



LiveWorkPlay

A Good Life for People with Intellectual Disabilities™

www.liveworkplay.ca

*Make A Buzz!
Support LiveWorkPlay*

1155 Lola Street, Suite 201 ♦ Ottawa, ON ♦ K1K4C1 ♦ 613-235-9550

Canada Revenue Agency Charitable Registration #896222775RR0001

Our Vision: A community where everyone belongs.

Our Mission: Helping our community welcome people with intellectual disabilities to live, work, and play as valued citizens.

LiveWorkPlay supports individuals with intellectual disabilities to live as full citizens in the community through homes of their own paid work, volunteerism, recreation, and friendships.

How do we accomplish this?

Step # 1:



Person Centered Planning and Person Centered Thinking

The first step is to come up with a plan based on what the person wants and needs.

LiveWorkPlay will meet with the individual and members of his or her support network to get to know the person, his or her interests, strengths, needs and desires.

The plan is a starting point and interests, needs, and desires will change over time. We support individuals for a three year period to plan and bring parts of the plan to life.

After the three year period individuals can become members of LiveWorkPlay which includes access to LiveWorkPlay travel excursions, weekly Friday social activities, and limited follow-up and crisis intervention supports. The membership fee is \$83 a month.

During the planning process members must complete an Abuse Prevention workshop. Relationships and Sexuality components are recommended but optional. Opportunities may also be available to participate in Self-Esteem and/or other weekly workshop series.

The second step is to identify which parts of the plan LiveWorkPlay can help bring to life. For parts of the plan we cannot help with we can connect the person with others in the community that might be able to help.

Step # 2:

Parts of the Plan LiveWorkPlay Can Help Bring to Life

Paid work and volunteering: if the individual would like to be a community volunteer and/or obtain a paid job, the individual will be invited to participate in a 14 session (weekly) Employment Preparation course.

Paid Work

After the Employment Preparation course is completed a LiveWorkPlay staff member will help the individual develop an employment plan which would include job search, support with interviews, job coaching and on-going support and maintenance of both the individual and employer.

Depending on the individual's skills, interests, and desires it can take months, a year, or more to find a paid job. LiveWorkPlay does not control what paid jobs are available in the community or who gets hired. We do our best to help workers with intellectual disabilities and employers find each other. We are good at what we do, but we can't make jobs happen by ourselves.

Volunteering

After the Employment Preparation course is completed a LiveWorkPlay staff member will help the person develop a volunteer plan which includes searching for volunteer opportunities in the charitable and non-profit community.



Please note that LiveWorkPlay does not support unpaid work in paid work environments, except for internships and related short-term arrangements. We do not support sheltered workshops (work-like environments where people with disabilities work for less than minimum wage).

Support to apply for volunteer positions, and on-going support and maintenance of both the individual and supervisor will be arranged. Depending on the person's skills, interests, and desires it can take months, a year, or more to find a volunteer position.

LiveWorkPlay does not control what volunteer opportunities are available in the community or who gets hired. We do our best to help volunteers with intellectual disabilities and voluntary agencies to find each other. We are good at what we do, but we can't make volunteer positions happen by ourselves.

Community Participation: Classes, Clubs, Courses

If the person would like to share an interest or hobby with others, LiveWorkPlay will help identify what is in the community. LiveWorkPlay will support the individual to register and join a class, club, or course. For example: joining a gym or a fitness class, signing up for a photography or cooking course, joining a singing or curling club.

There are endless opportunities to join others in the community and it is a great way to connect with other people. LiveWorkPlay will support the individual to get comfortable with the new activity, and also help the individual make a link to someone else in the group who can naturally include the person.

Depending on the individual's interests and desires and what is in the community it can take up to 1 year to find classes, courses, and or clubs that the person likes.



1:1 Matches

If the person wants to share an interest or hobby with another person that has the same or similar interest or hobby, LiveWorkPlay will help identify what they want to do. LiveWorkPlay recruits one or more community members *without* intellectual disabilities who share common interests, completes both personal and criminal reference checks, provides training and orientation, and connects matches together. Support is provided to coordinate times for getting together, and there is follow-up to see if the match(es) is working out.

The long term goal is for people to get to know each other and develop friendships (this may or may not happen). For example: getting together to do art together, playing badminton, walking a dog together, etc. There are endless opportunities for people to connect and the more people who come together in this way, the more welcoming and inclusive the community will become. Depending on the individual's interests and who comes forward in the community it can take up to 1 year to find successful matches, or it may happen in a matter of days.



Friday Night Social

If the person would like to meet up with other people with intellectual disabilities and enjoy social activities in the community, then he or she can join weekly Friday activities organized by LiveWorkPlay. The intent of these activities is not segregated social activity, but rather drawing strength from a peer group to venture out into community settings to experience new environments and meet new people.

A staff member will support the individual to learn how to share ideas for activities and choose activities, as well as understanding expectations and responsibilities. Members suggest activities they are interested in. Three months at a time members will receive Friday night options and can choose which activity they would like to join. Individuals take the bus to and from a designated meeting spot, and pay for any and all costs related to the activity. This is not a program, it is a supported social gathering, which means start and end times vary according to the social activity.



Activities are supported by volunteers who are screened, trained and supported by LiveWorkPlay staff. They are facilitators, not supervisors. Examples of activities include: out to the movies, out to dinner, hockey game, out to a play, Tulip Festival, and more. There are few limits to what can be proposed, other than the necessity of access via public transit.

Saturday Social

If the person would like from time to time support to organize his or her own get together on a Saturday night LiveWorkPlay can help the individual plan a gathering(s), make needed arrangements, invite others, and be on-site to support the individual to be a successful host. This is not a program. Our intent is to provide support to the individual to host a successful social gathering of their own initiative.

Travel

If the person would like to travel with other members of LiveWorkPlay, he or she can express interest in registering for a trip being organized by LiveWorkPlay. These trips are planned at least one year ahead of time. Over the year members can make monthly payments to cover the cost of the trips. Trips are supported by LiveWorkPlay staff members who help members during the trip when needed. This support includes making all travel arrangements (including out of country medical insurance, transportation, accommodation, entertainment), managing and navigating through the airport, supporting checking in and checking out of the hotel, supporting participation in activities, personal health and safety and ongoing problem-solving.

LiveWorkPlay trips are as integrated as possible with other travelers, which is often best accomplished at resorts and lodges that actively promote interaction between guests. Escorted tours with other travelers are another way to experience travel with citizens outside of the group. The goal is to support LiveWorkPlay travelers to experience trips with a high degree of personal choice, supporting the trips requires LiveWorkPlay accepting a great deal of risk. For this reason, all LiveWorkPlay travelers sign a code of conduct and agree to accept direction from staff members throughout the trip. Those who have difficulty accepting directions may not be able to participate in future trips.

Step #3: On-Going Planning

For the three year period LiveWorkPlay will support the person to bring parts of the original plan to life and help make changes or update the plan as his or her needs, desires, and interests change with experience. For example if the person wants to work more or less, would like to join more or less or different clubs, classes, or courses, wants to be connected to more 1:1 matches, want to try different or add more volunteer work, we will continue to help the individual with these developments.

Planning At a Glance



How to Access LiveWorkPlay Planning and Supports?

LiveWorkPlay receives funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services to support 21 individuals. We call these “funded spots”. If you would like to access a funded spot, you must register with Service Coordination, the single agency that manages the waiting list for all government funded supports for the Developmental Services Sector in the Eastern Region of Ontario. Once you have registered with Service Coordination you will need share with them that you are interested in accessing Community Participation Supports from LiveWorkPlay (although our methods are unique, this is the Ministry phrase that most closely captures the work that we do).

When we have a vacancy at LiveWorkPlay we notify Service Coordination and they will refer individuals on the Service Coordination registry. A referral is not a registration. Registration happens when LiveWorkPlay and referred individual reach an agreement together. It’s important to make sure that LiveWorkPlay is the right fit and that all parties agree. Taking a name from a list and offering to serve a person (without first getting to know them) would be disrespectful and a recipe for failure.

Fee for Service

If you are a recipient of individualized funding sources (such as Passport or Special Services at Home) LiveWorkPlay may be able to support you through a fee for service arrangement. This is dependent on needs, staffing resources, and our ability to hire appropriate additional staffing as required. This is difficult to organize because we cannot hire additional staff without sufficient additional income to support them, and at the same time we can’t take on additional individuals if it will mean existing staff aren’t able to do their work properly. In a fee for service arrangement the cost for planning and implementing a plan ranges from \$3000-\$10,000 per year depending on what the individual wants to accomplish.

More information: Allison Moores at 613-235-9550 x 8010 or allison@liveworkplay.ca

Please visit us at:

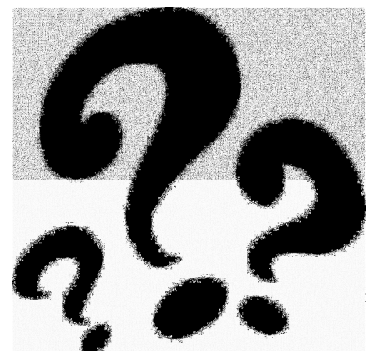
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