

Arkansas Department of Career Education

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services

WIOA Partners' Meeting
September 25, 2018
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Arkansas Department of
Career Education

Implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

- Pre-Employment Transition Services
- Access and Accommodations
- Project Search
- Business Engagement



Pre-employment Transition Services

- Inclusion film camp
- Youth Leadership Forum (YLF)
- Restore Hope (Alexander and Dermott)
- Transition Employment Program (TEP)
- ARS is now partnering with local school districts to implement OWL (Opportunities for Work-based Learning)



Pre-employment Transition Services (Inclusion Film Camp)

- Camp for 50 Juniors and Seniors with disabilities
- 2018 was the third year for the Camp
- Provides opportunities for students with disabilities to learn the art and skills required for the film industry
- Students create 3 short (7 minute) films + 3 public Service announcements



Pre-employment Transition Services (Youth Leadership Forum)

- Empowerment
- Recognizing responsibilities and taking action
- Owning their identity to build commitment
- Working on an plan for leadership
- Introduction to leadership in government
- Work-life Balance



Pre-employment Transition Services (Transition Employment Program-TEP)

TEP is a comprehensive four-week program designed to assist high school students with disabilities that have completed the 11th grade in discovering their skills, abilities, interests, strengths, and career goals through extensive assessments, job readiness skills, and an introduction to the world of work.



Pre-employment Transition Services (TEP)

- Collaboration with the Department of Workforce Services to provide (paid) peer mentors for the program
- Pre-employment transition services focused on registered apprenticeship



Pre-employment Transition Services (Opportunities for Work-based Learning)

The OWL program is a partnership between school districts and VR in collaboration with Arkansas Transition Services to create opportunities for students with disabilities to participate in work based learning by providing exposure to the world of work through various experiences

1. On campus work experiences
2. Community work experiences
3. School Based Enterprises
4. Job shadowing, mentoring, volunteering, worksite tours



Pre-employment Transition Services (OWL Accomplishments)

- 388 students participated
- Work totals for students:
 - on campus: 2,301 days (9,536 hours)
 - off campus 1,684 days (6,596 hours)
- 77 students received certificates through ACTI (OSHA, Serve Safe, and Customer Service)



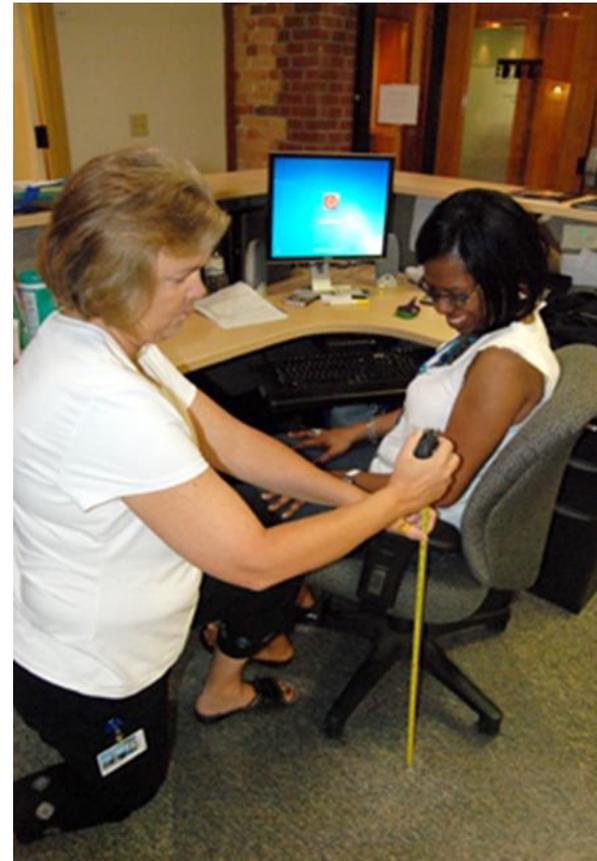
Stay at Work/Return to Work (Description)

This program assists employers and employees by retaining and providing support to employees experiencing difficulties in the workplace due to disabling conditions.



Stay at Work/Return to Work (Services Provided)

- Vocational assessments
- Work site analysis
- Development of SAW/RTW plans
- Accommodation assessments



Stay at Work/Return to Work (Utilization)

- Provided support to 237 individuals in their workplaces
- Worked with 126 different employers



Project Search (Description)

Project Search is an innovative job-training program providing a nine-month internship program for young adults with developmental disabilities. Interns in the program complete (3) ten-week rotations at a partnering business with the goal of gaining necessary skills to obtain competitive employment.



Project Search

There are currently nine project search sites across Arkansas

- Two High School Model Programs and Seven Adult Model Programs.
- Eight programs are located in Hospitals and one on a University Campus.



Project Search

- Derrick, hired at UAMS
- Derrick's mother stated, "Derrick no longer feels that he has a disability. Instead, he sees that he has the ability to make a difference, not only in his own life but others as well."



Reference: Project Search (2018) Retrieved 9/24/2018; URL: <https://projectsearcharkansas.org/success-story-derrick-uams-nutrition-services/>;

Business Engagement (Business Leading the Way)

- Business Leadership Network
 - Arkansas Business Leadership Network established in 2017
 - *Tyson*
 - *JB Hunt*
 - *Walmart*
 - *TJ Maxx*
- Annual Arkansas Business Employment Summit (Annual Event each October)
 - 2017 Corporate sponsorship of \$6,500
 - 2018 over \$7,500 in corporate sponsorship thus far



Business Engagement (Internal Change in Focus)

- Redevelopment of Business Engagement Marketing Tools
- Pilot testing of the Workforce Innovation Technical Assistance Center (WINTAC)
- Team visits with employers including Business Engagement Representatives and Vocational Rehabilitation leadership



Questions and Follow-up

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