Introduction to TCS: Supports for Supported Employment

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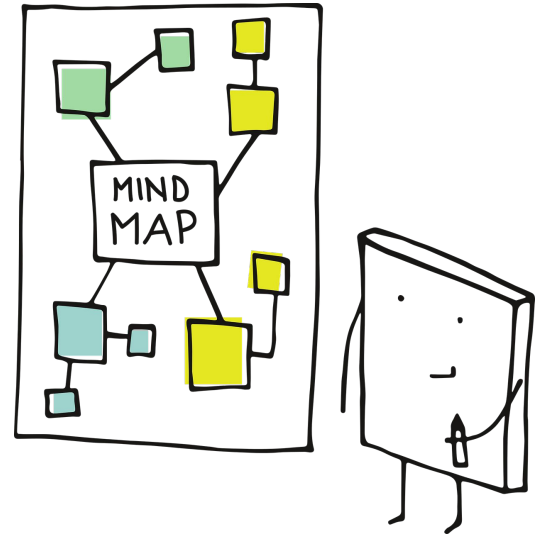
But first...

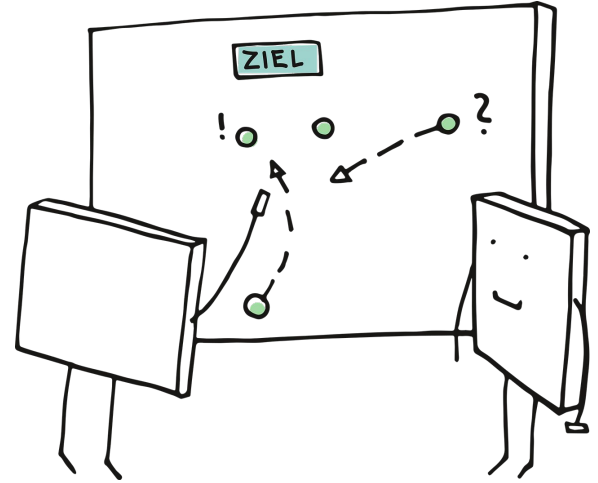## Supported Employment?

What is Supported Employment (SE)?

★ **A service that makes work accessible to people with disabilities**

- Provides assistance with…
  - Finding a career that suits you best
  - Applications and interviews
  - Learning how to do job tasks
  - Developing job-related skills
  - Creating accommodations
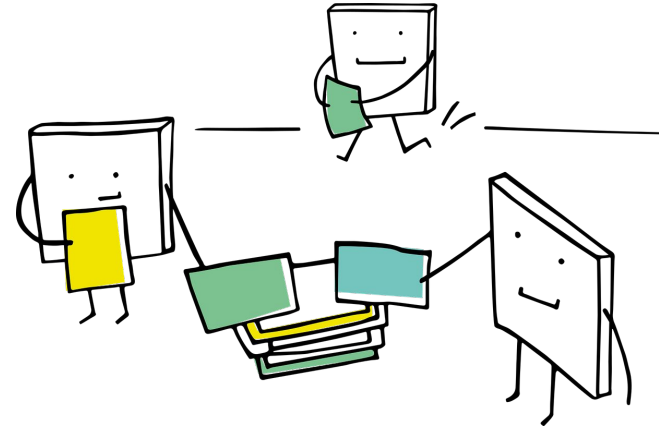 - Fostering job-related independence

What is Supported Employment (SE)?

- ***How does it work?***
  - Work closely with one or more job coaches and do tasks with their help

- ***What should I expect?***
  - Going after your goals (even if you don't get your dream job right away)
  - Respect, compassion, and full attention from your job coaches
  - Responsibility for your work
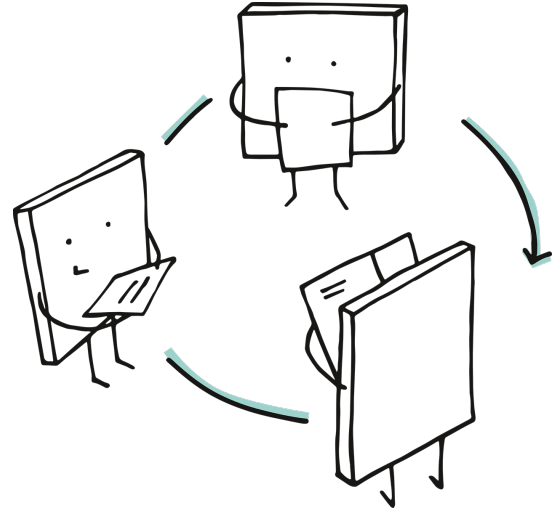
What is Supported Employment (SE)?

- ***What kind of work would I do?***
    - Work that people without disabilities are offered (*competitive*)
    - Work that takes place in the community (*integrated*)
    - Work that pays minimum wage or higher
    - Work that is safe and healthy for you
    - Work that is fulfilling to you and works towards your goals

What is Supported Employment (SE)?
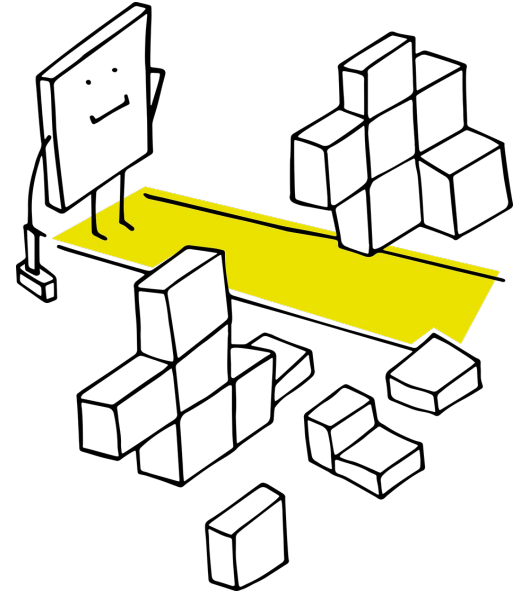
- ***How do I get it?***
  - Source depends on your disability:
    - **DDD** - Division of Developmental Disabilities
    - **DVRS** - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
    - **CBVI** - Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
  - Research and choose a **provider** (agency that hires the job coaches)

What is Supported Employment (SE)?

- *What are my DDD options for SE?*
  - Individual Employment Support
    - One-on-one support with a job coach
  - Small Group Employment Support
    - Work crews made of people with disabilities with a job coach
      - Customized Employment
        - Jobs tailored and/or created specifically for you
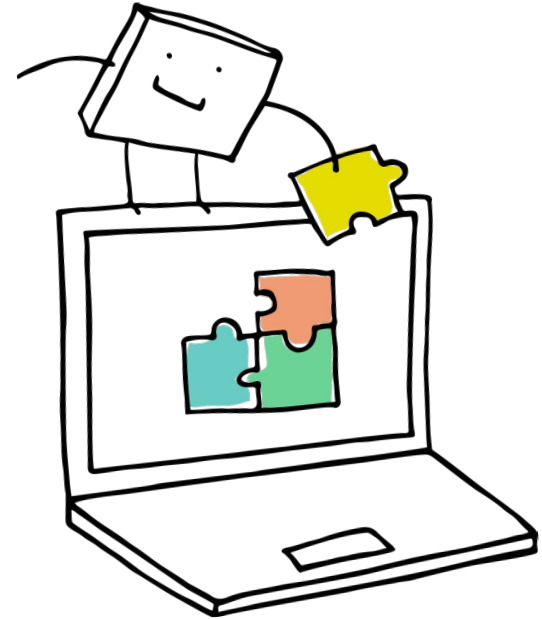 - *Others possible depending on the source!*

Now let's talk TCS!

What is TCS?

- **Training and Consultation Services**
  - **Service Support**
    - Training
    - Consultation
      - *SE Providers*
      - *Service users and advocates*
      - *Employers*
  - **Service Development**
    - DDD compliance
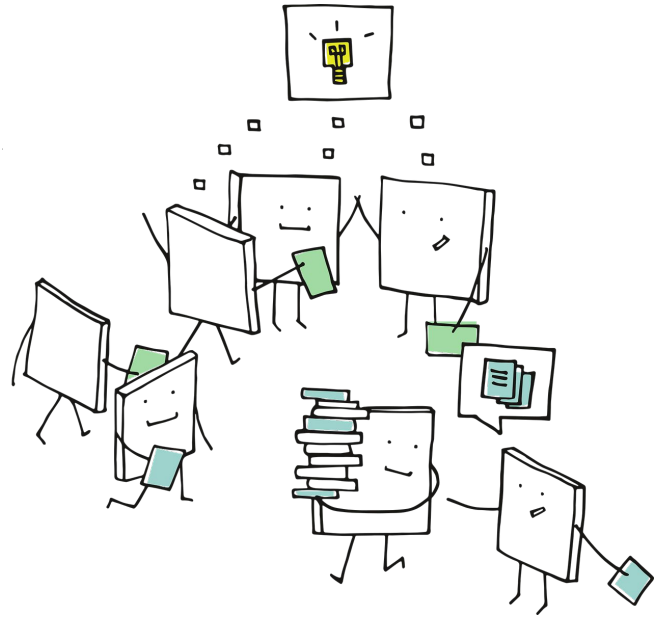   - State and national SE communities

What's the goal?

- **<u>To improve supported employment's…</u>**
  - **Outcomes**
    - Increased hires, job retention, job satisfaction etc.
  - **Experiences**
    - Better quality of care, coach-client relationships etc.
  - **Sustainability**
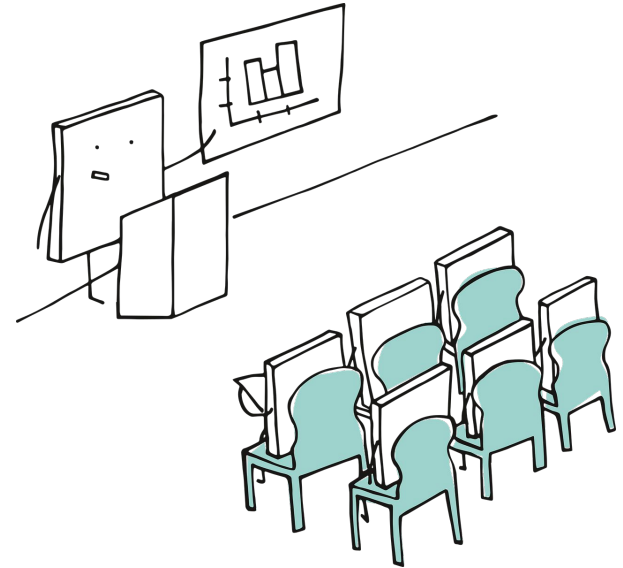   - Improved funder compliance, relationship with employers etc.

How do we achieve this?

- **Better methods**
  - The most successful and respectful ways to provide SE
- **More resources**
  - Tools and provisions to make it easier to provide the best methods
- **Better understanding**
  - Providers: the needs, abilities, and potential service users have
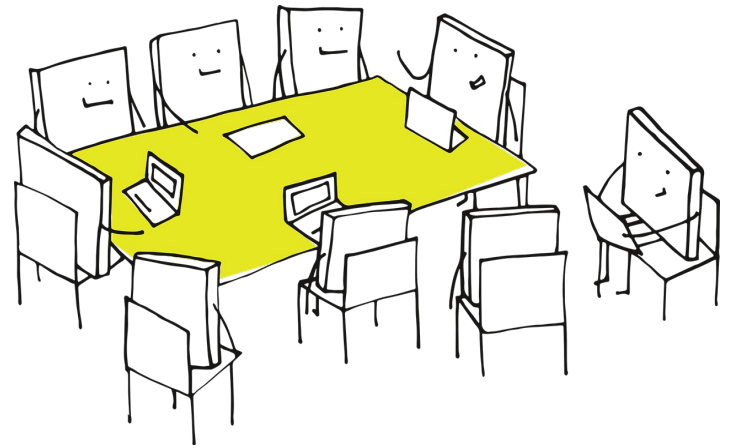 - Service users: what good SE looks like

How is TCS contributing?

- **Provider support**
  - Best-practice information for managers and field staff
    - Self-advocate input
    - Scientific research
    - Dialogue with professionals
  - Tools, resources, and activities to make best practices easier to implement
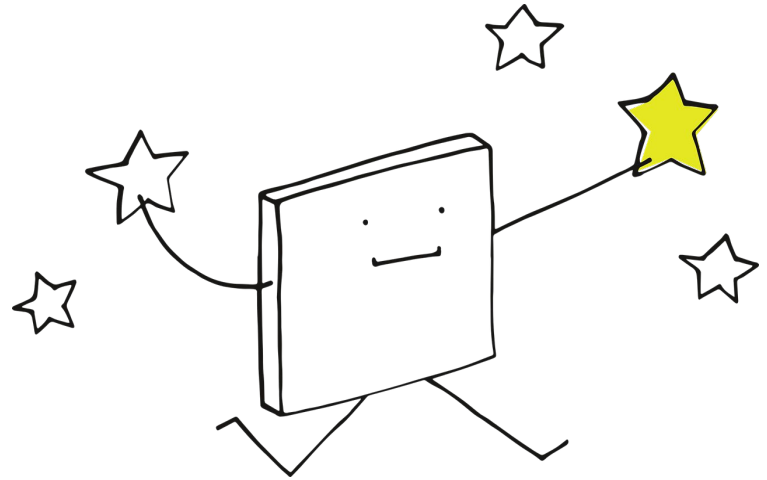 - One-to-one support for struggling staff or specific challenges

How can we support you?

- **Training**
  - What to expect from job coaches
  - How to navigate the DDD SE system
  - Navigating community connections for employment success
    - What else would be helpful?
- **Consultation**
  - Challenges specific to your situation
- **Tools and Resources**
  - Makes SE navigation easier

Overall…

- **TCS is here to help you!**
  - Please reach out – the more we know, the more we can help!
    - TCS services
    - Specific concerns
    - Ideas and insight
    - Needs in the community
    - Emerging trends

Any questions?

Thank you!

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