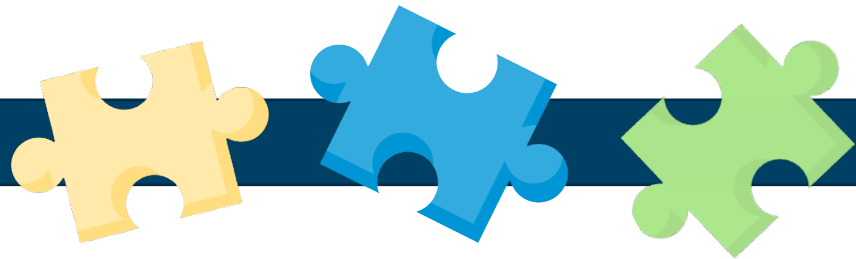


Part 2:

State and Tribal VR Working Together:

Partnerships That Allow Students and Youth with Disabilities to Succeed



VR Center for Innovative Training
in Vocational Rehabilitation



NTACT
THE COLLABORATIVE
Improving Opportunities & Outcomes

Acknowledgement & Disclaimer

This training was developed with support from the: [Center for Innovative Training in Vocational Rehabilitation \(CIT-VR\)](#), the [National Technical Assistance Center on Transition: The Collaborative \(NTACT:C\)](#), and the [American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Training and Technical Assistance Center \(AIVRTTAC\)](#), funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA).

Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the U.S. Department of Education nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education.



Presenters

- **Wayne Dagel**, Director, American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Training and Technical Assistance Center (AIVRTTAC)
- **Christine Johnson**, Technical Assistance & Research Analyst, National Technical Assistance Center on Transition: The Collaborative (NTACT:C)
- **Christopher Zilar**, Director of Vocational Rehabilitation, Spokane Tribe of Indians
- **Donna J. Adamson**, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Washington State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- **Joshua Drywater**, Program Manager, Native Initiatives, Univ. of Arizona Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities
- **Abel Young**, Director, Community Services, Univ. of Arizona Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities
- **Paula Seanez**, Program Director, Navajo Nation Department of Dine Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services
- **Traci (Zweig) Przecioski**, Statewide Transition Coordinator, Arizona Department of Economic Security, Vocational Rehabilitation



Learning Objectives

- ✓ Describe the importance of implementing the MOU/MOA between State and Tribal VR.
- ✓ Understand what transition services and pre-employment transition services are and what population receives them.
- ✓ Recognize examples of effective roles, relationships, and communications between State VR and Tribal VR partners.
- ✓ Identify service delivery approaches that can contribute to increasing positive post secondary outcomes for Native American students with disabilities.



The Basics

§ 361.1 What is the State Vocational Rehabilitation Program? (VR)

§ 371.1 What is the American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services program?
(AIVRS)



Working Together - Starts with a Memorandum of Agreement!

§ 361.24 Cooperation and coordination with other entities.

§ 361.30 Services to American Indians.

§ 371.21 What are the special application requirements related to the projects funded under this part?

A Memorandum of Agreement should describe how the state VR commitment and full tribal involvement will better serve mutual consumers, especially youth and students with disabilities.



Serving Students and Youth with Disabilities

It Starts With Transition



Transition



to make a change or shift from one state, subject, place, etc. to another...

the transition from adolescence to adulthood...

Transition from working with adults to working with students and youth requires VR to use a different “skill” set



Definition of “Transition Services”

[\(34 CFR 361.5\(c\)\(55\) and 371.6\)](#) and [IDEA \(2004\) definition of Transition Services 300.43](#)

Transition services means a coordinated set of activities for a student or youth with a disability—

- (i) Designed within an outcome-oriented process that promotes movement from school to post-school activities, including postsecondary education, vocational training, competitive integrated employment, supported employment, continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, or community participation;**
- (ii) Based upon the individual student's or youth's needs, taking into account the student's or youth's preferences and interests;**
- (iii) That includes instruction, community experiences, the development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives, and, if appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation;**
- (iv) That promotes or facilitates the achievement of the employment outcome identified in the student's or youth's individualized plan for employment; and**
- (v) That includes outreach to and engagement of the parents, or, as appropriate, the representative of such a student or youth with a disability.**



Side By Side: Delivery of Transition Services

Education, State Vocational Rehabilitation, Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation

- ✓ American Indian students with disabilities can receive pre-employment transitions services through the State VR Program
- ✓ Transition Services can be provided by the school and by state VR and Tribal VR – simultaneously
- ✓ Focus on **collaboration** with partners to ensure eligible students receive transition services



Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Continuum of Services

Pre-employment Transition Services

- Earliest set of services for potentially eligible or eligible students with disabilities
- Short term in nature to help identify career interests
- Specific set of five required activities provided directly to students with disabilities under pre-employment transition services

Transition Services

- Available for eligible students with disabilities through an IPE
- Help further develop and pursue career interests through postsecondary education, vocational training, job search, placement, retention, follow-up and follow-along services

Employment Related Services

- Typically provided once eligible students with disabilities have further identified, developed, and pursued career interests, offered through transition services, and are pursuing specific employment outcomes through an IPE
- Assist in preparing for, securing, retaining, advancing in or regaining an employment outcome



Working Together:

Partnerships That Allow Students and Youth with Disabilities to Succeed

Developing Working Partnerships



Building and Maintaining Partnerships

- **Strive for positive working relationships**
 - With Local Schools/Special Education Programs
 - With State VR Programs/ AIVRS Programs
 - With Other Adult Agency Service Providers
- **Review and update your Memorandum of Agreement between State VR /AIVRS program**
 - Include transition guidelines
- **Focus on collaboration with partners to ensure eligible students receive transition services**
- **Coordinate services and communicate** to ensure everyone is on the “same page”



Arizona

**Joshua Drywater, Program Manager, Native Initiatives,
Univ. of Arizona Sonoran Center for Excellence in
Disabilities**

**Abel Young, Director, Community Services, Univ. of
Arizona Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities**

**Paula Seanez, Program Director, Navajo Nation
Department of Dine Education, Office of Special
Education and Rehabilitation Services**

**Traci (Zweig) Przecioski, Statewide Transition
Coordinator, Arizona Department of Economic
Security, Vocational Rehabilitation**



Washington State

**Christopher Zilar, Director of Vocational Rehabilitation,
Spokane Tribe of Indians**

**Donna J. Adamson, Vocational Rehabilitation
Counselor, Washington State Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation**



Resources

- [Side by Side View: Transition Services](#)
- [Transition Tennessee](#)
- [Center for Innovative Training in Vocational Rehabilitation \(CIT-VR\)](#)
- [American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Training and Technical Assistance Center \(AIVRTTAC\)](#)
- [National Technical Assistance Center on Transition: The Collaborative \(NTACT:C\)](#)
- [Northwest Indian College, Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Institute](#)



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- **Jamie Emanuel**, Vocational Rehabilitation Coordinator

NTACT:C

- **Christine Johnson**, Technical Assistance & Research Analyst Assistance Center

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- **Dawn Lalley**, Web & Graphic Designer

Arizona

- **Joshua Drywater**, Program Manager, Native Initiatives, Univ. of Arizona Sonoran Center
- **Abel Young**, Director, Community Services, Univ. of Arizona Sonoran Center
- **Paula Seanez**, Program Director, Navajo Nation Department of Dine Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services
- **Traci (Zweig) Przecioski**, Statewide Transition Coordinator, Arizona Department of Economic Security, Vocational Rehabilitation

Washington

- **Christopher Zilar**, Director of Vocational Rehabilitation, Spokane Tribe of Indians
- **Donna J. Adamson**, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Washington State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

