**Robert Newcombe**

(585) 478 - 4275

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**Goal Statement:**

Dedicated and compassionate vocational rehabilitation professional with over 20 years of experience in providing direct services to individuals with disabilities, seeking to contribute my expertise in case management, vocational counseling, and job placement as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Assistant at the New York State Education Department’s Office of Adult Career and Continuing Education Services – Vocational Rehabilitation. Eager to support individuals with disabilities in achieving meaningful employment by conducting thorough assessments, coordinating services, and building strong community partnerships. Committed to utilizing my skills in intake interviews, eligibility evaluations, and financial reporting to enhance the vocational rehabilitation process and improve client outcomes.

**Key Skills:**

* Strong leadership and supervisory skills
* Expertise in conducting intake interviews, eligibility reviews, and service assessments
* Extensive experience in vocational counseling, job placement, and career development
* Knowledge of state and federal vocational rehabilitation programs
* Skilled in the preparation of financial and statistical records and reports
* Excellent verbal and written communication abilities
* Experience with training and mentoring individuals with disabilities
* Ability to coordinate and schedule services such as transportation, interpreters, and independent living services
* Knowledge of service documentation software for billing and case management
* Experience with networking and developing partnerships with community organizations and employers

**Professional Experience:**

**Regional Center for Independent Living** – Rochester, NY
*Director of Employment and Youth Services*
2024 – Present

* Lead and managed multiple grant-funded employment programs, including Acces VR, Office of Children and Family Services, and the New York State Office of Independent Living.
* Developed and oversaw vocational services for youth and adults with disabilities, focusing on job coaching, placement, and career development.
* Wrote grants to expand services and improve program offerings.
* Supervised staff to ensure high-quality service delivery and program success.

**Rochester Regional Health** – Rochester, NY
*Individual Placement Services Vocational Counselor*
2019 – 2024

* Provided vocational counseling and placement services to individuals with mental health barriers, including developing individualized service plans and career assessments.
* Coordinated job fairs and collaborated with employers to enhance employment opportunities for clients.
* Nominated for the William T. Hart Award for Excellence in patient care in 2021 and 2023.
* Developed and delivered curricula aimed at improving the employability skills of participants.

**Villa of Hope** – Rochester, NY
*Vocational Counselor, Raise the Age Program*
2017 – 2019

* Led vocational counseling efforts for youth in the Raise the Age program, guiding them toward successful reintegration into the community through vocational skills development.
* Designed and taught employability curricula with a 100% success rate in job placement.
* Supervised staff to ensure program adherence and enhanced participant success.

**OPWDD Finger Lakes DDSO** – Rochester, NY
*Habilitation Specialist*
2008 – 2017

* Led staff in day-to-day activities for adults with developmental disabilities, focusing on skills development and employment readiness.
* Created and implemented work skills programs to enhance participant experience and employability.
* Coordinated job placements and provided vocational guidance.

**Education & Certifications:**

* Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education – SUNY Geneseo
* Associate Degree in Liberal Arts – Monroe Community College
* Work Incentives Practitioner Certification – Cornell University

**Volunteer Activities/Networking groups/Work Experience**

Rochester Are Employment Network, Employment Equity Coalition, St. Andrews Food Cupboard, Mary’s Place Outreach, Cameron Community Ministries, Spiritus Christi Clothing Closet, Safe In His Arms Ministries, Charter Champions, Arc of Monroe Vesid Employment Specialist, Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth Medicaid Service Coordinator