

Abstract

RETAINing Kentucky's Workforce through Universal Design

Lead Agency

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Overview

This collaborative effort builds on state efforts including Kentucky Work Matters, Employment First, and the Call to Action to Meet Commonwealth Workforce Needs using peer support, assistive technology and universal design to promote quality, coordinated health and employment-related stay-at-work/return-to-work (SAW/RTW) services. RETAIN Kentucky service coordinators work directly with employers to assess the impact of SAW/RTW activities and help workers facing illness or injury remain in or return to the workforce.

Project Partners

Coalition for Workforce Diversity	Kentucky Hospital Association
Kent State University	Kentucky Labor Cabinet
Kentuckiana Works Regional Workforce Development Board	Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services	Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board
Kentucky Department for Public Health	The Council of State Governments
Kentucky Department of Workers' Claims	University of Kentucky Human Development Institute
Kentucky Disability Determination Services	University of Louisville Hospital

Target Population

The target population for the project are workers who experience an injury or illness outside of the workplace that prohibits them from staying at or returning to work. Workers are defined as those who are in the labor force, and therefore may include those who are seeking employment. Additional emphasis will be placed on workers with substance use disorders (SUD) that are co-existing or that develop post-injury/illness.

Geographic Area to be Served: KentuckianaWorks Regional Workforce Development area that includes the Louisville metropolitan region and surrounding rural counties. Counties comprising this area are Bullitt, Henry, Jefferson (Louisville), Oldham, Shelby, Spencer and Trimble counties.