

2011 UCEDD TA Institute

Critical Issues in Disability Breakout: Employment

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What efforts are happening in your state?

- Kansas: Employment First legislation
- IN: acknowledged as a goal
- Virgin Islands – big need
- DC – Project Search (work with DOL) moving away from “mop & broom”
- CA – DD Council established Project Search Coordinator with experience in HR. Trying to shift away from charity model
- LA – SELN working with state DD agency
 - working toward employment 1st
 - work with Medicaid infrastructure grant (MIG)
 - training Voc Rehab counselors/case managers (Medicaid)
 - Post secondary Ed
 - Dept. of Juvenile Justice in inner city schools in New Orleans
- MA – work program through Children’s Hospital
 - College of Direct Support – 2nd component on employment supports with U of MN (timed with AFP)
 - Worked with providers on definitions of employment supports
- GA – MIG on employment supports
 - Peer-run supported employment
 - Project search
 - Employment 1st out of P&A
- AZ – AZ is the Project Search Coordinator
 - Job coach training
 - Linkages (partnership with car dealership) business model/UCEDD on the board

Are there projects we can collaborate on?

- Employment outcome part of TPSID → not just work; a career
- Part of Olmstead implementation, but needs to build capacity
- Training to job coaches
- Partner with self advocates (they expect to go to work)
- DOJ work with CMS
- Work with DOE/Public Health
- DOL has youth money
- Local levels
- TACE (Voc Rehab training)

What areas can we enhance of focus/leverage our efforts?

- Encourage CMS to incentivize employment
- Highlight return of investment on Supported employment
- Highlight impact on family
- Highlight impact on cost/health benefits and other indicators (tie to health care)
- UCEDD sponsored work at AFP
- Career trajectory – easy on, easy off to assist development