

## Contact details

If you are a service user who wishes to access employment support and you are registered with HPFT Community Adult Mental Health Services please email your details and nature of required support to [hpft.employmentreferrals@nhs.net](mailto:hpft.employmentreferrals@nhs.net) alternatively your clinician can refer you.

## Feedback for the service

“since working with my employment specialist my confidence in going back to work has increased”

“My employment specialist encouraged me, and gave me the confidence to attend an interview which I was successful in, I would not have been able to do this without her support”

I strongly believe that being in employment is what keeps me well and able to manage my symptoms medication free

## IPS Employment Service



Cover Artwork:  
Life Ascension by Nisha Ripp

This piece is part of Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (HPFT) Art Collection

**Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust works toward eliminating all forms of discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity for all.**

We are a smoke free Trust therefore smoking is not permitted anywhere on our premises.

**Individual Placement and Support**

# Our employment service

## Supporting you to reach your goals

We know being in employment can positively impact your recovery and wellbeing. Our Individual Placement and Support (IPS) employment service can help to support you back into work.

## What we do

We support unemployed individuals who are motivated to find paid employment and are receiving care from one of our community mental health teams.

## How it works

You will be allocated an employment specialist who will work with you to reach your employment goals.

The specialist will build a picture of your employment needs and goals, before working with you to agree a plan moving forward.

They will support you by following the 8 principles of IPS:

1. Competitive employment is the goal.  
This is either a part-time or full-time paid position (at least minimum wage)
2. No one is excluded from the support if they are receiving care from one of our community mental health teams (diagnosis is no barrier)
3. Individual preferences are our focus (we job search around what you want to do)
4. We job search rapidly (within four weeks of working with you)
5. We are part of your mental health team and work closely with others involved in your care
6. We support you to get advice around benefits and how these will change once in employment
7. We can approach employers on your behalf to build a relationship based on your preferences (and with your permission)
8. We support you after you have obtained a job, until you feel comfortable and we can also support your employer if you are happy for us to

## What support looks like practically

Your employment specialist can assist you with:

- Creating and tailoring a CV
- Job searching
- Job applications
- Interview preparation and practice
- Sharing information about your mental health with the employer (if you wish to do this)
- Supporting employer discussions (if you want us to)
- Staying well in work
- Obtaining benefit advice

## Is this service for you?

### Are you?

- Currently unemployed
- Over 18 years old
- Under the care of the community mental health team
- Motivated to find work
- Wanting a little bit of extra support
- Ready to start job searching within a month of working with an employment specialist

If you answered yes to the above and want to find out more please contact your care coordinator or email the IPS team on: [hpft.employmentreferrals@nhs.net](mailto:hpft.employmentreferrals@nhs.net)