

JUST ONE THING

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Company/Organization: Kennebunk Savings

Type of Organization: For profit

Number of Employees: 330

Category: Workplace

Challenge or Opportunity: People who have experienced domestic abuse often face challenges rebuilding their lives. Organizations like Caring Unlimited and Haven assist with shelter and resources, but finding employment after trauma can be a challenge. Our opportunity was to develop a model to provide resources and support necessary to transition back to stable employment.

Approach or Solution: As a large employer in the community, we knew we could provide job opportunities, but added education and mentorship, as well as flexible hours. Free classes and experienced mentors help survivors build a professional skillset. The goal is provide a robust career springboard, and not just a job. (GO stands for "Great Opportunities!")

Impact: 5 years in, we've helped many individuals transition back into the workforce. Happily, many are still working here, thriving and developing in their careers. Providing a clear path to a professional career with good pay and benefits has made a difference but we have benefited, too, gaining exceptional coworkers with unique perspective and empathy.