



**Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders**  
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6/99

## **Resources for People with HIV Who Are Entering or Re-entering the Workplace**

### **AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts**

(617) 450-1250  
131 Clarendon St.  
Boston, MA 02116

The AIDS Action Financial and Legal Services department can provide information and resources to people living with HIV and their service providers, with special emphasis on disability and other benefits. They can help people navigate the financial waters of going back to work and can refer individuals to other programs for direct employment services. AIDS Action has recently published a comprehensive *Work, Education, & Benefits Resource Guide*, which can serve as a good starting place.

### **Boston Career Link--Phoenix Program**

Jonathan Leite, Career Counselor  
(617) 867-4677 x211  
281 Huntington Ave.  
Boston, MA 02115

Boston Career Link teamed up with Dimock Community Health Center to create this comprehensive one-stop job-search program for people with HIV. It includes free access to confidential HIV-specific job counseling, an employment resource library, job listings, job-search workshops, computers with internet access.

### **Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission--Division of Vocational Rehabilitation**

(617) 204-3600  
(800) 245-6543  
Fort Point Place  
27-43 Wormwood Street  
Boston, MA 02210-1616

MRC is the state agency serving individuals with disabilities. Its Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is an employment focused program for people with physical or mental disabilities. Eligibility for HIV-positive individuals is limited to people who are physically disabled by their HIV or who have complementary disabilities, such as alcoholism, mental

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*Founded in 1978, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) is New England's leading legal rights organization for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and people living with HIV. GLAD's mission is to achieve full equality for all individuals in these groups, primarily through impact litigation and education.*

health issues, or developmental disabilities. The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation provides a variety of services, including evaluation and assessment, counseling, vocational planning, training, resume writing, interviewing seminars, job placement services, and follow-up services. MRC has area offices throughout the state.

### **Institute for Community Inclusion--Employment Project for People with HIV**

*Steven Procopio, Project Coordinator*

*(617) 355-8167*

*Children's Hospital*

*300 Longwood Ave.*

*Boston, MA 02115*

The Institute for Community Inclusion serves as a triage center, putting clients with HIV in touch with employment specialists at a variety of local agencies, including the Boston Living Center, Latino Health Institute, Cambridge Cares About AIDS, and the Lowell HIV Consortium. They also have working connections with the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission and the state's Social Security office. Clients must be referred by a provider. The partner agencies are listed separately below:

- **Boston Living Center**

*Chris Hall, Membership Coordinator*

*(617) 236-1012; 29 Stanhope St., Boston, MA 02116*

The Living Center is a community center serving people with HIV in the Boston area. Anyone living with HIV is eligible to become a member, free of charge. The Living Center's Employment Support Program (ESP) offers job counseling, support, resume writing, assistance with job placement. In addition, volunteer positions and internships with the Living Center are available for members interested in testing the employment waters and gaining confidence before diving in head first. ESP also maintains a relationship with the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission.

- **Latino Health Institute**

*Ezequiel Merán*

*(617) 350-6900 x134; 95 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116*

LHI provides job readiness preparation for people with HIV or substance abusers with 6 months sobriety, including initial consultations, resume and interview skills, referrals to job training programs, job placement assistance. Priority is given to LHI clients.

- **Cambridge Cares About AIDS**

*Carolina Estevez, Job Connections Coordinator*

*(617) 661-3040; 678 Massachusetts Ave.; Cambridge, MA 02139*

Must be a CCAA client to access services, but anyone with HIV is eligible, free of charge. CCAA's Job Connections Program offers job counseling, assistance with resume writing and interviewing techniques, technical assistance, job searching, and referrals.

- Lowell House

*Jerry Morrissette*

*(978) 459-8656; 555 Merrimack St., Lowell, MA 01854*

Lowell House provides job readiness preparation to people with HIV through the Employment Options Project (EOP). They help clients maximize their benefits, develop resume writing and interview skills, assess their employment options, and connect with training programs. Most assistance is 1-on-1.

**Positive Directions--Consumer Employment Associates (CEA)**

*Eugene Borden*

*(617) 262-3456*

*140 Clarendon St.*

*Boston, MA 02116*

CEA helps HIV-positive consumers with all aspects of finding employment. They provide job counseling, support, assistance in finding appropriate training programs, on-site computer training, resume writing.

**Impact Employment Services**

*Anne Meyerson, Program Coordinator*

*(617) 542-0338*

*105 Chauncy St.*

*Boston, MA 02111*

Impact provides employment services to people who are homeless. They assist with job counseling, resume writing, support, and job placement. While they have no focus on HIV, they are both HIV-positive and gay friendly. In order to access their services, one must provide verification of homelessness, usually in the form of a letter from a shelter or a residential drug treatment facility.