



Protection & Advocacy Entities (P&A)

Summative Assessment (September 2020-July 2021)
Individual Grantee Profiles

Overview of P&As and Their Roles in Promoting Competitive, Integrated Employment (CIE)

To inform the direction of the TA Center, the project team conducted quantitative and qualitative analysis as part of the landscape assessment that identified current P&A initiatives pertaining to CIE and areas of further development. Key highlights include:

Strengths

- Providing information referrals and self-advocacy assistance to individuals with disabilities and their families
- Providing trainings and coaching on effective self-advocacy with employers and colleagues in the workplace
- Possessing legal expertise that influences and informs public policy reform and policy guidance at the state level

Challenges

- Balancing dual roles with state entities and employers of building relationships with these stakeholders while acknowledging that these stakeholders may be on the opposing side of future legal cases from P&As
- Building relationships with other stakeholders such as state Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), school districts, or Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) authorities that may be hesitant to collaborate with a legal entity
- Addressing capacity, resource, and bandwidth challenges
- Combatting societal impressions from some family members and stakeholders against CIE that impedes the legal efforts of P&As

TA Center Offerings Targeted towards P&As

The TA Center's team provided the following offerings targeted towards P&As:

- P&A Resource #1: Legal Foundations Supporting Employment of People with Disabilities
- P&A Resource #2: Why Disability Rights Organizations Should Undertake Systemic Reform Initiatives to Promote CIE

The TA Center plans to launch another RISE e-learning community, Walking the Walk: Prioritizing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Organizational Culture and Programming to Support People of Color with Disabilities Achieve Maximum CIE, which will be open to P&As.



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P&A Participation in TA Center Activities

- **73 individuals affiliated with 27 P&As** have participated in at least one national Community of Practice (CoP) webinar between March and July 2021
- P&As with the **highest attendance at CoP webinars** included:
 - Disability Rights Michigan (5 webinars)
 - Georgia Advocacy Office (4 webinars)
 - Disability Law Center of Alaska (3 webinars)
 - Disability Law Colorado (3 webinars)
 - Disability Rights New Jersey (3 webinars)
 - Disability Rights Texas (3 webinars)
- The following P&As participated in the Results & Innovation in Systems Excellence (RISE) Peer Action Learning Community, **Building Back Better: Reinventing Our Approach to CIE**, that was open to all AoD grantees:
 - Disability Rights New Jersey
 - Disability Law Center of Alaska
 - Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program
 - Georgia Advocacy Office