

1. Introduction to the Brochure Series

Purpose of the Brochure:

Brochure 1 is designed to give an overview both of the Brochure Series and of the various issues one might want to address in considering work. This might be overwhelming to some, but for others, it will help to know the scope of topics and to have a sense of where things are going.

Group Objectives:

- Introduce topic / issues
- Define terms
- Get to know each other

Suggested Activities:

- Review the brochure topics together, plan/discuss how these fit into the schedule of your group. How many times will you meet, and what issues or information will be covered each time?
- Identify together any topics that group members are particularly interested in, or worried about. This will help you plan future sessions.
- Define the terms you will use as a group. In particular, figure out what term(s) you want to use for people living with psychiatric disabilities (e.g. "consumer", "survivor", "mentally ill", etc.). Also, define together what your group will mean by "work" (part time? Full time? Volunteer? Paid? Temporary? Permanent? Etc.)

Suggested Discussion Questions:

- Why have you chosen to participate in this group at this time?
- What kind of work have you done in your life?
- What role (if any) do you want work to have in your life?
- What would you like to get out of this group experience?
- Have you ever had a job you liked? What did you like about it?
- Have you ever had a job you hated? What did you hate about it?
- What changes do you hope working will make in your life?
- What changes are you afraid working might make in your life?