

Success Stories: Vocational Rehabilitation



Jesse McCamish



OCCUPATION:
Maintenance and Repair
Specialist (Handyman)

VR COUNSELORS:
Mallory McKnight, Northern Utah
District



VR PROVIDED ASSISTANCE:

- Vocational guidance and counseling
- Individualized plan for employment
- Disability treatment
- Community resources and service coordination
- Tools and equipment for self-employment

Jesse applied to Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) in the closing months of 2019. He was seeking help finding employment after a term of incarceration. Additionally, Jesse is a single father of three children and needed a new opportunity to increase his income and better provide for his family. From the beginning of his journey with Vocational Rehabilitation, his goal was to launch and operate his own handyman business.

Through support and guidance from VR, Jesse was able to stabilize his disability and connect to community resources to help support himself and his family. Next, with support from his VR Counselor, Mallory McKnight, and the Box Elder Small Business Development Center, Jesse started working on developing a self-employment plan.

After some trial and error, and additional exploration, Jesse developed a plan that laid the roadmap for success. With the help of VR, Jesse obtained the

necessary tools to start his handyman business. VR also helped Jesse acquire a trailer to haul his tools to the different job sites. Independently, Jesse found a general contractor that hires him for a variety of projects. Jesse has done framing, tile work, flooring, and has the ability to do just about whatever the contractor hires him to do.

Seven months later, Jesse's VR case was closed when he started to meet his income goals. Jesse's next step on his career journey is to get his general contractor's license. Jesse is well on his way to supporting his family and building a successful business thanks to the support that the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation provided.