSE Preparation, English Language Learning, Career Path Planning
 - valparaisoalc@cwicorp.com
3. Chesterton Adult Learning Center
 - Westchester Library-Baughner Center 100 West Indiana Street Chesterton, IN 46304
 - Phone: (219) 266-2636
 - Hours: Monday 2pm – 7pm, Wednesday 12:30pm – 7:30pm
 - Adult Education, HSE Preparation, English Language Learning, Career Path Planning
 - Chestertonalc@cwicorp.com

4. Neighbor's Educational Opportunities

- New Vistas High School 5201 US Highway 6 Portage, IN 46368
- Phone: (219) 850-4448
- Hours: Office Monday-Thursday 8am-4pm, Friday 8am-2pm; Classes Monday-Wednesday 9am-1pm and 4:30pm-8:30pm & Thursdays 9am-1pm
- Adult Education, HSE Preparation
- <http://www.neoadulted.org/>

Starke County

1. Social Security Office

- 3810 Calumet Ave Valparaiso, IN 46383
- Phone: (888) 472-6120 or (800) 325-0778 (TTY)
- Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-4pm; Wednesday 9am-12pm
- Assistance with SSDI/SSI Benefits and Ticket to Work

2. Starke County Adult Learning Center

- WorkOne Knox 1913 South Heaton Street Suite B Knox, IN 46534
- Phone: (574) 772-6882, ext. 1675
- Adult Education, HSE Preparation, English Language Learning, Career Path Planning
- starkealc@cwicorp.com

3. SCILL Center

- 1300 Kloeckner Drive Knox, IN 46534
- Phone: (574) 772-8001
- Hours: Monday-Friday 7am-3pm
- Vocational Training Programs, Computer Software Training, Literacy Programs
- <http://www.scill.biz/>

Pulaski County

1. Social Security Office

- 10 S. 2nd Street Lafayette, IN 47901
- Phone: (888) 884-0522 or (800) 742-7494
- Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-4pm; Wednesday 9am-12pm ET
- Assistance with SSDI/SSI Benefits and Ticket to Work

2. Pulaski County Adult Learning Center

- Pulaski County Annex 125 South Riverside Drive Winamac, IN
- Phone: (574) 242-0131
- Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10am – 1pm, Thursday 3:30pm – 5:30pm, by appointment if needed
- Adult Education, HSE Preparation, English Language Learning, Career Path Planning
- Pulaskialc@cwicorp.com

Jasper County

1. Social Security Office

- 10 S. 2nd Street Lafayette, IN 47901
- Phone: (888) 884-0522 or (765) 742-7494 (TTY)

- Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-4pm ET; Wednesday 9am-12pm ET
 - Assistance with SSDI/SSI Benefits and Ticket to Work
2. Jasper County Adult Learning Center
- WorkOne Rensselaer 105 E Drexel Parkway Suite 1, Rensselaer, IN 47978
 - Phone: (219) 615-1154
 - Adult Education, HSE Preparation, English Language Learning, Career Path Planning
 - jasperalc@cwicorp.com

Community Resources

Housing Services and Assistance, Financial Assistance, Medical and Mental Health Services

- **LaPorte County**

- **Division of Family Resources**

- 1551 South Woodland Ave Michigan City, IN 46360
- Phone: (800) 403-0864
- Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm
- Assistance with: SNAP (Food Assistance), TANF (Cash Assistance), Medicaid, Hoosier Healthwise, Healthy Indiana Plan, IMPACT (Job Training)

- **Township Trustees**

- Addresses Vary; visit <https://laporteco.in.gov/explore-our-county/township-trustee/> to locate address and phone number
- Assistance with
 - Essential Utilities
 - Housing Expenses
 - Work/Medical Transportation
 - Food/Clothing
 - Necessary Medications/Medical Care
- Requirements:
 - Must be living in the township, with financial need based on assessment.
 - Must be able to provide documentation of income/expenses for all members of household

- **Housing**

- Housing Opportunities
 - 406 Franklin Street Michigan City, IN 46360
 - Phone: (219) 814-4687
 - Assistance with:
 - Home Ownership
 - Low Income Housing
 - Housing for Homeless
 - Save my Home program
 - Serves all of LaPorte County
- Michigan City Housing Authority
 - 621 E Michigan Blvd. Michigan City, IN 46360
 - Phone: (219) 872-7287
 - Assistance with
 - Low Income Housing

- Rental Assistance
 - Housing for Homeless
 - Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers
 - <https://www.emichigancity.com/201/Housing-Authority>
- **Financial/Utility Assistance**
 - Salvation Army
 - 3420 Monroe Street La Porte, IN 46350
 - Phone (219) 326-5342
 - Services available:
 - Rent and Utility Services
 - Medication service available
 - Holiday assistance available
- **Medical/Mental Health Services**
 - HealthLinc Community Health Center
 - 710 Franklin Street, Suite 210 Michigan City, IN 46360
 - Phone (219) 872-6200
 - <http://www.healthlinchc.org>
 - Low Cost/No Cost medical and dental care
 - IU Health La Porte Community Health Center and Dental Center
 - 400 Teegarden Street, Suites A & B La Porte, IN 46350
 - Phone: (219) 326-0043 – Health Center & (219) 326-1943 – Dental Center
 - <https://www.nwhealthlaporte.com/financial-assistance-program>
 - Low Cost/No Cost medical and dental care
 - Swanson Center
 - 1230 W State Road 2 Suite B LaPorte, IN 46350
 - Phone: (219) 362-2145
 - <http://www.swansoncenter.org>
- **Porter County**

Outpatient Services/Group Therapy/Individual Therapy/Family Therapy provided on a sliding fee scale

- **Division of Family Resources**
 - 2602 E Chicago St. Valparaiso, IN 46383
 - Phone: (800) 403-0864
 - Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
 - Assistance with:
 - SNAP(Food assistance)
 - TANF (Cash assistance)
 - Medicaid
 - Hoosier Healthwise
 - Healthy Indiana Plan
 - IMAPCT (Job Training)
- **Township Trustees**
 - Addresses vary; please visit <https://www.unitedwaypc.org/Emergency-Assistance> for a complete list of addresses and phone numbers

- Assistance with
 - Essential Utilities
 - Housing Expenses
 - Work/Medical Transportation
 - Food/Clothing
 - Necessary Medications/Medical Care
 - Requirements
 - Must be living in township with financial need based upon assessment
 - Must be able to provide documentation of income/expenses for all members of household.
- **Housing Assistance**
 - Housing Opportunities
 - 2001 Calumet Avenue Valparaiso, IN 46383
 - Phone: (219) 548-2800
 - <https://hoi.help/>
 - Assistance with:
 - Home Ownership
 - Low Income Housing
 - Housing for Homeless
 - Save my Home program
- **Financial/Utility Assistance**
 - First Contact-Valparaiso
 - 2702 E Glendale Blvd. Valparaiso, IN 46383
 - 3484 Airport Rd. Portage, IN 46368
 - Phone: 219-462-8332
 - <https://www.firstcontactinc.org/>
 - firstcontactministry@comcast.net
 - Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-12pm
 - Requirements: Living in Porter County
 - Provides financial assistance for rent, essential utilities, and prescription costs for individuals in need.
- **Medical/Mental Health Services**
 - HealthLinc Community Health Center
 - 1001 North Sturdy Road Valparaiso, IN 46383
 - Phone: (219) 462-7173
 - <https://healthlincchc.org/>
 - Medical care provided on a sliding fee scale
 - Northshore Health Center
 - 407 West Indiana Avenue Chesterton, IN 46304
 - 6050 Sterling Creek Rd. Portage, IN 46368
 - Phone: (219) 763-8112
 - <https://northshorehealth.org/>
 - Medical care provided on a sliding fee scale
 - Porter-Starke Services
 - 601 Wall Street Valparaiso, IN 46383

- Phone: (219) 531-3500
 - 3176 Lancer St. Portage, IN 46368
 - Phone: (219) 762-9557
 - <http://www.porterstarke.org>
 - Mental Health services provided on a sliding fee scale
- **Starke County**
 - **Division of Family Resources**
 - 1921 Heaton Knox, IN 46534
 - Phone: (800) 403-0864
 - Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4:30
 - Assistance with:
 - SNAP(Food assistance)
 - TANF (Cash assistance)
 - Medicaid
 - Hoosier Healthwise
 - Healthy Indiana Plan
 - IMAPCT (job Training)
 - **Township Trustees**
 - Addresses vary, please visit <http://www.co.starke.in.us/> and click 'Townships' to locate address and phone numbers
 - Assistance with:
 - Essential Utilities
 - Housing Expenses
 - Work/Medical Transportation
 - Food/Clothing
 - Necessary Medications/Medical Care
 - Requirements:
 - Must be living in the township, with financial need based on assessment. Must be able to provide documentation of income/expenses for all members of household
 - **Housing Assistance**
 - Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA)
 - 30 South Meridian Street Suite 1000 Indianapolis, IN 46204
 - Phone: (317) 232-7777 or (800) 872-0371
 - <https://www.in.gov/ihcda/>
 - Serves as Section 8 information contact for Starke County
 - Community Services of Starke County
 - 311 E. Culver Road Knox, IN 46534
 - Phone: 574-772-7070
 - Hours: Monday-Sunday 8am-4pm (CST)
 - <http://www.communityservicesofstarkecounty.org/>
 - Subsidized apartment listings available
 - **Financial/Utility Assistance**
 - Community Services of Starke County
 - 311 E. Culver Road Knox, IN 46534
 - Phone: 574-772-7070
 - Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm (CST)

- Offers assistance with utility assistance (electric/heating/cooling emergencies), transportation assistance
 - **Medical/Mental health services**
 - Healthline Community Health Center
 - 104 East Culver Road Suite 106 Knox, IN 46534
 - Phone (574) 772-7400 or (800) 580-1060
 - <http://www.healthlinechc.org>
 - Medical care provided on a sliding fee scale
- **Jasper County**
 - **Division of Family Resources**
 - 841 S. College Avenue Rensselaer, IN 47978
 - Phone (800) 403-0864
 - Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm
 - Assistance with:
 - SNAP(Food assistance)
 - TANF (Cash assistance)
 - Medicaid
 - Hoosier Healthwise
 - Healthy Indiana Plan
 - IMAPCT (job Training)
 - **Township Trustees**
 - Addresses vary; please visit <https://www.myicpl.org/local/contacts/rensselaer/jasper-county-township-trustees> to locate address and phone numbers
 - Assistance with:
 - Essential Utilities
 - Housing Expenses
 - Work/Medical Transportation
 - Food/Clothing
 - Necessary Medications/Medical Care
 - Requirements:
 - Must be living in the township, with financial need based on assessment
 - Must be able to provide documentation of income/expenses for all members of household
 - **Housing Assistance**
 - Northwest Indiana Community Action
 - 5240 Fountain Dr. Crown Point, IN 46307
 - Phone: (219) 794-1829
 - Application site for the Housing Choice Voucher Program in NWI. Contact by phone for more details
 - **Financial/Utility Assistance**
 - Rensselaer Area Ministerial Association
 - 301 N Van Rensselaer St. Rensselaer, IN 47978
 - Phone: (219) 394-2339
 - info@jasperfdn.org
 - Hours: Monday-Friday 10am-4pm BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
 - Provides financial assistance to residents in need for necessary utility

- Low-income, disabled, and elderly households
- **Housing Assistance**
 - Northwest Indiana Community Action
 - 5240 Fountain Drive Crown Point, IN 46307
 - Phone: (219) 794-1829
 - Application site for the Housing Choice Voucher Program in NWI.
Contact by phone for more details
- **Medical/Mental health services**
 - Monterey Community Health Services
 - 6194 East Main Street Monterey, IN 46960
 - Phone: (574) 542-2552
 - Offers primary medical services to persons in need in Pulaski County

For additional information on available resources please visit

<http://myunitedway2-1-1.org>

Local Food & Clothing Pantries

La Porte County

1. Salvation Army (Food Pantry)
 - 3240 Monroe Street La Porte, IN 46350
 - Phone: (219) 326-5342
 - Hours: Mondays 1pm-3pm, Tuesdays 10am-noon, Thursdays 4pm-6pm
2. Faith City Food Pantry
 - 1314 S Woodland Ave Michigan City, IN 46360
 - Phone: (219) 872-6235
 - Hours: Tuesday 9:30am – 12pm
3. 3. New Jerusalem C.O.G.I.C.
 - 304 Drummond Road Kingsford Heights, IN 46346
 - Phone: (219) 393-3344
 - Hours: Every 3rd Saturday of the month, 9am-1pm
4. Fellowship Baptist Church
 - 453 W Main Street Westville, IN 46391
 - Phone: (219) 785-6131
 - Hours: Wednesdays 6:45pm-8:30pm, Sundays 9:45am-12:30pm, 5:45pm-7:30pm

Porter County

1. Salvation Army Porter County
 - 799 Capital Road Valparaiso, IN 46385
 - Chris.Nicolai@usc.salvationarmy.org
 - Phone: (219) 762-9191
 - Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 1pm-3pm
 - Distributes bread and pizza daily 9-4 daily
2. Food Bank of Northwest Indiana
 - 602 Broadway Chesterton, IN 46304
 - Phone: (219) 980-1777
 - Hours: Wednesdays 4pm-6pm

3. Portage Township Food Pantry
 - 3590 Willowcreek Rd A, Portage, IN 46368
 - Phone: (219) 762-1623
 - Hours: Thursday 10am-12pm

Starke County

1. Community Services of Starke County
 - 311 East Culver Road Knox, IN 46534
 - (574) 772-7070
 - Hours: Sunday-Saturday 10am-6pm CT

Jasper County

1. Good Samaritan Food Pantry
 - 130 S Van Rensselaer St. Rensselaer , IN 47978
 - (219)866-5594
 - Hours: Tuesday 10a-12p, Thursday 1-3p, 3rd Saturday of the month 8-10a
2. Sorrowful Mother Church Food Pantry
 - 165 Grace Street Wheatfield, IN 46392
 - Phone: (219) 828-7611
 - Hours: Saturday 9am-11am CT

Pulaski County

1. Pulaski County Human Services Van Table Center Food Pantry
 - 115 West Pearl Street Winamac, IN 46996
 - Phone: (574) 946-6500 or (877) 946-4211
 - Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30am – 1:30pm ET

**For additional information on available resources please visit
<http://myunitedway2-1-1.org>**

Assistive Technology, Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Vision assistance Services

1. Lions of Indiana
 - 8780 Purdue Rd. Indianapolis, IN 46268
 - Phone: (317) 824-1024
 - Fax: (317) 824-9608
 - Office Hours: 8:00a.m. - 5:00p.m. M-F • Email: indylion@indianalions.org
 - Indiana Lions Eye Bank- Assistance with glassed and eye exams.
<https://www.visionfirst.org/>
 - Vision First
 - 4745 Haven Point Blvd.
Carmel, IN 46280
 - 1-800-232-4384

contact@visionfirst.org

- Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing, INC. Loaner Hearing Aids and scholarship programs.
 - <http://www.indylionsspeechhearing.org>
2. Starkey Hearing Foundation= Hear Now
 - Phone: 1 (800) 328-8602
 - Email: Hearnow@starkey.com
 - Hearing aid assistance for low income American citizens. Considers income and assets for all individuals in the household. There is an application processing fee of \$125 per request- when an application is approved aids are given to the applicant at no additional cost.
 3. The Hearing Aid Assistance Program of Indiana (for children 5-21)
 - Easter Seals Crossroads building in Indianapolis 4740 Kingsway Drive Suite 33 Indianapolis, In. 46205
 - Phone: 1 (317) 828-0211
 - E-mail: info@haapindiana.org
 4. The Hike Fund, Inc C/O International Center for Job's Daughters
 - 233 W. 6th Street Papillion, NE 68046
 - Phone: (402) 592-7987
 - Assistance with hearing aid for participants under the age of 21years old.
 - Taking apps as of Jan 31, 2022, min of 20 grants available
 - Copy of last year's Federal Income Tax Return, pages 1 and 2 only
 - Copy of recent pay stub for each wage earner listed on the form
 - Recent audiogram
 - Itemized cost quotation from supplier
 - Completed page 7 by audiologist or supplier
 - <https://thehikefund.org>
 - <https://jobsdaughtersinternational.org/about-jdi/>
 5. Relay Indiana (InTRAC) a free service that provides full telecommunications accessibility to people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired. This service allows users with special telecommunication devices to communicate with standard users through specially trained Relay Operators. InTRAC also provides free, loaned equipment to those who qualify.
 - a. InTRAC numbers Phone 317-334-1413 or 1877-446-8722
 - b. Relay Indiana Services 800-743-3333
 - c. E-mail info@relayindiana.com
 - d. Website www.relayindiana.com
 6. Sertoma Scholarship
 - <http://sertoma.org>
 - College Scholarships for applicants with communicative disorders or hard of hearing/deaf disorders.
 7. Easterseals Crossroads Low Interest Bank Loans for People with Disabilities
 - 4740 Kingsway Dr. Indianapolis, IN 46205

- Phone: 1 (888) 466-1314 or 1 (317) 466-1000.
- To qualify you must be an Indiana resident with a documented disability over the age of 18 years old. A legal guardian may apply for individuals under the age of 18 years old.
- Low interest loan amounts ranging in \$500.00-\$35,000.00.
- Loans available for purchasing adaptive vehicles, braille equipment, hearing aids, mobility aids, and many more.
- <http://www.eastersealstech.com>

**Additional resources for Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals can be found at
<http://www.dhhs.in.gov>**

**Additional resources for Blind and Low Vision individuals can be found at
<http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4903.htm>**

**For additional information on available resources please visit
<http://myunitedway2-1-1.org>**