

**BRAIN INJURY COMMUNITY
RE-ENTRY (NIAGARA) INC.**

VOCATIONAL SERVICES



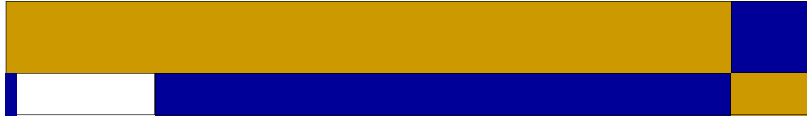


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Who are we	1
Who we serve	1
Our Services	1
Volunteer Ventures	2
Headstart Program	3
Work Rest and Play (WRAP)	3
Horticulture Therapy	4

WHO WE ARE

Brain Injury Community Re-entry (Niagara) Inc., developed a Vocational Services component in November of 1999 for the purpose of assisting participants in identifying work related goals based upon their interests and abilities.

WHO WE SERVE

BICR serves individuals who have sustained an acquired brain injury and are willing to commit to a vocational goal.

OUR SERVICES

- Volunteer Placements
- Job Placements
- Job Coaching
- Vocational Assessment
- Job Readiness Programs
- Employment Planning
- Workplace Assessment
- Job Trials
- Pre-employment training

Within Vocational Services there are various groups offered to participants that assist in job readiness. These include: Volunteer Ventures, Headstart Program, Work, Rest and Play (WRAP) and Horticulture Therapy.

VOLUNTEER VENTURES

Participants volunteer their time in various settings in the community to build on their skills and use the group as a stepping stone to independent volunteering and or employment.

Places that the group has volunteered at include:

- Food Banks
- Horse Farms
- Social Service Agencies
- Children's Centers
- School Boards
- Adopt-A-Road Program
- Various Community Events

The 12 week group assists participants in:

- Building job skills and experience
- Developing confidence and building self-esteem
- Networking (building contacts in the community)
- Building a sense of responsibility and commitment
- Meaningful activity



HEADSTART PROGRAM

To meet the needs of individuals with an acquired brain injury a pre-employment program was developed to re-enter participants into the work force.

This 12 week program assists in:

- Establishing employment objectives
- Determining job readiness
- Resume writing
- Interviewing skills
- Locating employment opportunities
- Filling out job applications
- Writing follow-up letters, etc.

WORK, REST AND PLAY (WRAP)

In partnership with the Niagara Parks Commission at the School of Horticulture, Brain Injury Community Re-entry (Niagara) Inc.'s Recreational and Vocational departments coordinated a group of individuals to take part in a Horticulture experience.

The goal of the 12 week session is to:

- Provide a sense of responsibility, commitment and belonging
- Job conditioning
- Physical exercise
- Build communication skills
- Meaningful activity

HORTICULTURE THERAPY

In partnership with the Niagara Training and Employment Centre (N-TEC), Brain Injury Community Re-entry (Niagara) Inc. began a Horticulture Therapy Program in the summer of 2000, located in Port Robinson on the grounds of N-TEC.

Program Objectives:

- Promote physical health and well-being
- Provide education, training and vocational skill-building opportunities
- Promote social, recreational and leisure activities
- Create linkages and pathways to employment opportunities

The Horticulture Therapy Program meets the needs of the individuals it services. For example, there are large raised garden beds which are adjusted for the needs of the participants.

Various plants are grown such as vegetables, fruits, herbs, perennials, annuals and wild grasses.

Each plant is used in some aspect – dried flowers for crafts, vegetables to make salsa, herbs to make oil and vinegar jars, etc.



For further information about BICR's Vocational Services please contact our agency's Vocational Coordinator at 905-685-4464 or 905-687-6788 ext. 304.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Brain Injury Community Re-entry (Niagara) Inc.

261 Martindale Road, Units 12 & 13
St. Catharines, ON L2W 1A1
Phone: 905 687-6788 or 1-800-996-8796
Fax: 905 641-2785
Internet: www.bicr.org

Vocational Coordinator

Phone: 905-685-4464
Email: thorton@bicr.org



ACCREDITED BY CANADIAN COUNCIL ON
HEALTH SERVICES ACCREDITATION