

An Introduction and Program Highlights

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VR Leadership





National Disability Employment Awareness Month

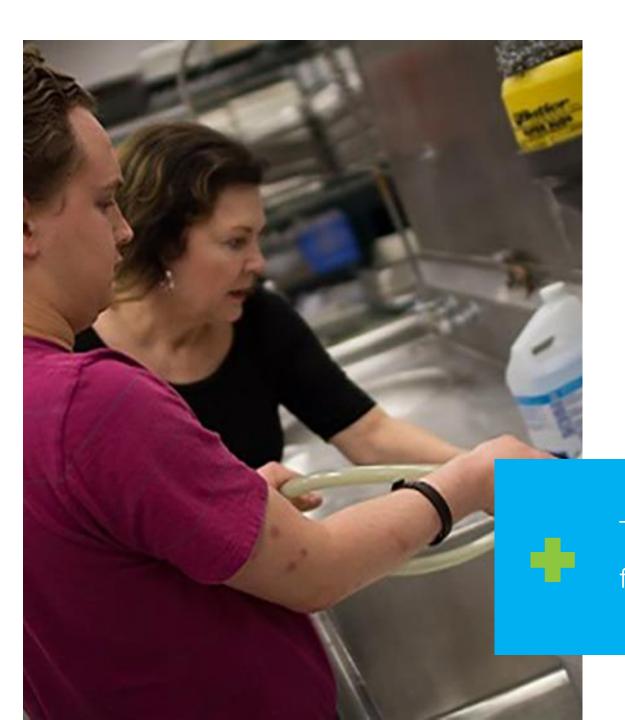
Celebrating 50 years of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

https://www.dol.gov/agencies/odep/initiative
 s/ndeam



# In October, we remember...

- Our Why
- MISSION: Actively engaging with Nevada businesses to understand their employment needs; and creating innovative programs that develop the strengths, priorities and talents of individuals with disabilities; ensuring that Nevada works for everyone.
- VISION: A skilled and inclusive Nevada workforce.
- CORE VALUES:
  - Integrity
  - Respect
  - Commitment
  - Accountability
  - Transparency
  - Optimism



What is the purpose of Vocational Rehabilitation?

To help people with disabilities find jobs.



552+

Clients Achieved Employment



\$15.79+

Average Wage



5,557+

Clients Served

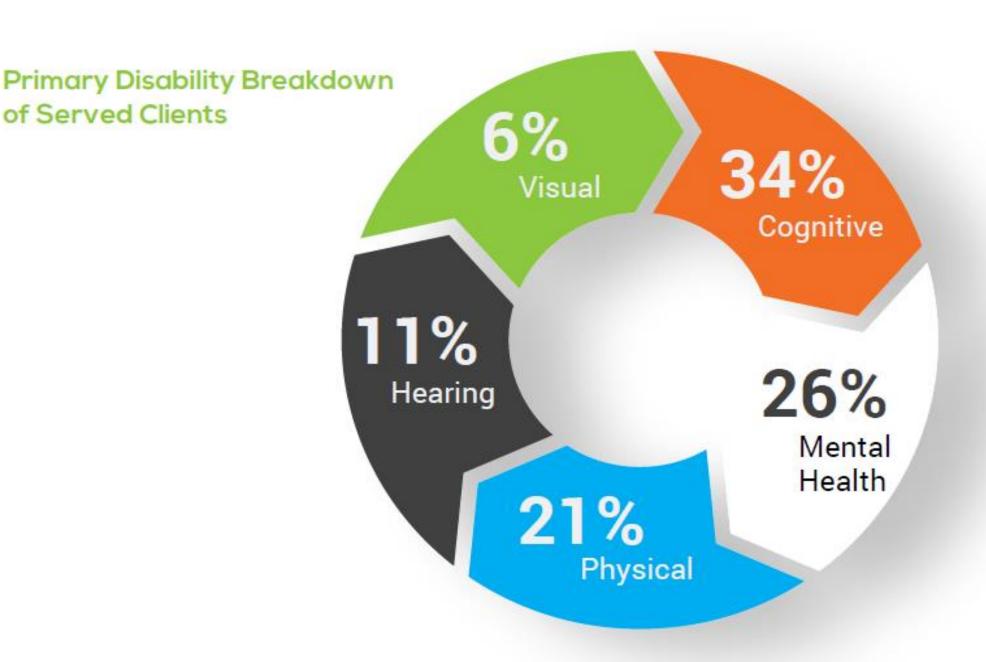


908 days

Average Length of Cases

## **Key Statistics**





## Why?

### **PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

Make up the nation's largest minority group, as well as the only group that <u>any one of us</u> can become a member of at any time.

Number of Working Aged Nevadans with a Disability\*

182,088

Number of Nevadans with a Disability that are Employed\*

75,611

**Employment to Population Ratio\*** 

With any Disability: 41.4%

Without a Disability: 58.9%

Number of Students with disabilities \*

17,000+

## **VR** Customers







5,557
JOB SEEKERS

588
EMPLOYERS

1121 / 63
STUDENTS & SCHOOLS

Every student with a disability must receive:

Instruction in Self Advocacy-Counseling and guidance or trainings on self advocacy skills

required

**Pre-ETS** 

Workplace Readiness-GED prep/testing, transportation training, social skills training, vocational adjustment training, driver education, job skills training, etc.

Work Based Learning-Internships, work experience placements, on the job training,

Career Exploration-Assessments e.g., psychological, personcentered planning, labor market info, job shadowing, Virtual Job Shadow.

Counseling on opportunities for enrollment in comprehensive transition or postsecondary educational programs.



## **OUR PATH** TO PAES

Our overarching vision is a skilled and inclusive Nevada workforce.

WIOA mandate to serve students with a disability.

Reality of limited funding within school districts and the need for innovative, hands-on tools that assess students' aptitude and provide SPED students with access to knowledge and skill development in in demand fields.

"The most data-driven assessment of student work potential, strengths and needs currently available for IEP development and transition planning."

Laura Ramirez, School Psychologist William S Hart Unified School District, Santa Clarita, CA

Dec 15, 2019



### PAES Lab

I believe that data like this will enable us to assist our students in getting where they need to go in the most efficient, straightforward pathway that is highly individualized and the most meaningful to them.

- Donna Olmstead, Principal at Benjamin Banneker Special Education School

Dec 15, 201

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## Who provides the services?



### **Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors**

- Counseling and guidance
- Career Exploration-Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)
- Coordination/payment of goods and services leading to employment
- Services to maintain employment



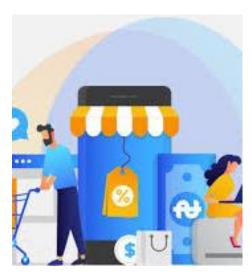




### Vendors paid by the VR Counselor



- **Education and Training**
- Job Development/Job Coaching
- Transportation assistance
- Work clothing/uniforms



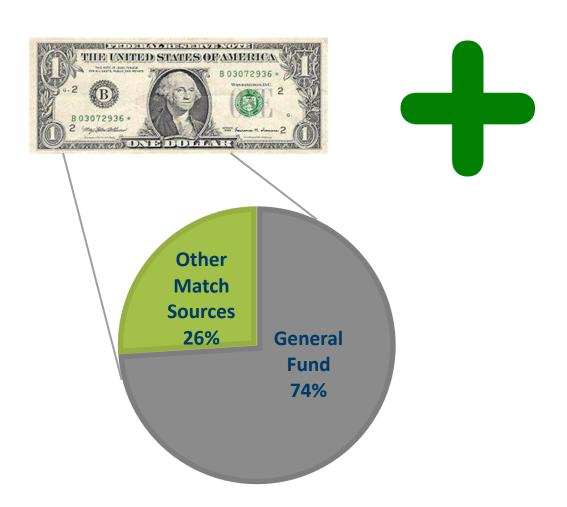


## How Vocational Rehabilitation is Funded

(34 CFR Part 361)

21.3% Non-Federal Match

78.7% Federal Section 110 VR Grant Funds





## Return on Investment (ROI)



# For every \$1 General Fund dollar invested, the State saves \$16.73 over the life of a client.

Study was conducted by internal agency analysts using methodologies developed by sources below. The calculations are in line with the findings of the other national studies on the subject.







## **UPCOMING** PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

## Disability Innovation Fund Grant

- Awarded by RSA
- 20 state VR programs were awarded
- Total of \$199 million in funding for model demonstration projects to support collaboration between state VR agencies, state and local education agencies, CIL's and partner
- Nevada was awarded \$9,964,894.81
- Funds will be used to develop an interactive website and mobile application called "Nevada TRIP-Nevada Transitions Roadmap through Innovative Partnerships Project".
- Create a roadmap tool to provide guidance for the transition process.



### Dear Colleagues

Today, the U.S. Department of Education's (Department) Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) announced it will fund 20 model demonstration projects focused on improving economic self-sufficiency for children and youth with disabilities by creating systemic approaches to enhance post-school outcomes. The nearly \$199 million in funding for the Pathways to Partnerships innovative model demonstration project supports collaborative partnerships between state vocational rehabilitation agencies, state and local educational agencies, and federally funded centers for independent living to help individuals with disabilities seamlessly transition to life after high school, preparing them for independent living, competitive integrated employment and community integration. Pathways to Partnerships is the largest discretionary grant ever administered by RSA.

The Department awarded recipients of the Pathways to Partnership grants the full funding for a five-year project period, meaning successful applicants receive all project funds at the beginning of year one. Through the five-year project period, award recipients will pilot, refine, and implement their proposed projects while also collecting and analyzing project data.

We invite you to join us on this exciting journey. More information about the Disability Innovation Fund and the new Pathways to Partnerships projects can be found by accessing any of the links below.

Link to Press Release: Press Release U.S. Department of Education Career Pathways (ALN 84.421E)

Link to RSA.ED.GOV, Grantee Information: Pathways to Partnerships Grantees (ALN 84.421E)

Link to the National Clearinghouse of Rehabilitation Training Materials (NCRTM), Disability Innovation Fund Page: Disability Innovation Fund (DIF) Programs | NCRTM (ed.gov)



## **Business Recognition Initiative**



WINDOW CLING



**TROPHY** 



**WALL SIGN** 

2023 Employer Recognition Awards Ceremony







Sephora









## TOWN HALL MEETINGS

The State of Nevada, Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation will be conducting town hall meetings to get input from the disability and partner community to inform VR strategic planning for 2024.

Please come and share your ideas, comments or concerns.

NOVEMBER 6, 2023 at 10:30am NOVEMBER 15, 2023 at 5:30pm

### In Person:

1325 Corporate Blvd. in Reno 3016 West Charleston Ste 200 in Las Vegas

### Zoom:

November 6th Meeting ID: 828 3768 5697

Passcode: 023832

November 15th

Meeting ID: 845 3768 3590

Passcode: 532362

**JOB SEEKERS** 

**EMPLOYERS** 

**EDUCATORS** 

**ABOUT US** 

Jobs for Nevadans with disabilities

Find qualified, committed employees

Helping students transition to the workforce

Improve outcomes for students with disabilities

**BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED** A variety of services for eligible individuals

**NEWS & SUCCESS STORIES** 

Real people amazing achievements

Fostering disability inclusion

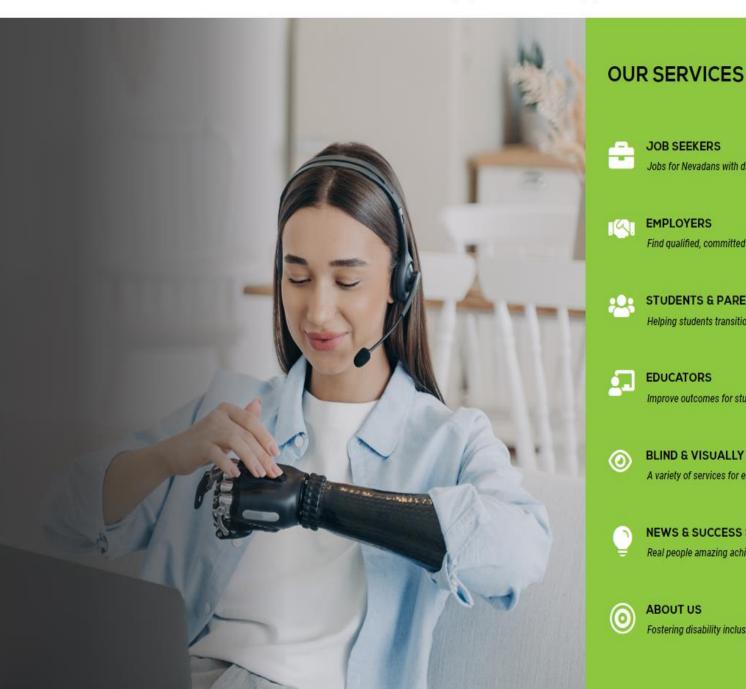
STUDENTS & PARENTS



## NEVADA **VOCATIONAL** REHABILITATION

Transforming people and companies through meaningful employment for Nevadans with disabilities.

APPLY HERE



### **Northern Nevada**

Address	Phone
1933 North Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701 (Carson)	(775) 684-0400
4001 South Virginia Street, Suite H-1, Reno, NV 89509 (Washoe)	(775) 284-9600
1325 Corporate Boulevard, Reno, NV 89502 (Washoe)	(775) 823-8100
2281 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431 (Washoe)	(775) 284-9520

### **Rural Nevada**

Address	Phone
172 6th Street, Elko, NV 89801 (Elko)	(775) 753-1931
475 West Haskell Street, Suite 2, Winnemucca, NV 89445 (Humboldt)	(775) 623-6544
1500 Avenue F, Suite 1, Ely, NV 89301 (White Pine)	(775) 289-1675
121 Industrial Way, Fallon, NV 89406 (Churchill)	(775) 423-6568

### **Southern Nevada**

Address	Phone
3405 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89169 (Clark)	(702) 486-0100
3016 West Charleston, Suite 200, Las Vegas, NV 89102 (Clark) (Humboldt)	(702) 486-5230
4500 E. Sunset Road, Suite 40, Henderson, NV 89014 (Clark)	(702) 486-0300
2827 Las Vegas Boulevard North, North Las Vegas, NV 89030 (Clark)	(702) 486-0200
2827 Las Vegas Boulevard North, North Las Vegas, NV 89030 (Clark)	(702) 822-4214

# VR Office Locations



## Questions

### Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

### **Southern District Office**

3016 W. Charleston Blvd. Ste 210 Las Vegas, NV 89102

(702) 486-5230

www.vrnevada.org

### **Drazen Elez**

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