



# DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT TA CENTER

## DETAC Monthly Newsletter

Issue 7 | December 2021

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### Happy Holidays:

On behalf of the DETAC Project Team, we would like to wish you and your stakeholders a wonderful holiday season and a healthy, happy New Year! We look forward to remaining engaged with our stakeholders throughout 2022 as we stay focused to increase competitive, integrated employment and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities across the country!

## Reminder: Check out DETAC's 20 Resources!

The DETAC published 20 resources during the first year! There are resources for the following grantees: Centers for Independent Living, Councils on Developmental Disabilities, Protection and Advocacy Entities, University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education and Research, and Traumatic Brain Injury Programs, including resources for self-advocates and families.

Check out the publications here: [HERE](#)

## Taking Advantage of AoD TA-on-Demand

Need advice from a Subject Matter Expert? Do you and your stakeholders have a need to support and further progress in your work to advance competitive, integrated employment for people with disabilities? Reach out! Send your requests directly to the AoD Disability Employment TA center at [AoDEmploymentTA@gmail.com](mailto:AoDEmploymentTA@gmail.com) or fill out the form [here](#).

## DETAC's National Monthly Webinars & "Office Hours with the Experts"

The Center hosts monthly national webinars on the second Tuesday of every month from 3:00-4:30 p.m. ET. "Office Hours with the Experts" are held on the 2nd Friday of every month from 12:00 noon-1:30 p.m. ET. The Office Hours are an opportunity for AoD grantees to further engage directly with subject-matter experts who participated in the last monthly national webinar to seek advice on specific projects, troubleshoot challenges that have arisen with employment systems-change work, and brainstorm or get feedback on new ideas that you are contemplating. We encourage all of AoD's grantee network and DETAC's national Community of

Practice to take advantage of our monthly webinars and the subsequent office hours to help inform your ongoing work to improve CIE outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

## Monthly CoP Webinars: Coming up in January:

[Employment First 2.0: Developing a Foundation for Excelling Systems Change Efforts through Legislative Action](#)

**Webinar: Date:** January 11, 2022 | **Time:** 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm EST

**Office Hours: Date:** January 14, 2022 | **Time:** 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm EST

### **Description:**

Come join us and learn how a Center for Independent Living, Able-South Carolina has worked with stakeholders to advance legislation supporting the phase-out of 14(c) sheltered work options for individuals with disabilities. Additionally, you will hear from a self-advocate that was formerly in a sheltered workshop for over ten years and how competitive, integrated employment has provided meaning and purpose to her life. The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities will also share their experience with proposing and passing legislation to fully abolish the use of 14(c) sheltered work in California, in addition to sharing how they worked with another AoD grantee, Disability Rights California to advance the legislative efforts to end sheltered work and increase competitive, integrated employment.

Registration at: <https://bit.ly/DETAC-CoP-Jan-11-2022>

## In Case You Missed Them Live

### **Making Work Incentives Work for People with Disabilities: Developing Quality Employment and Benefits Counseling Programs December 14, 2021**

Here is the link to the recording: <https://youtu.be/inKhpitW2IU>

**Webinar:**           **Date:** December 14, 2021 | **Time:** 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm EST  
**Office Hours:**   **Date:** December 17, 2021 | **Time:** 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm EST

On the heels of last month's content-rich webinar on how AoD grantees can promote the Financial Wellness of individuals with disabilities, we heard from many of you asking for us to take a deeper dive into tackling the complexities around work incentives and benefits planning. So, ask and you shall receive! Participants heard how AoD grantees are building their internal competencies and partnering with other entities to assure that jobseekers and workers with disabilities are accessing accurate information and taking full advantage of work incentives available to them via Social Security. Participants heard from grantees who have become Employment Networks (ENs) to support individuals through the Ticket to Work program, grantees who are offering various levels of benefits planning as a service to individuals with disabilities, and others who are pushing for improved systems, policies, and funding to assure greater access of people with disabilities to high-quality benefits planning.

### **Leap into a World of Financial Capability by Supporting Individuals with Disabilities to Obtain Financial Literacy Skills November 9, 2021**

Here is the link to the recording: <https://youtu.be/seqvOio9ACo>

More than 1150 people registered, and closer to 600 participated in this webinar, Leap into a World of Financial Capability by Supporting Individuals with Disabilities to Obtain Financial Literacy Skills. As individuals with disabilities are considering competitive, integrated employment (CIE) options, grantees have identified the significant barriers and grave concerns that people with disabilities and their families have about the financial ramifications of obtaining CIE. This webinar showcased

promising practices in supporting individuals with disabilities conduct strong benefits planning, take advantage of financial literacy tools and resources, build assets, and achieve optimal economic advancement, thus making the dream of CIE become a reality.

**Celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month by Reflecting Upon the Importance of Including and Supporting Individuals with Disabilities in America's Workforce**  
**October 12, 2021**

Here is the link to the recording: <https://youtu.be/7PQq1FJATis>

Close to 500 participants joined the DETAC as we celebrated the importance of including individuals with disabilities in the Nation's workforce. This webinar highlighted the contributions of individuals with disabilities through demonstrating how Centers for Independent Living have supported individuals with disabilities to obtain and maintain competitive, integrated employment through the application of evidence-based practices and other innovative strategies.

**Coming Soon: DETAC Learning Management System**

The AoD Disability TA Center's Learning Management System (LMS) is in the final phases of being completed! The interactive platform will serve as a hub where AoD grantees can complete courses on a variety of topics, receive professional development, participate in peer-learning communities, topical discussions, and download AoD-grantee-specific curriculum and trainings. There will be five courses completed in 2022 focusing on the following: Building a First Class CIL Employment Program, Assistive Technology, and Employment, Councils and Employment, Financial Capability, and Employer Engagement. Once courses are developed, we will begin sending grantees links and options to create accounts.

The Disability Employment TA Center invites you to participate in our National Community of Practice, which will provide access to educational webinars, virtual communications, specific TA events and activities, and informational resources that will be useful across various stakeholders. The goal of hosting a national Community of Practice is to create collaborative learning opportunities for all AoD grantees and other stakeholders who work with AoD grantees to improve competitive, integrated employment outcomes and economic advancement of individuals with disabilities.

## Sign Up for the DETAC Community of Practice

### Follow the Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center on social media:



The Disability Employment TA Center (DETAC) is funded by the Administration on Disabilities, Administration for Community Living. DETAC provides evidence-based training and technical assistance (TA) to the Administration on Disabilities (AoD) grantees aimed at improving competitive, integrated employment (CIE) and economic outcomes for individuals with disabilities across the nation. AoD grantees receiving TA from the Center include Centers for Independent Living (CIL); State Councils on Developmental Disabilities (Councils); University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD); State Protection and Advocacy Systems (P&A); and Traumatic Brain Injury State Partnership Programs (TBI).

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You are receiving this email either because (1) you are a part of AoD Disability Employment TA Center Community of Practice; or (2) you were a part of YES! Center contact list.

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