

Employment Committee

Year 3 Work Plan for FFY25



Goal 3 - Employment

People with developmental disabilities will have access to supports, services, programs, and training necessary for successful transitions to adulthood, meaningful work experiences, integrated and competitive employment, as well as career development, across the lifespan.

Objective 1 – Employment First Implementation

People will have information, training, tools, and programs on telework, the state as a model employer, employment rights, and universally designed work environments to increase the percentage of people with developmental disabilities with meaningful, integrated, competitive employment in typical work settings.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>Target Date</u>	<u>Timeline</u>
<p>3.1.1: Work with partners to participate in at least 1 employment activity annually, such as: job fairs, transition fairs, conferences, and/or statewide stakeholder meetings or trainings. GCDSE and partner agencies will host at least 1 activity. Review sign-in sheets / participant lists for attendance count; surveys will measure self-reported increase in knowledge and location in Alaska to gauge reach.</p> <p>Outcome: More Alaskans will have the opportunity to attend an activity, event, or training to learn more about the Alaska Work Matters Task Force</p> <p>NOTE: Need one co-host event. ASSEC – next years conference have thread for transition services (LEND, Tapestry, Project SEARCH, DIF Grant Programs) Work Incentive Programs Information/CWIC Pre-ETS programs – how it works for providers, who can come do the services</p>	<p>GCDSE Staff, Council Members</p>	<p>September 30th, 2024</p>	<p>Progress Updates: Participated in MatSu Job Fair on March 27, 2024 – minimum estimated 80 attendees and well received. Pathways information and Employment handbooks primary handouts. Working with Trust in collaboration of Employment Track at the Improving Lives Conference. Employment Symposium (Fall 2024) -DVR working, and ideas exchanged.</p>

<p>Employers support/services/incentives</p>			
<p>3.1.2: Collaborate and continue to support employment activities with key partner agencies (AMHTA, DVR, UAA CHD, DEED, GCDSE, and others) to support the Council’s 5-Year plan through the management and implementation of plan activities to ensure beneficiaries have greater access to employment, related support services, and accurate resources and information on how paid employment impacts Social Security and other benefits (health, housing, food, etc.).</p> <p>Outcome: Alaskans with DD and their families, and/or support professionals will have information and/or tools necessary to increase the number Alaskans with DD that will be able to secure and maintain integrated employment of their choice.</p> <p>NOTES: 9 Project Search Staff/Supportive Reps and Samantha going to July 2024 Project Search conference. Submitted abstract proposal, and getting statewide Project Search site meetings.</p> <p>AADD: APSE (Association for People Supporting Employment First) Conference in June, maybe consider restarting APSE in Alaska or otherwise the beginning of and Employment Commission or Board. CHD – SDS credentialing for supported employment specialist, implement DSP/Job Coaching credential (very long) Alaska Association of Direct Service Professionals</p>	<p>GCDSE Staff,</p>		
<p>Progress Updates:</p> <p>Key Activities</p> <p>1) Regular engagement with key employment partners to assist with planning, development and implementation of activities related to increasing employment outcomes for beneficiaries.</p> <p>2) Assess current and future level of support needed to ensure sustainability of Alaska Project SEARCH program. Develop long term plan for Project SEARCH sustainability and growth. Currently – DIF grant outreach and support has worked. Founder (Erin R) visit in early March was really key for some engagement. Interest in future school districts (Kenai, outer rural areas).</p> <p>3) Work with DIF grant partners and activities promoting youth transition programs to employment in Alaska. Current note: DIF Grant is supporting Project Search and Indigenous Skills Curriculum - among the other programs and connections.</p>			

<p>3.1.3: Microenterprise Grant Review Support employment for Alaska’s DD population by serving on the Microenterprise Grant Committee. Participating in the Microenterprise Grant reviews and discussions with Alaska WIPA Project Director through the UAA, Center for Human Development. Review Microenterprise grant applications, provide input and recommendations on applications no less than 2x per year. Number of meetings and applications reviewed by GCDSE staff and approved by the committee.</p> <p>Outcome: More Alaskans with DD will have opportunities for self-employment by receiving funds from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority in the form of Microenterprise grants.</p> <p>Maybe partner with Rain and partner with TVR and do enterprising support. Add more of the Microenterprise stories, emphasis on choice on employment</p>	GCDSE Staff, Council Members	September 30th, 2024	
<p>Progress Updates: In progress – next committee review of applications week of 4/15 8 of Microenterprise grant applications 3 of applicants who have DD.</p>			

Objective 2 – Traditional (Indigenous) Transition

Transition-aged youth (14-22) with developmental disabilities will have increased information, education services, training, and tools that are regionally, culturally, and linguistically relevant to them to increase the number of young adults in rural communities with skills for meaningful, place-based adulthood.

Targeted Disparity: “In collaboration with people with developmental disabilities, their families, and stakeholders, the unequal availability of educational resources for regionally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate transitions to adulthood in the Southwest region of rural Alaska will be decreased through capacity building by curriculum development, outreach, and training.”

[TD Outputs: new units of curriculum developed, outreach to families and professionals, and trainings for teachers and families.

Outcomes: Greater availability of educational resources for regionally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate transitions to adulthood in the Southwest region of rural Alaska. Eval/Measurement: In SW AK, increased capacity by number of people trained, copies disseminated, views and downloads on online materials, professionals with knowledge needed to use curriculum, number using the curriculum.]

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>Target Date</u>	<u>Timeline</u>
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<p>3.2.1: Support further development of modified curriculum that is regionally, culturally, and linguistically relevant for rural transitions. Examples: Develop surveys with partners to distribute to collaborators to measure current level of rural relevancy and improvements as curriculum is developed.</p> <p>Outcomes: More Alaskans will have access to a more culturally relevant Rural Transition curriculum.</p> <p>TVR groups – what the involvement with the curriculum is. Ensure the DIF grant partners outreach the curriculum with Pre-ETS/other supports.</p>	GCDSE Staff, Council Members	September 30th, 2024	
<p>Progress Updates: Status – CHD supports the curriculum via the DIF grant. Outreach and funding outlined, MOU shows measurables and deliverables in 5 years.</p>			
<p>3.2.2. Collaborate with partners on a plan for collecting baseline data on rural transitions, developing a pilot using the curriculum and measuring progress Examples: Administer surveys to partners to measure baseline and improvements; in meetings - record location of participants to ensure statewide reach and review sign-in sheets / participant lists for attendance count.</p> <p>Outcome: More partners will have a data collection plan for the rural transition pilot.</p>	GCDSE Staff, Council Members	September 30th, 2024	
<p>Progress Updates: Pilot project being supported with CHD, identified 4 schools to participate in project. (Hoonah, Buckland, Grayling, Savoonga) CHD developing measures via DIF grant reporting and MOU.</p>			
<p>3.2.3. Provide at least 1 training to parents and guardians on availability of curriculum collaboration with partners The Council will co-host 1 training to parents / guardians on availability of curriculum.</p> <p>Outcomes: More Alaskan parents will have a greater understanding of the curriculum use. Run a webinar – employment.</p>	GCDSE Staff, Council Members	September 30th, 2023	
<p>Progress Updates: Presented at ASSEC Feb 2024 with Rain to schools and within meetings. Working with Rain/CHD on offered webinar or other parent training.</p>			

Also recommend including these activities from the 5-Year Plan for Year 3:

Promote the pilot in at least 2 meetings with policy makers (state and national)

7/19/23 SV – Voted to implement with wording changing to ,Promote pilot in at least 2 meetings with appropriate State or National entities.

