



RISE e-Learning Community Summary

Peer Support for Centers for Independent Living (CILs) Building Employment Services

Summary

From February through August 2024, Dr. Lidia Fonseca from the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL), Valley Association for Independent Living (VAIL), and the Texas Association of Centers for Independent Living (TEXCIL), facilitated the Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center (DETAC) Results and Innovation in Systems Excellence (RISE) e-Learning community, Peer Support for CILs Building Employment Services. CILs can impact employment outcomes for the people with disabilities they serve. This peer-to-peer discussion-based community, focused on the successes, struggles, available resources, and hopes that CILs have with or for their current or future employment programs. Each session centered on a specific topic, but also left space for participants to connect with peers, share successes, and troubleshoot around topics most important to them in the moment.

Session Details and Recording Links

- Session 1:** [Getting Ready to Work: Supporting Consumers to Think About and Prepare for Employment](#)
- Session 2:** [Retaining and Maintaining Work: Programs and Skills for Consumers to Succeed in the Workplace](#)
- Session 3:** [Partnerships that Pay](#)
- Session 4:** [It's Not All About the Money: Volunteers, Peers, Job Shadows, and Internships](#)
- Session 5:** [Early Birds Get the Work: Employment and School-aged Programs and Services](#)
- Session 6:** [A Deep Dive into Technology and Employment: Resumes, Networking, and Online Job Searching](#)
- Session 7:** [That's A Wrap](#)

Action Steps Participants are Taking to Build Employment Services

- Developing partnerships to facilitate work-based learning experiences with local businesses or organizations such as learning programs, volunteer activities, and apprenticeships
- Creating structured intake processes for new inquiries about employment services
- Introducing consumers to resources and strategies including virtual job shadowing and reverse job fairs
- Building assessments and trainings tailored to specific age groups and needs
- Developing metrics or indicators to evaluate the effectiveness of employment programs and services

Related Resources

[APRIL Peer Support Opportunities](#)

[Engaging Youth with Disabilities in the Delivery of Pre-Employment Transition Services \(DETAC Resource\)](#)

[Project SEARCH](#)

[Youth as Self-Advocates \(YASA\) Employment Resources](#)

[Career OneStop](#)

[My Perfect Resume](#)

[Native American Disability Law Center Resource: Programs to Help Individuals with Disabilities Return to Work](#)

[Latinos with Disabilities in the United States Understanding and Addressing Barriers to Employment \(World Institute on Disability Resource\)](#)

