EMPLOYERS: BECOME A RECOVERY FRIENDLY WORKPLACE

FREE helps employers create inclusive, resilient workplaces that support people in recovery.

As an employer, you can:

- Fill open positions with reliable, motivated candidates.
- Contribute to the health and wellbeing of your community.
- Become a Recovery-Friendly Workplace designated employer.
- Gain access to training and education on supporting employees in recovery.

Recovery-Friendly Workplaces Experience:

Stronger team culture

Higher employee retention

Lower absenteeism

SUPPORTERS: NC CERTIFIED PEER SUPPORT SPECIALISTS

At the heart of FREE are our NC Certified Peer Support Specialists—people with lived experience in recovery who are trained to support others.

Each county has local Peer Support Specialists who:

- Walk alongside participants on their employment journey.
- Connect individuals to resources, treatment, housing, and support networks.
- Help reduce stigma and build bridges between participants and employers.

SUNRISE COMMUNITY
FOR RECOVERY & WELLNESS

FOOTHILLS RECOVERY & EMPLOYMENT ECOSYSTEM

IN COLLABORATION WITH

RECOVERY FRIENDLY NC

WCI Leadership For Employers

WHAT IS THE FREE PROGRAM?

The Foothills Recovery and Employment Ecosystem (FREE) is a regional initiative connecting people in recovery from Substance Use Disorder (SUD) to meaningful employment in Cleveland, McDowell, Polk, and Rutherford counties.

We aim to:

- Bridge the gap between recovery, employment, and community reintegration.
- Empower individuals in recovery to re-enter the workforce.
- Support employers in creating inclusive, Recovery-Friendly Workplaces.

Whether you're a job seeker, an employer, or a Peer Support Specialist, FREE is here to build a network that works for everyone.

FOR JOB SEEKERS IN RECOVERY

If you're in recovery and looking for employment, FREE can help you:

- Find Support:
  Work with a certified Peer Support Specialist who understands your journey.
- Get Connected:
  Be introduced to local employers committed to recovery-friendly hiring.
- Grow Your Skills:
  Get access to job readiness resources, training, and mentorship.
- Stay Supported:
  Maintain your recovery while building a career in a supportive environment.

FOOTHILLS RECOVERY & EMPLOYMENT ECOSYSTEM

Be a vital partner in creating opportunity and resilience through recovery and employment in your community.

Let's Empower Our Communities ***Together.***

Ready To Get Started?
Reach out via the
contact information below.

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Funded in part by the ARC Inspire Grant