

## *Long-term employment, career development using the integrative model at Shekulo Tov Group, Israel*

**Irad Eichler**

Shekulo Tov Group, Israel

### *Abstract*

Research shows that the extent of employment mobility among people with psychiatric disabilities is low, even though most of them want and can work. While supported employment has significantly improved competitive work outcomes throughout the world, it leads to sustained work in only 25-35% of persons with psychiatric disabilities, while most persons lose jobs within a few weeks/months after beginning them or never obtain competitive work. Shekulo Tov is a non-profit organization and a service supplier for the Israeli Ministry of Health for more than 3,000 service users. Shekulo Tov's Integrative Unit Model represents an essential change of perception vis-à-vis vocational rehabilitation. It is a formative shift from the two sequential approaches of "train, then place" or "place then train" to a simultaneous approach of "train & place". The model's development led to the formation of the Shekulo Tov Group which operates a number of businesses and organizations as "integrative units" based in the community, who all embedded the model. Among Shekulo Tov Group businesses: Rebooks (second-hand bookshops), Good Coffee (cafes), and God Dog (dogwalkers). The Integrative Unit Model successfully transitioned more than 25% of service users from vocational rehabilitation to open labor market placements. The Model has reduced service users' preparative vocational training for open labor market placement from four years to 20 months. Job applicants are offered vocational rehabilitation, skills and career development, training programs and necessary preparation and support to measure their vocational progress.



### *Biography:*

Irad Eichler founded "Shekulo Tov Group" in 2005. Shekulo Tov Group is a non-profit organization for vocational recovery. Shekulo Tov Group developed the Integrative Model and was awarded the "Project Zero" prize for impactful social enterprises in 2017, categorized under Innovative Practice 2017 on Employment, Work and Vocational Education & Training. He is also the Founder of "7 Chairs", a platform for text support groups and the Founder of "Israeli Social Business School" and a Podcaster. He was announced by the world economic forum as a Social Entrepreneur of the Year 2008.

[6<sup>th</sup> Global Experts on Parkinsons and Movement Disorder; Webinar- July 01-02, 2020.](#)

### Abstract Citation:

Irad Eichler, Long-term employment, career development using the integrative model at Shekulo Tov Group, Israel, Euro Parkinsons 2020, 6<sup>th</sup> Global Experts Meeting on; October 21-22, 2020- Webinar  
<https://parkinsonscongress.neurologyconference.com/abstract/2020/long-term-employment-career-development-using-the-integrative-model-at-shekulo-tov-group-israel>