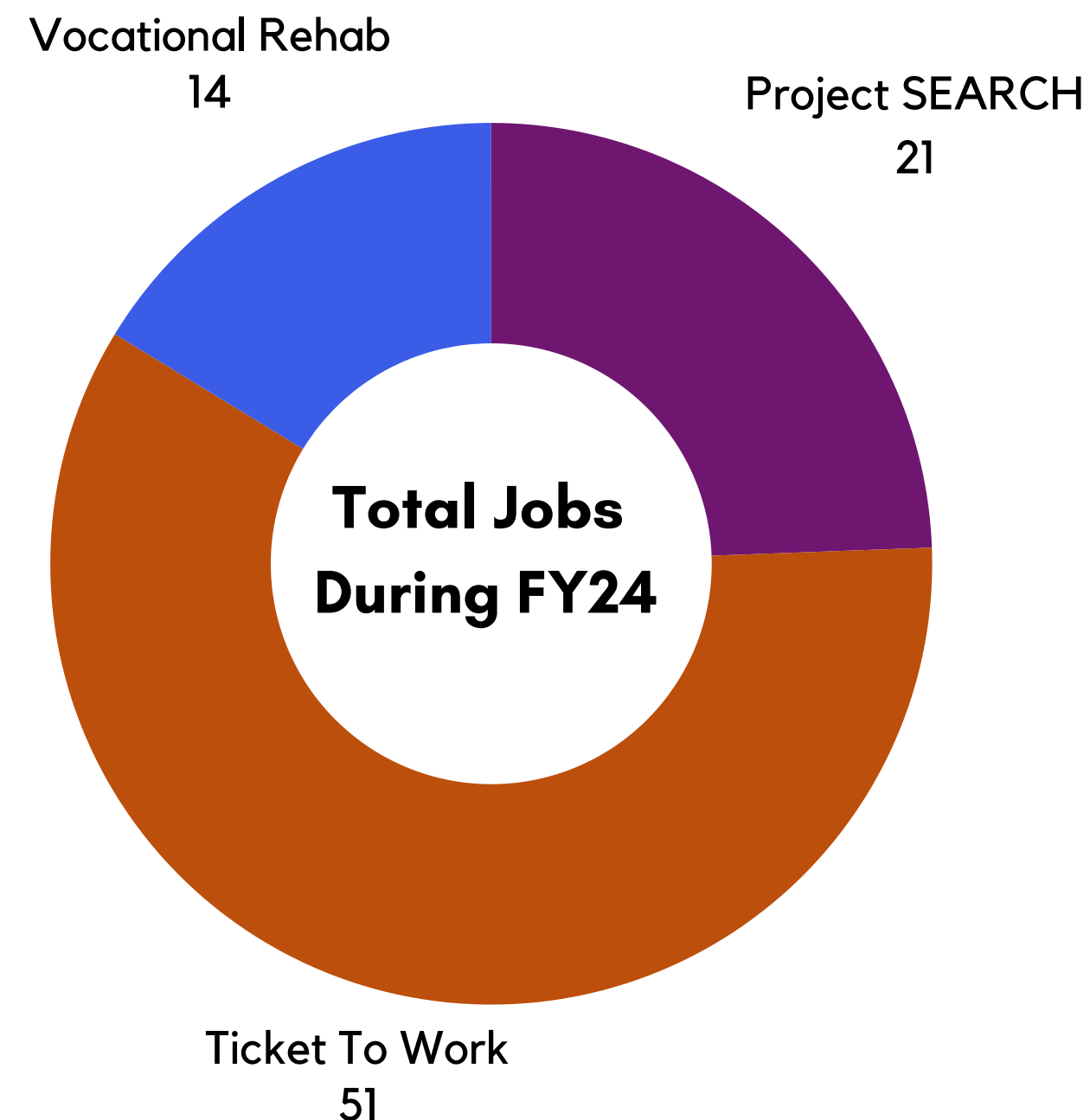


✦ Employment Services ↗

- Career readiness support
- Resume building
- Job placement services
- Helping individuals with disabilities find and secure meaningful employment



Ron Jackson, Employment Services Specialist meeting with an Employment Services consumer.



100%
of consumers surveyed maintained a job for at least 12 months
as a result of working with RAMP (Target 60%).

✦ Employment Services ↗

Benefits of Hiring Individuals with Disabilities

- Employers receive federal tax credits such as the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, the Disabled Access Credit, or the Barrier Removal Tax Deduction.
- Individuals with disabilities have a low turnover rate of only 8%! the average cost of turnover is 21% of annual salary.
- 87% of all U.S. adults spend money at businesses that hire individuals with disabilities.
- Insurance rates are not impacted by hiring an individual with a disability.

613

of job consumers that have obtained jobs since the beginning of the employment program.



Employment consumer heading to work.

✦ Fast Track -Transition Services

- Provides youth with disabilities (ages 14-22) with skills training, career exploration, and internships.
- Offered in group or individual settings.
- Focuses on successful transitions to education or work.
- Dedicated staff in each county work to expand the number of youth served.
- Pre-employment training builds independence, confidence, and career success.

88% of Fast Track consumers stated their desired career/and or education path! (Target 85%).

119 Fast Track consumers in 2024



Fast Track student doing a job shadow in a professional office setting

❖ Project SEARCH



Project SEARCH is a school-to-work program held in healthcare, government, or business settings, where students complete three internships with classroom instruction and career exploration. A team, including family, instructors, and mentors, helps each student set employment goals and supports their transition from school to work.

There are three Project SEARCH locations:

- Rockford at Mercyhealth
- Rockford at Embassy Suites downtown
- DeKalb at Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital

Project SEARCH interns learning, socializing and posing for a picture on the job.



100%

**of 2023 graduates
have obtained
employment in the
community AND are
more satisfied with
where their life is and
their financial stability
after finding a job**

Project SEARCH

Benefits of Project SEARCH to the Host Business

- Access to diverse talent: tap into a skilled, diverse workforce that meets labor needs.
- Role models for customers: employees with disabilities can inspire and positively influence customers.
- Reach a valuable market: people with disabilities represent a rapidly growing, high-purchasing power demographic.
- Enhanced recognition: gain regional and national visibility through program promotion.
- Improved performance & retention: strengthen performance and reduce turnover in entry-level roles.



Project SEARCH interns listening to a presentation.