

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.</p> <p>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 employment services and agencies.</p>	GCDSE Staff, Council Members	September 30th, 2024	
Progress Updates:			
<p>3.1.2: Collaborate and continue to support employment activities with key partner agencies (AMHTA, DVR, UAA CHD, DEED, SDS, GCDSE, and others) in at least 1 workgroup, meeting, conference or the like to support the Council's 5-Year plan</p>	GCDSE Staff,		

<p>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, employers, 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>Progress Updates:</p> <p>Key Activities</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>GCDSE Staff, Council Members</p>	<p>September 30th, 2024</p>	
<p>3.1.4: Serve as Statewide Coordinator for Project SEARCH sites and serve on site steering committees and visiting all sites at least once per year. Provide liaison with Project SEARCH national specialist, reviewing of fidelity requirements, attending at least 1 relevant conference or outreach event, and support current site growth and development. Organize agencies to create or restart at least 2 new sites by 2029.</p> <p>Outcome: Increase of Project SEARCH program efforts in Alaska and support transition age youth growth in competitive, integrated employment.</p>	<p>GCDSE Staff, Council Members</p>	<p>September 30th, 2024</p>	
<p>Progress Updates:</p>			

<p>3.1.5: Coordinate and promote with partners about employment benefits and incentives to beneficiaries. Increase awareness about available employment support programs and services. Such programs can include ABLE, WIPA, DVR, SDS Waiver Employment Services, Medicaid, etc.</p> <p>Outcome: Increase knowledge of available supports and services to encourage growth in competitive, integrated employment for all Alaska people with disabilities desiring to work.</p>	GCDSE Staff, Council Members	September 30th, 2024	
<p>Progress Updates:</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>
<p>3.2.1: Support growth of model and outreach efforts to beneficiaries of modified curriculum that is regionally, culturally, and linguistically relevant for rural transitions.</p> <p>Examples: Support curriculum authors with outreach events and opportunities, check in on efforts and implementation on curriculum to schools, identify agencies that could provide efforts to bring curriculum to more areas.</p>	GCDSE Staff, Council Members	September 30th, 2024	
<p>Progress Updates:</p>			

<p>Outcomes: More Alaskans will have access to a more culturally relevant Rural Transition curriculum.</p>			
<p>3.2.2. Collaborate with partners on promotional materials and partner trainings on rural transitions, developing sustainability using the curriculum data and progress being measured with current grant funding outcome measurements.</p> <p>Examples: Create promotional items for agencies to use when doing employment activities and create awareness of the curriculum. Have curriculum trainings and meetings with partners to increase knowledge of the cultural needs of Alaskas rural areas.</p> <p>Outcome: More partners will have information for the rural transition curriculum and increased awareness of cultural needs for employment in rural Alaska communities.</p>	<p>GCDSE Staff, Council Members</p>	<p>September 30th, 2024</p>	
<p>3.2.3. Provide at least 1 training or webinar or social media outreach to parents and guardians and school special education staff on availability of curriculum by collaboration with partners The Council will co-host 1 training or outreach event to parents / guardians on availability of curriculum.</p> <p>Example: Providing in person event, or webinar, or podcast with curriculum author to parents and special education staff AND general public.</p> <p>Outcomes: More Alaskan parents will have a greater understanding of the curriculum use.</p>	<p>GCDSE Staff, Council Members</p>	<p>September 30th, 2024</p>	
<p>3.2.4. Promote curriculum and rural employment needs and efforts with appropriate State or National entities.</p>	<p>GCDSE Staff, Council Members</p>	<p>September 30th, 2024</p>	

Example: Promotion of the culturally appropriate needs of rural Alaska in employment, support Tribal vocational Rehabilitation entities serving Native Alaska people with disabilities, using National outreach by presenting at conferences and summits when possible.

Outcomes: Increased advocacy for the needs of American Indian/Alaska Native people with disabilities to policy makers, program developers, and agencies.

Progress Updates:

