

# DETAC Quarterly Newsletter Issue 11 October 2022

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#### **Check Out DETAC's New TA Publications!**

### **Building Capacity for Financial Wellbeing**

This brief is a supplement to the Disability and Employment Technical Assistance Center's (DETAC) learning module *Shared Solutions: Improving Results for Financial Wellbeing*. The module consists of three lessons: 1) Building Capacity and Referral Networks, 2) Self-Directed Financial Wellbeing, and 3) Core Planning Components. The purpose of the document is to reinforce financial core planning strategies for people with disabilities through the illustration of three case scenarios of individuals with disabilities.

### **DETAC SELF-EMPLOYMENT BRIEF**

This brief focuses on Self-employment as a critical component of any successful approach to employment support for people with disabilities. It contains examples of the benefits of self-employment and includes success stories from entrepreneurs residing in Rhode Island. Key elements of funding and the necessary partnerships needed to support self-employment are also included in the brief.

## **Engaging Employers: Partnering for Success**

This publication builds upon a previous brief by thoroughly detailing specific action steps that grantees can take to build relationships with new employers and enhance current partnerships with employers by assessing levels of engagement through the five degrees presented in the brief.

We also have additional resources that can be accessed **HERE** 

### **Check Out DETAC's New Podcast!**

#### Don't Be Perfect, Just Be Huge

In this podcast DETAC's Amy Gonzalez talks with Cesilee Coulson and Chisa O'Quinn from the Washington Initiative for Supported Employment, about how they face issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion within their own organization. Grantees can get some ideas of how to tackle this important component internally and for the people of disabilities they support from diverse backgrounds.

## The Business Side of Things, Employment and Brain Injury

This podcast includes a panel discussion from an employer perspective on challenges and successes in acquiring and maintaining employment. National Labor Market trends and practices will be shared as well as challenges that businesses face in hiring and promoting job retention. Suggestions for those who have sustained brain injury related to seeking employment will be discussed, and a personal journey from injury to work will be shared.

## **Check out DETAC's New Blogs!**

## Reflecting Upon a Site Visit from Rhode Island's Self-Employment Initiative in Conjunction with the RIDDC

Check out our recent blog by DETAC's Project Manager Amy Gonzalez, which is a reflection upon the key ingredients that are essential for supporting people with disabilities to achieve self-employment and the hurdles that need to be tackled throughout the planning process.

## A Year in Review: Highlights from the 2021-2022 Disability Employment TA Center (DETAC) Summative Evaluation

Each year DETAC looks back on its accomplishments and progress toward outcomes through a summative evaluation. The DETAC showed tremendous impact across its five channels: National Community of Practice, Results and Innovation in Systems Excellence (RISE) Peer e-Learning Communities, On-Demand TA, Resource Development, and Website and Resource Clearinghouse. The full evaluation report can be found here.

## **Taking Advantage of AoD TA-on-Demand**

Need advice from a DETAC Subject Matter Expert? Do you and your stakeholders have a passion to further advance your work to improve competitive, integrated employment outcomes and/or economic self-sufficiency for people with disabilities? Do you need help establishing partnerships to further advance your work? We encourage you to reach out so we can schedule an initial planning call. Send your requests directly to the AoD Disability Employment TA center at AoDEmploymentTA@gmail.com or fill out the form here.

### **DETAC's National Webinars**

The Center hosts national webinars on the second Tuesday of the webinar month from 3:00-4:00 p.m. ET. We encourage the AoD grantee network and DETAC's national Community of Practice to take advantage of our webinars to help inform your ongoing work to improve CIE outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

## **CoP Webinar Coming up in January**

New Year, New Goals, New Outcomes for Employment!

Webinar: Date: January 10, 2023 | Time: 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm EST

Starting a new year is always a good time for grantees to reflect, self-assess and prioritize new goals for the people we serve. This process can sometimes feel overwhelming when establishing new goals and tracking them to monitor progress. As we kick off the new year, come join the DETAC as we highlight effective strategies and processes in project management to support people with disabilities achieve successful outcomes in employment and community living.

## In Case You Missed Them Live

Thinking Outside the Box: States' Journey in Using American Rescue Plan
Funding to Increase Competitive, Integrated Employment

Here is the link to the recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/n2YsTAMo8Ho">https://youtu.be/n2YsTAMo8Ho</a>

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

During May 2022, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) released a fact
sheet titled Use of American Rescue Plan Section 9817 Funds to Promote

Employment for People with Disabilities. This fact sheet describes the
implementation of the temporary increase in federal funding through the American

Rescue Plan (ARP) aimed at expanding, enhancing, and strengthening competitive,

integrated employment (CIE) opportunities for people with disabilities through Home and Community-Based Services.

In support of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, close to 300 people joined the DETAC as we put a spotlight on three states that implemented creative initiatives with funding to increase CIE options for individuals with disabilities. Attendees learnt how they worked with partners to develop initiatives in their respective state plans combined with innovative proposals to sustain the efforts with funding through additional sources of revenue. Success stories also shared that is inclusive of addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion in underserved communities.

## Taking a Deeper Dive into a Project of National Significance: Community Collaborations for Employment (CCE)

Here is the link to the recording: <a href="https://youtu.be/FbnwrSUO6UY">https://youtu.be/FbnwrSUO6UY</a>

Webinar: Date: September 13, 2022 | Time: 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm EST In 2021, the Administration for Community Living awarded seven grants to support the Community Collaborations for Employment (CCE) Program to help increase and enhance collaborations across systems to maximize a seamless experience for youth with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) as they transition between school and work in the community. The program recognizes that multiple systems each play a role at the community level to ensure that youth with disabilities have the support, services, and resources they need to successfully transition into their post-secondary lives.

The DETAC welcomed three CCE Grantees (Arizona, Kansas, and Massachusetts) as they shared insights about the strategic framework they established to help optimize opportunities for youth with I/DD to achieve competitive integrated employment within Tribal reservations, rural, urban, and suburban communities.

## **Building Relationships: Engaging with Employers to Elevate CIE**

Here is the link to the recording: https://youtu.be/sJDU3xAi-N4

Webinar: Date: August 9, 2022 | Time: 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm EST

DETAC jointly reflected how grantees can strategically engage with employers to foster and promote an environment of shared trust aimed to enhance competitive, integrated employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Webinar participants learnt about The Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a leading source of free, expert and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues. Additionally, two DETAC Subject Matter Experts highlighted innovative strategies to measure the level of current partnership engagement with employers and the impact of your direct and indirect employment services.

#### **DETAC Learning Management System**

## **DETAC Announces the Learning Management System (LMS) Course: Employer Engagement**

We are pleased to announce that DETAC's Learning Management System (LMS) course: Employer Engagement, has launched! The course has three lessons that include a short quiz and a final cumulative quiz. Each quiz requires a 70% score or better to progress to the next lesson.

#### **Lesson Descriptions:**

**Module 1**: Assessing Number of Employer Customers & Levels of Engagement **Module 2**: Five Levels of Engagement and Advancement Within the Levels **Module 3**: Evaluating the Economic Impact and Benefits of Your Employment Program

You can register and take the course by using the following information: If you don't already have an account register on the DETAC website:

- 1. Register **HERE**
- 2. Once complete, you will receive an email to confirm your registration
- 3. Once you activate your account you will be brought to a dashboard

4.	You can click on the Courses link in the menu or the button in the dashboard
	area

5. You can start taking the course: Employer Engagement

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 (ACL.) 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); Traumatic Brain Injury State Partnership Programs (TBI) and Projects of National Significance: Community Collaborations for Employment.

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