“Real” work brings a richness and fullness to our lives in so many ways. Contributing gifts and talents, making friends, personal and professional growth opportunities, and a good reputation are all important potential benefits gained from valued work. Employment has largely been unavailable to people with significant developmental disabilities or mental health issues. New ideas and new thinking are helping us learn to make room for people with disability in the workforce, and this is an exciting area where change is brewing.

Join us for an event exploring powerful ideas and principles that can assist people with disabilities to enjoy all the benefits of authentic work roles.

REAL WORK, REAL LIVES, AND REAL CONTRIBUTION:
An exploration of what “works” in supported employment for people with developmental disabilities

Join us in laying groundwork for new ideas, inclusive strategies, and creative planning. Learn about some major building blocks of successful supported employment practice, and help adapt these ideas to Indian realities:

Day 1: Examine job seekers’ interests, talents and relevant work conditions, performing personalized job development and job negotiation with employers. Appreciate the relevance of SRV as a theory of practice – designing opportunities for image and competency enhancement, analysis of service strengths and areas needing improvement, discerning preferred options, and refining the role of employee. Time for reflection on the potential application of each idea base in India, potential cultural and local adaptations, and ideas of how to weave strategy into practice will be built into the day as we think about application.

March 28 (optional): Meet with organizational leaders and planners for recommendations, specific consultation and next steps.

Who Should Attend?
• People/organizations currently involved in employment initiatives which have a genuine interest in inclusive practice and everyday lives for those with disabilities
• Organizations with some knowledge of and interest in Social Role Valorization
• Those with influence over employment service design and operations
• Those working directly in the lives of people with disability

Leaders in Inclusion, Milton Tyree and Hope Leet Dittmeier, lead an interactive experience focused on changing the conversation.

Delhi NCR
MARCH 27, 2018
9:30 AM – 4:30PM
LOCATION: TBA
REAL WORK, REAL LIVES, AND REAL CONTRIBUTION:
An exploration of what “works” in supported employment for people with developmental disabilities

Leaders in Inclusion, Milton Tyree and Hope Leet Dittmeier, guide an interactive, workshop experience focused on changing the conversation.

Milton’s work is centered on people with disabilities’ access to participation in valued aspects of everyday life. Over the last 35 years his area of interest has been the ongoing struggle around people with disabilities and meaningful employment.

In 1981 Milton helped develop and direct Community Employment, Kentucky’s first supported employment program. He championed the development of a curriculum for Kentucky supported employment providers in 1988. His present work at the University of Kentucky’s Human Development Institute is focused on leadership development. He directed the Supported Employment Training Project, Putting Faith to Work Initiative, Community Work Transition Program, the “Belonging in the Community” Initiative and the Kentucky Public School Integration Transition Project.

His employment efforts have also been strongly influenced by the work of the late Wolf Wolfensberger. Milt has written about implications of Dr. Wolfensberger’s Social Role Valorization (SRV) theory for employment services and developed an SRV derived supported employment leadership event. He is currently an associate with Marc Gold & Associates.

Milt also consults with congregational members and clergy for the Presbyterian Church (USA) about benefits of inclusive faith communities. He lives in Louisville with his wife, Vicky, and daughter, Kaylyn, a University of Louisville student.

At a young age, Hope worked at an institution for people with disabilities. That experience fueled her passion for 35 years to identify and create options for people with disabilities to enjoy a lifestyle and quality of life that matches that of valued citizens.

A major influence on Hope’s work has been her sister-in-law, Ann, who despite a disability diagnosis and dire predictions at birth, has enjoyed the good of life – being an employee, homeowner, aunt, neighbor, honored volunteer, friend, choir member, and more.

Hope’s professional focus is helping people enjoy the good things of life – being a valued family member, working, having a nice home, making choices for ourselves, having and being a good friend, growing into our best selves, making a difference in the world, having a good reputation, and participating in community life. While this appeals to our common sense, it can be contradictory to the way many services are designed and carried out.

Hope holds a Master’s degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Kentucky. She has served as Family Support Specialist, a regional planner, founder and CEO of a small organization that provided customized supports, and international trainer and consultant working primarily in Ireland and Canada. As the current Executive Director of Mattingly Edge, she leads an effort to transform the organization from a large legacy day program to providing integrated and individualized supports helping people live, work, and learn along side their neighbors in community.