



Partnership with Vocational Rehabilitation

ADDPC will partner with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) on two employment projects.

Project: Customized Employment
Amount Requested: \$80,000*
Contract Period: TBD

A critical priority for the DES VR is the implementation of Supported and Customized Employment models that result in increased competitive integrated employment opportunities for individuals with significant disabilities. Systemic change across many partners is necessary to effectively implement and sustain employment service models. In order to affect this change, the Arizona VR program has engaged with Workforce Innovation and Technical Assistance Center (WINTAC), Youth Technical Assistance Center (Y-TAC), and Griffin-Hammis staff in a pilot project to train and lead committed stakeholders in Arizona through implementation, initial pilot processes, and development of a sustainable Customized Employment model.

Arizona VR will request \$80,000 to support the development and implementation of a Customized Employment model in Arizona. The amount is anticipated to cover intensive onsite training, mentoring, and attainment of Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators (ACRE) credential (for up to 9 CRP staff), state staff (VR and DDD), and cost of delivering Customized Employment services to six to nine mutual VR/DDD consumers.

Project: Training for Job Coaches and Job Developers and Technical Assistance
Amount Requested: \$50,000*
Contract Period: TBD

The number one request we hear from job coaches nationally, and in Arizona, is the need for training and help through technical assistance to address issues and questions experienced when they implement what they learned in the training. Experience indicates that a multi-phase, hands on, and real-world training and technical assistance model addresses these identified needs. Creating opportunities to come together, share ideas and challenges, and network with others in similar roles through training, on-site visits, and videoconferencing, establishes an extended community of on-going support and assistance for job coaches.

The proposed trainings focus on knowledge gains, resource sharing, problem solving, and intensive skill development related to implementation of supported and customized employment

services. The training will emphasize application of specific techniques in the areas of job development, employer relationships, and job carving. It highlights how the assessment and discovery process contributes to a good job match and the instructional strategies and supports essential for job success after placement. Technical assistance will target implementation strategies and capacity building at local provider sites involving related staff, family members, and individuals with disabilities. VR will utilize the requested \$50,000 to develop and implement a model training program, provide technical assistance, collect data, and evaluate outcomes.

*All details of the two proposed projects and outcomes to be determined and finalized in partnership with VR. Dollar amounts may change.