

Early Medical Intervention is Key to Preventing Long-Term Disability

Many ill and injured workers are able to remain in their jobs or the workforce when they receive timely, coordinated employment support and medical services as part of a stay-at-work or return-to-work program. Most people have the ability to be productive after illness or injury, even if it means altering their current work environment or finding a new position. **RETAINWORKS** focuses on the continual employment of individuals who experience a debilitating illness or injury.



Healthcare Providers Play a Crucial Role in RETAINWORKS

A healthcare provider's primary goal is their patient's recovery. A coordinated effort with the patient and their employer helps achieve that goal. By assisting the patient's return to work under medical supervision as soon as possible, employment becomes an important health outcome. Healthcare providers can get involved by referring eligible patients within 12 weeks of illness or injury and collaborating with the **RETAINWORKS** network to improve their employment outcomes.

Who Can Participate?

(Not all eligible workers will receive all RETAINWORKS services. Individuals will be randomly selected to participate in RETAINWORKS.)

Patients who have an injury or illness (mental or physical) that prevents them from returning to work right away may qualify for **RETAINWORKS**. The primary focus is care of patients with musculoskeletal injuries, mental health disorders, and chronic diseases. Other qualifying measures for patients include the following:

- The diagnosis of a new condition or an exacerbation of a chronic condition.
- The patient must be employed or seeking employment in Kansas.
- Patients with all levels of illness or injury will be considered. Even those with the most significant disabilities can be productive employees, whether it means returning to their old position or finding a new employment match.

Work With Purpose

Stay-at-work or return-to-work programs are a critical aspect of rehabilitation. In addition to the financial benefits, working gives people a sense of purpose and helps improve depression and other mental health issues. Individuals who lose their job after illness or injury are at risk of:

- More severe or new health conditions, such as substance abuse.
- Difficult psychosocial adjustment (i.e., increased anxiety, depression, and social isolation);
- Increased health service utilization; and
- A poorer quality of life.



In 2019, the economic cost of injury was \$4.2 trillion, including \$327 billion in medical care, \$69 billion in work loss, and \$3.8 trillion in value of statistical life and quality of life losses

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention





Learn More

Please contact our Referral and Enrollment Coordinator.

Referral & Enrollment Coordinator Info Below

Visit our website for more info: retainworks.org



RETAINWORKS

Retaining Employment and Talent After Injury/Illness Network

Health Care Partnerships Get Kansans Back to Work

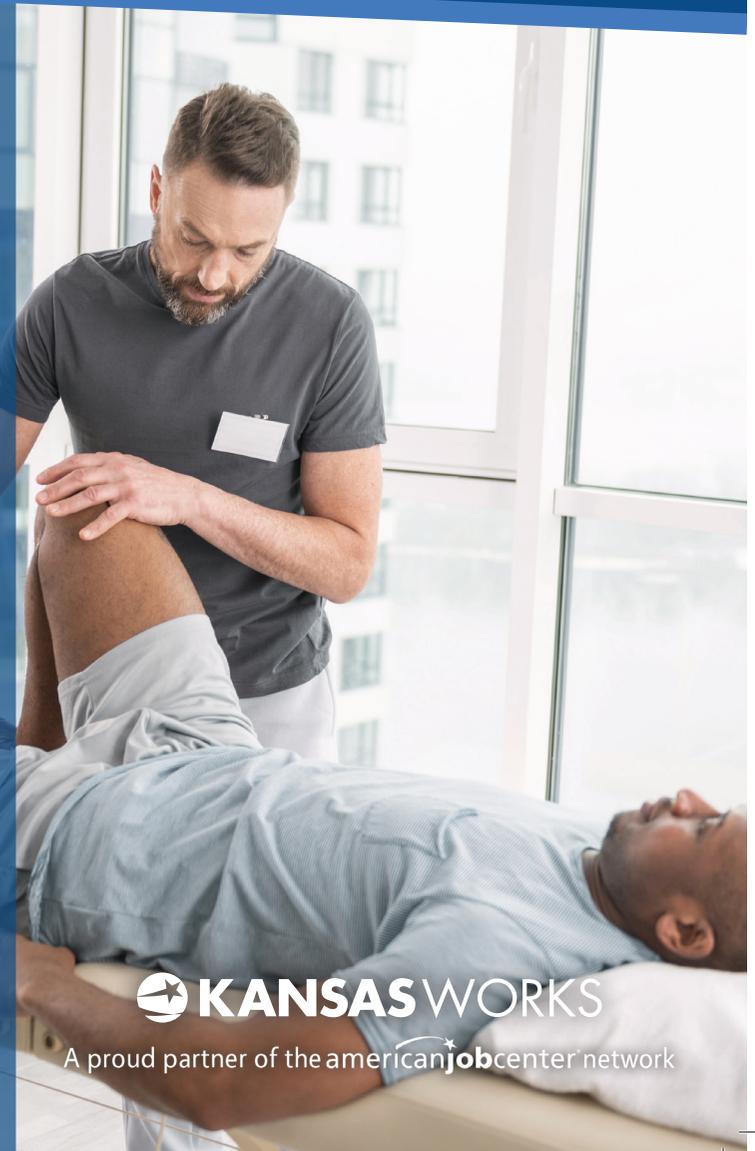
JOIN RETAINWORKS

You and your eligible patients will work with a team of **RETAINWORKS** Navigators to treat the entire person, not just their illness or injury. Together, our focus will be on the patient staying at or returning to work, while considering all of their needs, including mental health services, physical and occupational rehabilitation services, pain management services, motion therapy, and employment goals. While you manage your patient's care, **RETAINWORKS** will provide support services to enhance recovery and work outcomes. We'll simply be there to augment your treatment plan, not interfere with it.

RETAINWORKS is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and the Social Security Administration under a grant award of \$21,600,000 to the Kansas Department of Commerce that will be incrementally provided. 100% of grant funding is from U.S. Federal funds.

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Equal Opportunity Employer/Program - Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Any individual with a disability may request accommodations by contacting the Program Manager at 316 293-6856, TDD: 711 or 1-800-766-3777, retainworks@ks.gov.



 **KANSASWORKS**

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