DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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Online job board helps workers and people with disabilities find each other

Free statewide resource especially helpful during COVID-19 pandemic

May 4, 2020

The need to stay home to avoid spreading COVID-19 has made it harder for people with disabilities to find the support workers they sometimes need, but an updated web tool can bridge that gap and provide peace of mind. Direct Support Connect, an online job board, connects personal care assistants (PCAs) and other direct support workers with the people who want to hire them.

New enhanced features make Direct Support Connect easier to use than ever. For example:

- Individuals who hire direct support workers can post job descriptions that include location, pay range, supports needed and desired schedule.
- People looking for work can view job openings compatible with their skills, schedule and work goals.
- New messaging features support private, secure messaging and live chat with others who have Direct Support Connect profiles.

"The site allows me to specify what time I need someone, and it shows people's interests, which helps me hire support workers with whom I have things in common," said Linda Wolford, who hires her own direct support workers.

Direct Support Connect is a free, statewide resource. Anyone who wants to hire a support worker, establish a backup plan, or find employment as a PCA can get more information and create a profile at directsupportconnect.com (https://directsupportconnect.com/).

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5/4/2020 10:50:06 AM

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Updated: 2020-05-04