

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Entrepreneurs Launch Professional Career Services for Adults with Autism**

July 29, 2022, Hobe Sound, Florida Approximately 80% of adults who have Autism are unemployed, which was the exact statistic that propelled two entrepreneurs, Kathryn Kerrigan and Michael Atkins, to create Work Force Match, Inc. Work Force Match, Inc. is an innovation solution combined with professionals that provides job and career support for those with Autism while in parallel, increasing the rights for those with Autism (or who may be on the spectrum). By consulting Corporations, Work Force Match Assists Employers meet the organization's diversity, equity and inclusion programs while also providing an opportunity for those with ASD to be part of the community.

The idea has been a goal of Kathryn Kerrigan's for many years and is based on her own personal experience in the field and countless friends. Ms. Kerrigan, once diagnosed with Asperger's (outdated terminology), always knew she was a bit different in social and work settings. "Most people are shocked when I mention it," says Ms. Kerrigan. As CEO of Work Force Match, Inc. Her background includes CEO of Al software development company, UnKommon Revolution, executive leadership at Royal Caribbean and BrandsMart USA and the founder of Kathryn Kerrigan Footwear, one of the first .com fashion footwear companies. Given her technology background, Kathryn recognized many of her team members fell somewhere within the spectrum.

After meeting Michael Atkins, Executive Chairman Work Force Match, Inc., the idea came to fruition. His background includes Chairman and CEO of Amaxven, a Hobe Sound-based Management Consulting and Investment firm, their like-minded business attitudes developed Work Force Match. Atkins recalled a family member working in the school system and recalls the brilliance and tragedy of unsupported autistic students. Atkins' advises boards of directors, executives, and investors in transition. He developed and managed executive transition services, staffing and recruiting systems for global organizations SWIFT banking network and Lockheed Martin aerospace.

Work Force Match provides solutions that support autistic job seekers navigate the employment search and application process while effectively communicating their skills and abilities to prospective employers. Additional career development services provided by Work Force Match include detailed assessment, career coaching, access to webinars, candidate profile, career plan and general employee development, training, and mentorship.

As stated by Mr. Atkins, "We want to encourage candidates with ASD to enter the workforce in a supportive way that develops their confidence. We all have brilliant talents - let use them."

Work Force Match is recruiting candidates and employers in the South Florida region. To learn more about the company or to sign up as a candidate or employer, please visit WFMatch.com.

## **Employment Statistic for Autistic Adults**

The National Autism Society statistics show that about 16% of autistic adults, including people with Asperger's syndrome, are in full-time paid employment and only 32% are in paid work, but 77% of unemployed autistic adults want to work. Our mission is to improve this situation.

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