The ‘Pick List’

Choosing an Employment Provider in LaPorte County

2018
How to Use This List

As a client of Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR), you are now a part of a team focused on your employment goals. VR has a list of employment service providers located throughout the state. These providers will help you achieve your goals by giving you the supports and services you need—things like help with writing a resume, filling out applications, or on-the-job coaching.

Now that your counselor has determined you are eligible for services, you have the opportunity to select an employment provider in your area. On the following pages, you’ll find the employment providers in your county along with their contact information and a list of services they offer.

Be sure to ask your VR counselor if you don’t know what some of the services are. The services you need will depend on your goals. You may not need all of the services you see listed on the chart.

We encourage you to contact each of the providers on this list. You can call them, set up a meeting, or send an email. Tell them you are a VR client and you would like to talk with them about the services they offer. Take notes so you can compare providers and choose the one that’s right for you. It’s important to select the provider you feel most comfortable working with and the one that you think can best help you meet your goals.

Once you’ve chosen an employment provider, tell your VR counselor. She/he will get things started for you.

Any questions? Ask your VR counselor!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My VR Counselor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# Providers Located in LaPorte County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Individuals Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Goodwill Industries of Michiana, Inc.  
Main Office & Service Site Location:  
1805 West Western Avenue  
South Bend, 46619  
Service Site Location:  
111 Longwood Drive, Suite A  
LaPorte, IN 46350  
Koreen Boger  
(800) 730-5697 Ext. 104  
(219) 327-1724 Ext. 104  
koger@goodwill-ni.org  |  
• Autism Spectrum Disorders  
• Bi-lingual  
• Blind & Visually Impaired  
• Criminal Background  
• Deaf & Hard of Hearing  
• Intellectual/Developmentally Disabled  
• Emotional Disabilities  
• Homeless Population  
• Legal Barriers  
• Mental Illness  |  
• Non-Ambulatory  
• Neurological Disabilities  
• Post-Secondary  
• Physical Disabilities  
• Speech Impaired  
• Transition-Age Students  
• Traumatic Brain Injury  
• Unemployed/Underemployed  
• Veterans  |
| Opportunity Enterprises, Inc.  
Main Office & Service Site Location:  
2801 Evans Avenue  
Valparaiso, IN 46383  
Service Site Location:  
1411 Woodland Avenue  
Michigan City, IN 46360  
Kathleen Parks Savich  
(219) 464-9621 Ext. 213  
kathleen.savich@oppent.org  |  
• Addictions/Alcohol/Drug Substance Abuse  
• Autism Spectrum Disorders  
• Bi-lingual  
• Blind & Visually Impaired  
• Chronic Illness  
• Deaf & Hard of Hearing  
• Intellectual/Developmentally Disabled  
• Emotional Disabilities  
• Homeless Population  |  
• Mental Illness  
• Non-Ambulatory  
• Neurological Disabilities  
• Post-Secondary  
• Physical Disabilities  
• Speech Impaired  
• Transition-Age Students  
• Traumatic Brain Injury  
• Unemployed/Underemployed  
• Veterans  |
| Paladin  
Main Office & Service Site Location:  
4315 East Michigan Blvd.  
Michigan City, IN 46360  
Diane Downs  
(219) 874-4288 Ext. 317  
diane.downs@paladin.care  |  
• Autism Spectrum Disorders  
• Intellectual/Developmentally Disabled  
• Mental Illness  
• Non-Ambulatory  |  
• Physical Disabilities  
• Speech Impaired  
• Transition-Age Students  
• Traumatic Brain Injury  |
## Providers Serving LaPorte County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Individuals Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Benchmark Human Services</strong>&lt;br&gt;Main Office &amp; Service Site Location:&lt;br&gt;926 East Wayne Street&lt;br&gt;South Bend, IN 46617</td>
<td>Kyna Johnson&lt;br&gt;(574) 233-8812  Ext. 10322&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:kjohnson@benchmarkhs.com">kjohnson@benchmarkhs.com</a></td>
<td>• Addictions/Alcohol/Substance Abuse&lt;br&gt;• Autism Spectrum Disorders&lt;br&gt;• Blind &amp; Visually Impaired&lt;br&gt;• Chronic Illness&lt;br&gt;• Criminal Background&lt;br&gt;• Deaf &amp; Hard of Hearing&lt;br&gt;• Intellectual/Developmentally Disabled&lt;br&gt;• Emotional Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Homeless Population&lt;br&gt;• Legal Barriers&lt;br&gt;• Mental Illness&lt;br&gt;• Non-Ambulatory&lt;br&gt;• Neurological Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Post-Secondary&lt;br&gt;• Physical Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Speech Impaired&lt;br&gt;• Transition-Age Students&lt;br&gt;• Traumatic Brain Injury&lt;br&gt;• Unemployed/Underemployed&lt;br&gt;• Veterans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dungarvin Indiana, LLC</strong>&lt;br&gt;Main Office &amp; Service Site Location:&lt;br&gt;3570 Blackthorn Court&lt;br&gt;South Bend, IN 46628&lt;br&gt;Service Site Location:&lt;br&gt;1605 Adler Circle, Suite D&lt;br&gt;Portage, IN 46368</td>
<td>Daniel Hornback&lt;br&gt;(219) 764-8404&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:dhornback@dungarvin.com">dhornback@dungarvin.com</a></td>
<td>• Autism Spectrum Disorders&lt;br&gt;• Blind &amp; Visually Impaired&lt;br&gt;• Chronic Illness&lt;br&gt;• Deaf &amp; Hard of Hearing&lt;br&gt;• Intellectual/Developmentally Disabled&lt;br&gt;• Emotional Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Homeless Population&lt;br&gt;• Mental Illness&lt;br&gt;• Non-Ambulatory&lt;br&gt;• Neurological Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Post-Secondary&lt;br&gt;• Physical Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Speech Impaired&lt;br&gt;• Transition-Age Students&lt;br&gt;• Traumatic Brain Injury&lt;br&gt;• Unemployed/Underemployed</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Globe Star, LLC</strong>&lt;br&gt;Main Office &amp; Service Site Location:&lt;br&gt;621 Broadway&lt;br&gt;Chesterton, IN 46304</td>
<td>Zathoe Sexton&lt;br&gt;(219) 290-1395&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:zsexton@globe-star.org">zsexton@globe-star.org</a></td>
<td>• Autism Spectrum Disorders&lt;br&gt;• Deaf &amp; Hard of Hearing&lt;br&gt;• Intellectual/Developmentally Disabled&lt;br&gt;• Emotional Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Homeless Population&lt;br&gt;• Mental Illness&lt;br&gt;• Neurological Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Physical Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Speech Impaired&lt;br&gt;• Transition-Age Students&lt;br&gt;• Traumatic Brain Injury&lt;br&gt;• Unemployed/underemployed&lt;br&gt;• Veterans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Help the World Foundation</strong>&lt;br&gt;504 Broadway Street&lt;br&gt;Suite 301&lt;br&gt;Gary, Indiana 46402</td>
<td>Sandy Wonders&lt;br&gt;(812) 470-1140&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:swonders@helpttheworldfoundation.org">swonders@helpttheworldfoundation.org</a>&lt;br&gt;Drew Wolf&lt;br&gt;(317)384-1576 x105&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:dwolf@helpttheworldfoundation.org">dwolf@helpttheworldfoundation.org</a></td>
<td>• Addictions/Alcohol/Substance Abuse&lt;br&gt;• Autism Spectrum Disorders&lt;br&gt;• Bi-lingual&lt;br&gt;• Blind &amp; Visually Impaired&lt;br&gt;• Chronic Illness&lt;br&gt;• Criminal Background&lt;br&gt;• Deaf &amp; Hard of Hearing&lt;br&gt;• Intellectual/Developmentally Disabled&lt;br&gt;• Emotional Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Homeless Population&lt;br&gt;• Legal Barriers&lt;br&gt;• Mental Illness&lt;br&gt;• Non-Ambulatory&lt;br&gt;• Neurological Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Post-Secondary&lt;br&gt;• Physical Disabilities&lt;br&gt;• Speech Impaired&lt;br&gt;• Transition-Age Students&lt;br&gt;• Traumatic Brain Injury&lt;br&gt;• Unemployed/Underemployed&lt;br&gt;• Veterans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Contact</td>
<td>Individuals Served</td>
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<td>-----------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td><strong>Marshall-Starke Developmental Center</strong></td>
<td>Pam Landesman</td>
<td>• Blind &amp; Visually Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Office &amp; Service Site Location:</td>
<td>(574) 936-9400 Ext. 119</td>
<td>• Deaf &amp; Hard of Hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901 Pidco Drive</td>
<td><a href="mailto:plandesman@marshall-starke.org">plandesman@marshall-starke.org</a></td>
<td>• Intellectual/Developmentally Disabled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plymouth, IN 46563</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Traumatic Brain Injury</td>
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<td><strong>The ARC of Northwest Indiana</strong></td>
<td>Margo Love-Surprise</td>
<td>• Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Office &amp; Service Site Location:</td>
<td>(219) 884-1138 Ext. 6354</td>
<td>• Blind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2650 W. 35th Ave.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mlove@arcnwi.com">mlove@arcnwi.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary, IN 46408</td>
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<td>• Veterans</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Ex-Felons</td>
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## Provider Employment Services

This chart lets you compare providers based on the services they offer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Situational Assessment</th>
<th>Job Shadows</th>
<th>Vocational Testing</th>
<th>Work Experience</th>
<th>Job Development/Placement/Retention</th>
<th>Job Readiness Training</th>
<th>On-the-Job Supports</th>
<th>Supported Employment</th>
<th>Additional Services</th>
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<tr>
<td>Benchmark Human Services</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dungarvin Indiana, LLC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Glossary

Assistive Technology
Any equipment, item, or technology used to improve function and capability.

Benefits Information Network
A group of Indiana professionals who have been trained in and have knowledge of federal, state, and local benefits and work incentives. BIN liaisons understand the impact of income on long-term supports and services and can advise workers and families on how best to maintain employment while building more financial independence.

Discovery
An opportunity to explore talents, interests, preferences, capabilities, and ideal work environment in order to identify an appropriate vocational goal. Specific Discovery activities vary based on individual need, but could include vocational testing, job shadowing, or career exploration.

Home and Wheelchair Modification
Any change to a home or workplace environment that can help an employee get to work or access a job site. Examples could include widening a doorway or creating a keyboard tray for a wheelchair.

Job Development/Placement/Retention
The process of working with an employer to either identify appropriate jobs and promote an individual with disabilities as a job candidate or help an individual keep a job.

Job-Readiness Training
The process of assisting clients in identifying goals as well as training strategies designed to help an individual meet them.

Job Shadowing
The opportunity to visit an employer in the community and observe different jobs.

On-the-Job Supports
Supports provided in the workplace to help an employee learn and maintain a job. These include the use of a job coach or consultation with an employment specialist.

Situational Assessments
Activities that give an employment provider the chance to observe an individual in a certain working environment or doing a specific job task.

Supported Employment
Paid, community-based employment with ongoing supports that can help individuals learn tasks, be included, and keep their jobs.

Ticket to Work
A free work incentive program from the Social Security Administration for some people with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI). Eligible individuals can assign their “ticket” (not a real paper ticket) to an employment network or to Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation Services for coordinating job search, placement, and retention services.

Work Experiences
First-hand, work-based learning opportunities that can help determine individual interests and preferences.