



# PRESS RELEASE

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## JET ANNOUNCES HIRING OF CHRISTIE SANDNAS AS CAREER COUNSELOR

JET, which serves adults, dislocated workers, public assistance recipients, and youth ages 14+ on career paths to employment in a seven-county area of Northeast Minnesota welcomes Christie Sandnas. Christie was hired as a Career Counselor serving MFIP clients in JET's Virginia, MN office.



JET's Executive Director, Marie Domiano, recently announced that JET has hired a new Career Counselor, Christie Sandnas, for the Virginia, MN, office. Domiano explains that Christie "...will be working full-time, with her primary program being MFIP. She comes to us with an energy and passion for serving and counseling individuals and families who face the greatest barriers. Christie brings a wholistic perspective and the ability to build strong, positive relationships. We are very excited for her to join our team!"

When Christie was asked why she chose JET she told us, "I feel that JET aligns with my own principles of helping people look for employment and becoming established and financially independent. I want to get to know the person/family so I can understand where they are coming from and where they want to go and be able to give them references for places that can further guide and help them."

Educational Qualifications: Christie has a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services from Rasmussen College Online and an AAS in Human Services from Minnesota North College.

Christie describes her employment history as "selflessly striving to help others obtain basic human needs doing whatever I can, including finding loopholes to lift others up and help them find their path to a beautiful life. Teaching people to tackle stumbling blocks by turning them into stepping stones. I never take my past for granted because it helped to shape me into the person I am today, strong, determined, and knowledgeable, and I want to pass that onto others. I have been on the other side of this desk as a single mom receiving welfare benefits and living in public housing. I want to help others who are in that position receive guidance, grace, and dignity while finding a solution and taking action to live a better life. Her past co-workers would say that she's "kind, helpful, very organized, and a hard worker and that she needs to learn to advocate for herself like she does for others and stop worrying all the time."

When not at JET you'll find Christie as a vendor in many craft shows, junking, or in her craft room making treasures while watching Hallmark movies or listening to Keith Urban and 80's rock. Most Mondays she'll arrive to work with fingers that are burned, cut, stained, or glued together. Her self-care involves saving a bunch of money for a full Keith Urban experience including travel, front row seats that she calls "emotional support concert tickets" and buying all his merch. Next adventure dated February 21, 2025 in VEGAS!! The rest of the time you can find Christie spending time with her life partner, Jeff, daughter Kyra 24, son Brett 21, yellow lab Jake Ryan (think Sixteen Candles), and their Main Coon Cat Sisu. She also loves reading fiction about ghosts/paranormal, and murder. A book she's read THREE times, an "amazing story" that she highly recommends, "The World of The Gateway" series by EE Holmes. In the Summer you can also find Christie floating in her backyard pool and spending whole days on her side-by-side trail riding in the woods and eating at little bar restaurants along the way. To "fave food?" Christie says, "depends upon circumstances and the city I'm in but pizza is always good." Her personal motto comes from quotes she's saved, "Rebellion and spite fuel my soul," "You absolutely must choose yourself this time.," and "The left lane is for crime and the people who have ticket money (as in speeding)."

Celebrating almost 50 years in workforce development, JET serves job seekers including dislocated workers, people wishing to enter or re-enter the workforce, adults interested in training and education and youth ages 14-24. Services include career planning and exploration, personalized job search strategies, funding for postsecondary education, and financial resources to support job search activities. JET is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. For more information about JET find us at [www.nemojt.org](http://www.nemojt.org). For questions about this news release please contact: Marie Domiano, Executive Director, at [Marie.Domiano@nemojt.org](mailto:Marie.Domiano@nemojt.org)