

## Solano County

### Local Plan PY17-21 Modification – Competitive Integrated Employment Attachment

#### Competitive Integrated Employment

##### *Partnerships to Increase Competitive Integrated Employment*

The Workforce Development Board (WDB) of Solano County and local disability partners are strengthening their partnerships to support individuals with disabilities and increase Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) opportunities in Solano County. The partners have come together as part of a Disability Employment Accelerator (DEA) grant funded through the California Employment Development Department (EDD), and will use this as a foundation to infuse CIE and engagement with individuals with Intellectual Disabilities/Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD) into Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) services.

One goal of the WDB through the DEA grant and the local planning process is to improve access to the WIOA system for individuals with disabilities and to increase the capacity of staff to engage individuals with disabilities. In FY2018, 612 of the 10,321 individuals (6%) accessing America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) services in Solano County had a disability. Of the 433 individuals served through the Adult, Dislocated Worker, or Youth programs in FY2018, eighteen (18) had a disability. The WDB is currently working with its partners to make the AJCC a more disability-friendly environment and build staff capacity through technical assistance and professional development.

Together, WDB and its disability partners will develop strategies around employer engagement, earn and learn strategies, educational transition services, disability benefits counseling, and improved service coordination. The WDB and disability partners are making great progress to understand the needs of individuals with disabilities, connect services, and better understand each other's systems. During the next two years, the WDB and disability partners will continue this work.

##### *CIE Partners*

Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) is a significant partner in implementing the local plan for CIE for individuals with disabilities, especially for those with intellectual or developmental disabilities. In addition, other core partners are Solano County Office of Education (SCOE), who operates WorkAbility I programs and a number of other county-wide disabilities programs, and North Bay Regional Center (NBRC), located in Napa County. Other education partners include Vallejo Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) for transitioning students, the Solano Adult Education Consortium members of adult schools, and Solano Community College and their Disability Student Program. Community partners include Caminar, Dungarvin, Pride Technologies, Connections 4 Life, and Dreamcatchers, most of whom work directly with individuals with disabilities as contractors to DOR or the NBRC.

##### *Level of Participation in the Local Partnership Agreement*

Through the WDB's Disability Employment Accelerator (DEA) grant, the WDB has become close partners with SCOE, DOR, and the NBRC. Through the WDB's work on the disability grant, the WDB has been bringing together partners in Solano's disability community in order to leverage and align services for individuals with disabilities. This work, coupled with the local planning process was found to have similar goals to the work of the Local Partnership Agreement (LPA). The WDB is now a core partner on Solano's

## Attachment C: Competitive Integrated Employment

LPA. The county's LPA is still in development. The WDB brings a focus on employment and employer engagement to the group and has been seen as a value-add to the process.