# JOHN: Employment support funding example

The following example is one of the many “success stories” that show how through collaboration, state and federal funds can be used together in creative ways to help people with disabilities achieve competitive, integrated employment. Minnesota’s departments of Education, Employment and Economic Development and Human Services worked together to develop these examples. They act as roadmaps for how to use different agency services to help people achieve their preferred employment outcome.

People with disabilities, their families and professionals can use stories like John’s to stimulate conversations and ideas about employment. As you work with various partners across the state, you can use these examples to help create more coordinated, innovative plans.

Please note: The example here is based on a true Minnesota story, but we changed some of the details to protect the identity of the person involved.



## His story

John’s mom helped him find a landscaping summer job where he worked 20 hours per week. John uses the consumer directed community supports (CDCS) service option available under the Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI) Waiver. He and his family self-direct John’s support budget.

## Team approach

Earlier in the year, John had applied for and was found eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS). When John got his job, his family contacted VRS to see about summer job coaching support. John’s family and the VRS counselor thought John would need 1:1 ongoing support and supervision on the job. The VRS counselor contacted the county to coordinate long term employment supports. VRS agreed to fund initial coaching to help him get oriented to the job and learn job tasks. The county worked with John’s family to decide how to best modify their waiver budget to provide the needed job supports when VRS support ended.

## Success

Initially it was thought that John would need a 1:1 job coach for the entirety of his summer job. However, after 40 hours of job support, John was able to work independently with natural supports on the job.