

Why Work Matters?

Supporting individuals with IDD to obtain a good job may also introduce them to a host of other benefits that further enrich their lives. Researchers interviewed 60 parents and siblings about their views on the employment of their family members with IDD.

- A steady paycheck is important, but it is not all that matters. An emphasis on other less tangible—but no less important—benefits filled these conversations.
- Many participants said they held somewhat different definitions of “meaningful” employment for themselves than they did for their family member with IDD.

For more on this topic, Read the Research Highlights at:
<https://idd.vcurrtc.org/resources/content.cfm/1405>



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“The more I’ve thought about it and talked to other people about it, a lot of the reasons we’d want any family member to have employment, apply to our son. Sense of self, sense of identity, sense of accomplishment.”

- Father of a 26-year-old male with IDD

