

# Second Career

## *Second Career Success Story*

*Contributed by Staff - Employment Consultant*

Client is a single mother, who had recently obtained a Bachelor's degree. Although she'd been actively job searching, she was unable to find full-time sustainable employment using her current skills and experience. She presented as discouraged about her prospects and expressed interest in exploring funded training opportunities. Client applied for Second Career and was approved for a part-time, online program. In addition, she applied for a part-time Job Development placement opportunity to assist with her basic living expenses and was subsequently hired. The client was able to move back into her family home, which she had been renting out to save on costs, and she is very excited about her future.

# Ontario Disability Support Program

## *ODSP Client Success Story*

*Contributed by Staff - Employment Consultant*

I'll never forget the first time I met this client. I brought him into my office to complete an assessment, and he instantly started disclosing a lot of highly personal information. This client had a serious criminal record, had prior substance abuse issues, mental health issues, and not a lot of employment history. I remember feeling as an Employment Consultant a little overwhelmed as to where to even start, but there was something about this individual I genuinely really liked. I remember this client telling me "no one ever gives me a chance, and I end up falling into hard times; into my old ways". At that moment I knew, I wanted to be that person who gave him a chance.

On our follow up appointment, we focused on identifying his skills, experience and defined his career goal a little more. Resume development and job search strategies were also reviewed and discussed. Through this process, I was able to have a better understanding of this client's story and of the journey he was on to gain control of his life again. I saw this person's dedication and motivation at each appointment and saw his confidence grow.

Through the Ontario Disability Support Program, we were able to apply for Employment Supports. After working with this individual for a short while, he was job ready. Through case management, this client had all the essential skills to network effectively. He was able to network with the right person at the right time and secured himself an interview at one of the places for which he had a strong desire to work.

I remember my client calling me as soon as he found out he had a job interview. I was so thrilled and excited for this client on his success thus far. We completed a mock interview and discussed possible questions and answers. He did successfully gain employment from that interview and has continued to be employed there since.

Everyday you can make a difference in someone's life, if you just give them a chance.

# Job Search

## *Job Search Support Client Success Story*

*Contributed by Staff - Resource Aid*

As a skilled immigrant arriving in Canada this client was hoping to find employment in an occupation in line with his education and prior employment history. When arriving in Canada, the client spoke English with some limited Spanish and French. His credentials were recognized in the UK; however I was having some difficulties having them recognized in Canada.

The WorkPlace assisted this client with the process of getting his credentials recognized in Canada and referrals to other agencies including Settlement Services (YMCA), and the Mentorship Program (Sarnia Lambton Workforce Development Board).

He also accessed a variety of employment services including the Networking workshop. This weekly event teaches clients the basics of networking and how it can be helpful to their job search. This provided him with the tools and confidence to build connections in the community.

From the Networking Group the client learned the value of making "Cold Calls". After contacting employers in his chosen field, he was given the opportunity to volunteer his time to showcase his skills and experience. The employer was impressed and provided the client with a glowing reference. After working alongside with this client for the past 2 years, he is now employed and says:

***" I would like to thank The WorkPlace Group for supporting me over the last year, directing me, guiding me, coaxing me to be positive, patient and not to lose hope. I enjoyed the meetings and workshops and I believe they helped me in attaining this position (Resume, Cover Letter, Interviews). So again thank you for all your support and assistance."***

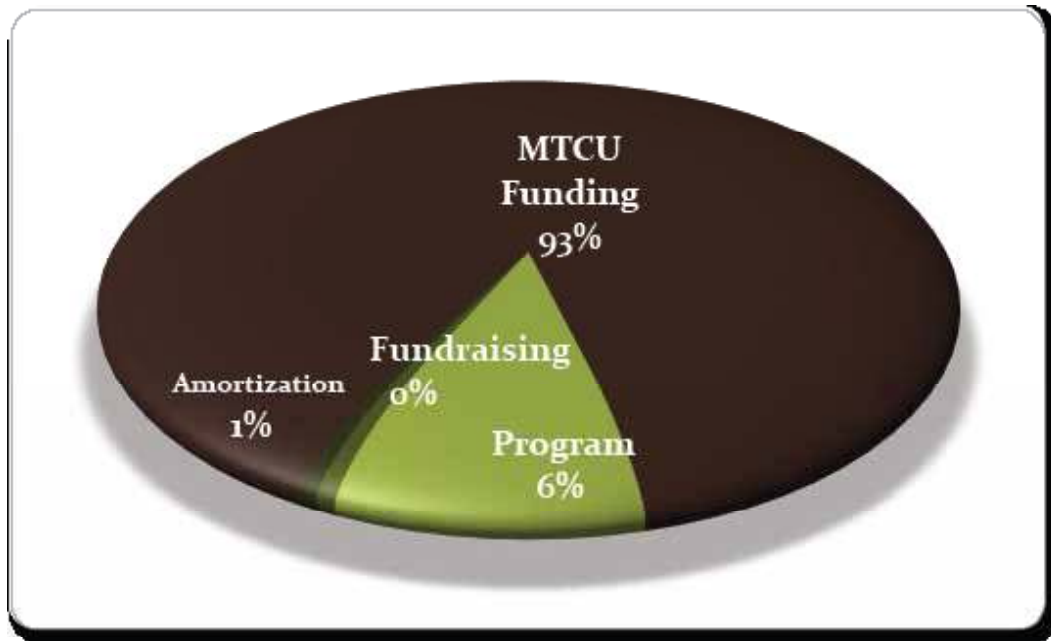
*Contributed by Staff - Employment Consultant*

Client is a 58 year old male who has been a client of The WorkPlace since 2014. He had been unemployed since 2012. He suffers from anxiety and depression that has caused him to remove himself from actively job searching several times. His Employment Consultant had been actively working with him since January 2016. Client was very motivated and ready to work and was looking for part time employment in the food and hospitality or customer service. Client had several interviews but was not successful as he found interviews very stressful.

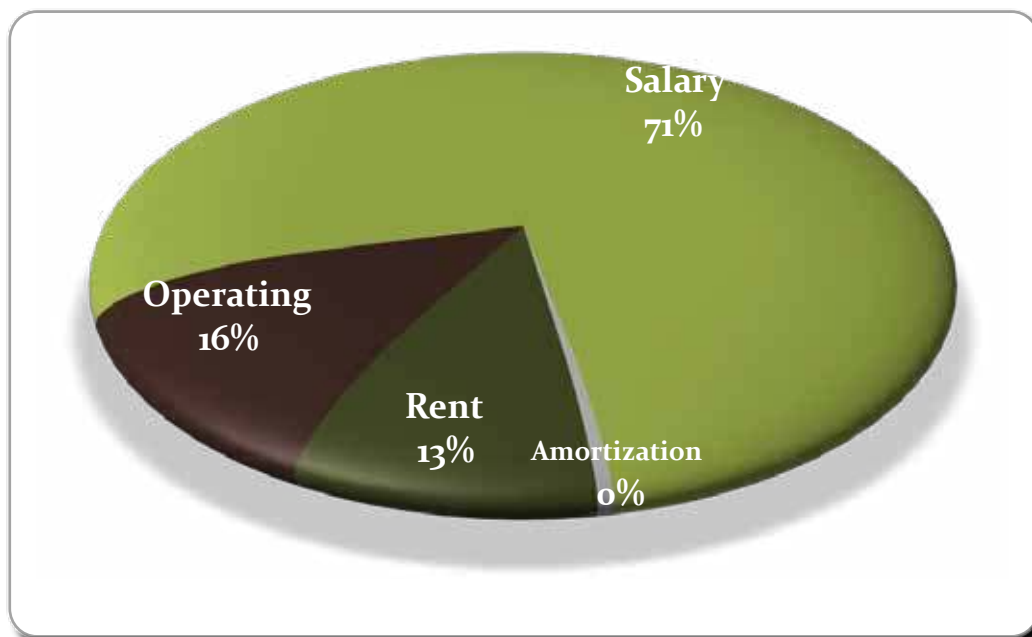
We were approached by a local restaurant that we had worked with in the past, who were looking for kitchen help. We put forward the clients resume saying we felt he would be an excellent candidate for the position and explained how he had difficulty with interviews. The employer interviewed him and hired him, and he has been working there full time for the past three months.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW – APRIL 1, 2015 – MARCH 31, 2016

**TOTAL REVENUE - \$616,437.00**



**TOTAL EXPENDITURES - (-\$20,317.00)**



“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing.” Pele

# Program of Excellence

Sarnia Legionnaires Junior Hockey Club

2015-2016 Season



## Purpose

*The Sarnia Legionnaires will provide opportunities both on and off the ice for quality training time, coaching instruction and genuine player oversight in a structured, competitive and supervised environment. As a hockey family, it is our desire to support and develop people who aspire to the next competitive level both on and off the ice.*

## *We Are Taking the Player Experience to a Whole New Level*

*The Sarnia Legionnaires recognize our young people are at a pinnacle point in their lives. While hockey is their passion and it is their desire to play at their optimum level, for many players, their competitive hockey experience may not extend beyond the Junior level, either by circumstance, choice or opportunity. We are aware of the challenges that some players face with their desire to commit to their hockey careers, essentially putting other life choices on hold. We will work with individual players to ensure they experience opportunities to develop their hockey careers while enjoying a healthy life balance. Our program will also offer supports for players who are exploring other career options, collegiate opportunities and/or direct workplace entry. We recognize the mentorship needs of a 16 year old rookie will be much different than those of a veteran player and this will be factored in to the development of individualized player plans.*

*The Sarnia Legionnaires is proud to partner with The WorkPlace to assist players in developing a future plan. Many of our young hockey players dream of moving up to the next level of play. For some, that is a dream we can help them reach, but for many, their competitive careers often end at the Junior level of play. We want these young men to be ready to move forward in a positive way by developing a Plan B, whereby they are not moving on to play hockey based on limited opportunities, injury, skill level or any one of the many reasons that limit access to such a competitive level of play. While we are preparing our players to succeed academically with our SAT program, we are also preparing our players to be ready to move directly into the world of work, should that be the best path available to them. Players have been working with staff from The WorkPlace, who have volunteered much of their time to assist in this valuable program. As Directors of the Sarnia Legionnaires hockey club, we feel privileged to be working with a professional organization such as The WorkPlace, who are providing off ice coaching and career direction for our young players.*

*I do this because it is a necessity, I get out of the house, I love seeing the kids faces...even if it is freezing cold outside, the other day a man brought me a coffee, the lady across the street brings me a thermos of tea...and then I go home and get a hug and kiss from my wife and all is right with the world...she is dying to go to Ireland...but we don't have that kind of money."*

*ENCOURAGING. . . .our clients*

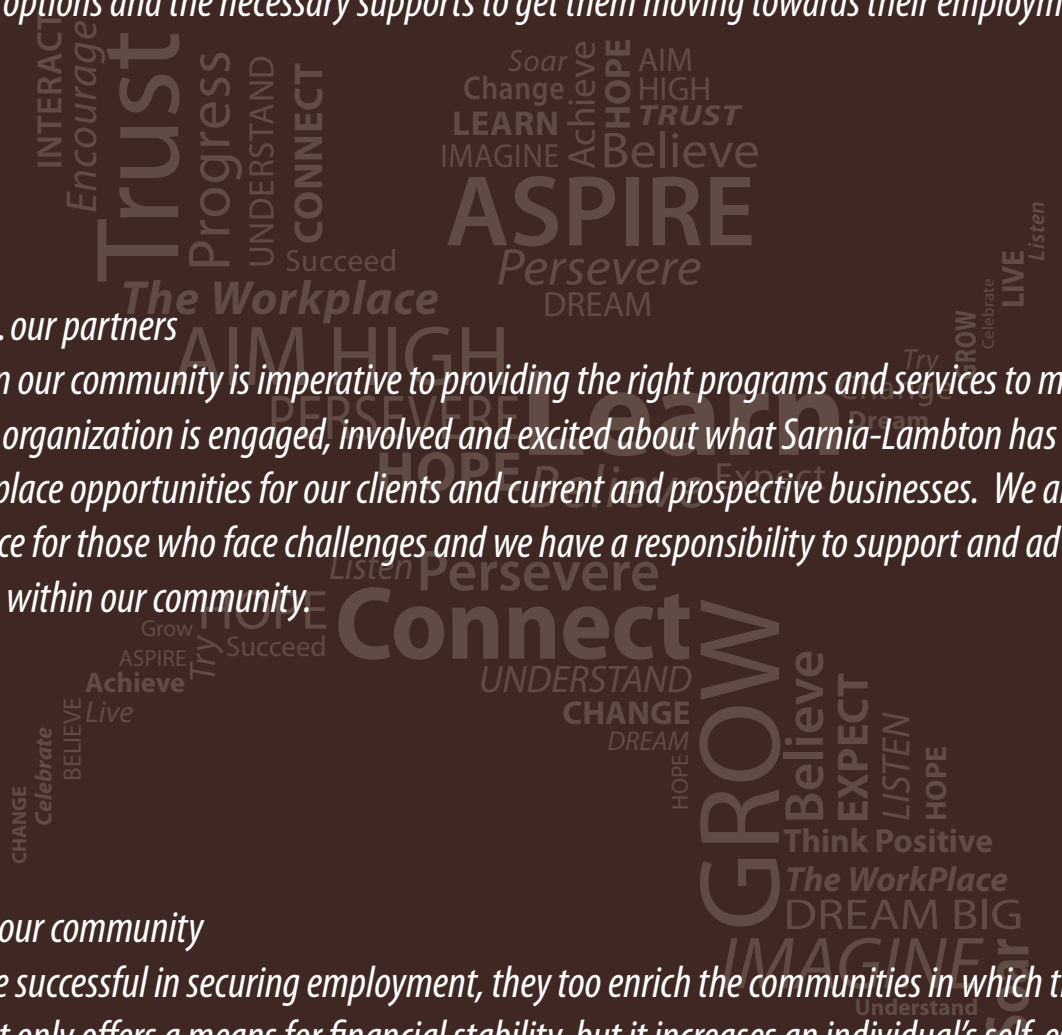
*Unemployment brings a host of challenges to individuals and it often affects an individual's sense of value. Our programs and services are all offered in an encouraging and respectful environment, to support clients in a positive way. Each client has individual goals and aspirations as well as personal challenges to meet. Our counseling staff takes great pride in thoroughly assessing each client's circumstances and providing them with a variety of options and the necessary supports to get them moving towards their employment goals.*

*ENGAGING. . . . .our partners*

*Being engaged in our community is imperative to providing the right programs and services to meet our local needs. Our organization is engaged, involved and excited about what Sarnia-Lambton has to offer in the way of workplace opportunities for our clients and current and prospective businesses. We are often the collective voice for those who face challenges and we have a responsibility to support and advocate for positive changes within our community.*

*ENRICHING. . . . .our community*

*When clients are successful in securing employment, they too enrich the communities in which they live. Employment not only offers a means for financial stability, but it increases an individual's self-esteem, confidence and ability to participate more fully as members of our community. Our business clients are enriched with opportunities to provide employment, mentor employees and access supports to assist them with their Human Resource needs, to meet their company objectives.*



INTERACT  
Encourage  
**Trust**  
Progress  
UNDERSTAND  
CONNECT  
Succeed  
*The Workplace*  
ASPIRE  
Persevere  
DREAM  
AIM HIGH  
PERSEVERE  
HOPE  
Believe  
Expect  
Listen  
Persevere  
Connect  
Grow  
ASPIRE  
Try  
Succeed  
Achieve  
Live  
BELIEVE  
Celebrate  
CHANGE



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