Supported employment programs tend to be challenging for mental health populations, especially individuals struggling with serious and persistent mental illness. VTW provides a “stepping stone” for individuals who need additional support in entering or re-entering competitive employment.

Services:
- Peer mentor support
- Skill development trainings
- Connections to volunteer opportunities

Goals:
- Vocational fulfillment through 90-day volunteer work in participants’ desired area of interest

VTW is a 2-year MHSA Innovation project contracted with Goodwill Industries Orange County (GIOC)

The current annual budget is $541,510

Innovation funds for VTW will end on June 30, 2015
Project Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 13/14 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014)</th>
<th>FY 14/15 – To Date (July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number Served</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Placements</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Placements</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Successful Completions</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referrals Out</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linkages</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Outcomes

July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

- **Participant Person-level Improvements**
  - PHQ-9: Increase from 15.8 to 10.8
  - GAD-7: Decrease from 14.7 to 9.8

- **Participant Satisfaction Surveys**
  - Overall Program Satisfaction: 4.55
  - Comparison of Peer and Staff Satisfaction: 4.56

Summary

- A recent article featured in the OC Register highlights the positive impact and need for supported employment programs [http://www.ocregister.com/articles/mental-646365-people-health.html](http://www.ocregister.com/articles/mental-646365-people-health.html)
- VTW has contributed to supporting individuals with SPMI in entering or re-entering employment
  - Project has exceeded target enrollment and placement goals since beginning services
- VTW has also helped participants overcome barriers to seeking services
  - Referrals and linkages provided to the Department of Rehabilitation, One-Stop Centers, Project Life Coach, GIOC Beyond Jobs, and Women Helping Women
Action Item

- Approve of the recommended action, to fund the Volunteer to Work Program for 1 additional year with available funding through Community Services and Supports (CSS)

- CSS Adults and Older Adults Co-Chairs:
  - Helen Cameron
  - Patti Pettit