

Therapeutic and Supported Employment Programs (TSEP)

Mental Health Uniform Services
Package

- Consultations about the need for and the likely benefits from work-related rehabilitation programs must be available to all veterans in all facilities. This can be accomplished through outreach from medical centers or other mechanisms.
- Each medical center must offer CWT with both Transitional and Supported Employment services for veterans for whom occupational dysfunctions are criteria of their diagnoses, or who are unsuccessful at obtaining or maintaining stable employment patterns due to mental illnesses or physical impairments co-occurring with mental illnesses.
- Each CBOC should provide access to CWT services through outreach from programs based in medical centers, by on-site staff, telemental health, referral to nearby medical centers, contracts with local providers or organizations, or fee-based referrals. Contract and fee-basis vocational services require approval from CWT program leadership to ensure consistency with CWT regulations and policies.
- When appropriate, services may be provided through referral to residential facilities that would allow access to additional medical center-based programs.

Compensated Work Therapy

- Goals
 - People with serious disabilities can successfully engage in work.
 - Vocational Rehabilitation services should be integrated into treatment.
 - Work should occur in normalized settings.

- 50,000 veterans received vocational rehabilitation and support services in FY2007 through 250 TSEP programs authorized by 38 USC 1718 to provide vocational rehabilitation treatment and employment support services:
 - Incentive Therapy (IT)
 - Compensated Work Therapy (CWT)
 - Workshops
 - Transitional Work
 - Supported Employment

CWT Program Operations

- **Partnerships with Business Community**
 - **Minimum wage or above**
 - **Vocational Skill Development**
 - **Transitional employment in the community**
 - **Supported employment in the community**
 - **162 Program Locations**
 - **27,832 Veterans in CWT (FY2007)**
 - **\$38 million paid to Veterans**

Demographics of CWT Veterans (NEPEC FY2006)

- **Mean Age = 48.9 years**
- **Male = 93.8%**
- **White = 46.9%**
- **African American = 46.5%**
- **Hispanic = 1.2 %**
- **Homeless = 57.0%**
- **Substance Abuse = 77.0%**
- **Serious Mental Illness = 60.1%**
- **Dual Diagnosis (SMI & SA) = 42.9%**
- **Disabling Medical Condition = 71.2%**