

ABSTRACT: Partnership Building

ISSUE

Fragmentation, overlap and difficulties in accessing employment services and supports prevent many New Yorkers with disabilities from obtaining job training and employment services they want and need.

GOAL #2

Improve knowledge, capacity and collaborations that enable employment services providers (“supply side”) to increase competitive employment outcomes for people with disabilities.

RATIONALE

Navigating the employment systems in New York State is a challenge. Beneficiaries who experience multiple barriers to employment may find it difficult to know which providers offer what services, which systems support employment or even what their options are. Building upon existing partnerships with state agencies, peer run organizations, and other disability service providers, outcomes expected to be achieved this year under goal two include the following:

- Improve opportunities for people with disabilities to successfully compete for and obtain state and local government jobs using best and promising practices
- Increase beneficiary ability to make informed employment choices utilizing customized employment approaches
- Ensure continuous learning exchange and employment programs quality improvement
- Improve use of peer support model to encourage employment and economic empowerment
- Develop and pilot test strategies to improve work and self-sufficiency outcomes for traditionally underserved groups
- Utilize One Stop services and local DPN’s to navigate system
- Increase universe of Employment Networks available throughout NYS

STATUS

Replication and expansion of customized and entrepreneurial projects are underway and will include underserved populations in new regions across the state. Follow up from 2009 learning communities is underway as well as collaborations with various disability service providers. EN Forums and community of practice will be established.

For more information call the toll free Technical Assistance number:

1-888-224-3272 voice, 1-877-671-6844 TDD or visit <http://www.NYMakesWorkPay.org>.

2010 KEY IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

- Utilize Customized Employment and Supported Employment models to increase employment outcomes
- Continue to support demonstration sites while expanding in other regions to develop and sustain customized employment practices
- State agencies implement a redirection of resources to support integrated employment outcomes
- Individuals with disabilities served by one-stops gain greater access to employment opportunities through strengthening role and effectiveness of DPN
- Create self help guides to provide WIIN network members tools they can use when responding to FAQ’s of beneficiaries negotiating the path to employment
- Develop training materials for consumers, families and service providers to make better decisions regarding peer supports for employment
- Build EN capacity through training and systems throughout NYS

PARTNERS

- MISCC EC** – Most Integrated Settings Coordinating Council Employment Committee
- VESID** – Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities
- OMRDD** – Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
- OMH** – Office of Mental Health
- OASAS** – Office on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services
- VA** – Division of Veterans Affairs
- CBVH** – Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped
- DOL** – Department of Labor
- DOH** – Department of Health
- OTDA** – Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance