Research shows that work is an integral part of recovery for people with mental health and substance use diagnoses. Individuals who have meaningful employment experience a reduction in symptoms, improved relationships, and overall better health. It can reduce both hospitalization and forensic recidivism, provide a pathway out of poverty, and prevent entry into the disability system.

The OhioMHAS employment team is outposted in four regions throughout the state, providing training and consultation to community behavioral health providers. The goal of the team is to provide the necessary tools and supports for these providers to develop, implement, sustain, and improve the employment services they provide for Ohioans.

The services offered by the OhioMHAS employment team include:

**Training and Technical Assistance**
Providing leadership, training, and technical assistance to behavioral health agencies in developing, implementing, sustaining, and improving their employment programs. Providing educational opportunities and access to the discipline of work incentives planning.

**Collaboration and Coordination of Services**
Coordinating collaboration between community mental health providers and other state and local stakeholders.

**Consulting**
Assisting with assessment, oversight, and adherence to both general employment services and the evidence-based model of supported employment.

**Community Engagement**
Participating in statewide and international committees, trainings and conferences, and providing education to various stakeholders, including employment, clinical and executive staff, as well as other professionals, family members and peers.

**Strategic Development**
Creating and organizing tailored programmatic resources and materials.

If you are interested in implementing employment services in your behavioral health organization, please e-mail mha-employment@mha.ohio.gov.