

# Meaningful Work for Individuals with IDD

## INSIGHTS FROM FAMILIES

The impact of employment extends well beyond the income it provides, just like in the general populations. 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 recently interviewed 60 parents and siblings about their views on the employment of their family members with IDD. A few key findings emerged from the interviews, including:

- A steady paycheck is important, but it is not all that matters. An emphasis on other less tangible—but no less important—benefits permeated 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 Project Brief at:  
<https://idd.vcurrctc.org/resources/content.cfm/1405>

*“I long for her to be getting more intellectual development and challenge at work, to be invited to push the envelope a little bit and see what more she can do.”*

*~Sibling of 58-year-old sister with an intellectual disability*