

How to Make Ends Meet on the Road to Recovery



A person in recovery usually has to recover from more than just alcohol and drug addiction. Recovery could also mean hitting the reset button on life and starting anew. Many addicts lose their jobs when addiction takes control and getting back on the horse means getting back to a productive and responsible life. After all, the bills don't pay themselves. Thanks to today's sharing economy, you have options that can make that [transition](#) easier.

Jobs aren't always easy to come by, and the career you once knew might not be ready to take you back. As you enter back into sobriety, apply to every job you can, even the ones you don't think you'll get. There's a [job out there](#) for everyone. Apply like it's your full-time job to find a full-time job.

In the meantime, you'll need money to get you by until a more permanent career lands on your lap. Luckily, the gig economy has made it possible to start your own small business from scratch with minimal overhead or startup costs. Successful solopreneurs have certain [qualities](#) in common, like tenacity, problem solving, and the ability to adapt. If you can tap into your inner boss and use these skills, the opportunities to start an enjoyable, profitable gig are just about endless. Here are just a few [fulfilling ways](#) to make ends meet while you're searching for that first job opportunity.

1. Pet Sitting

If you're a [pet lover](#), pet sitting should be a no brainer. While others are too busy to take care of their pets, you could be picking up the slack, loving on pets, and getting paid for it. It's a win-win for everyone. Being around pets can be beneficial for someone in recovery. They're known to elevate moods, ease loneliness, and bring joy. You get to reap the benefits of spending time with pets without the long-term responsibility of owning one.

Pet sitting could either be drop-in visits, daily dog walks or overnight care. Some owners will want you to come to their house while others might want to leave their pet with you. Start your service by joining a pet sitting sites such as Care, Wag or Rover. If you build up your clientele, it could eventually turn into a full-time job.

2. Crafting

If you're a crafty person who paints, sews, sculpts, or welds, you can [sell your goods](#) on Etsy. Etsy is the largest online marketplace for handmade and vintage wares. You can sell just about any handmade item from clothing to bath products to furniture. The plus side is that you get to set your own prices, but the flipside is that you'll have to run a business. Running an Etsy shop means promoting your work, making your crafts, handling customer service and shipping products to customers. It can be a lot of work at first, but successful Etsy sellers put in the hard work and make it their full-time income.

[Be realistic](#) of the results that you could achieve. Most Etsy sellers don't reach full-time status, but the ones who do have quality products, consistent service and good photos. For naturally gifted artists, crafting is the easy part. Getting the business off the ground

and dealing with unsatisfied customers is the hard part. But what you put into it is what you'll get out of it.

3. Teaching music

If you're musically gifted, [teaching music](#) might be your jam. Look up your local music schools to see if they are hiring teachers, or post an ad online for your services. Some parents love the convenience of having their kids' lessons at home, so you might want to consider offering in-home lessons. It's a drive for you, but it means you don't have to make your home presentable for students. You can also teach students online through video chat if they don't live near you. Get exposure to potential clientele by posting popular song covers or instrumental tutorials on YouTube.

These three are just a few of many gigs that can help you get started until you're fully back on your feet. Sometimes they can even turn into full-time income, and you won't have to go back to working for someone else. Workplace stress can be a trigger for those new to recovery, so being self-employed might be ideal. As you head back to work after recovery, be sure to lean on the coping skills you've learned to help navigate stress and stick to your sobriety.

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