



Who We Are

Title of Project, Name of Lead Entity, Partner, Counties in Indiana we are impacting.

Main Street Employment Pilot

The Arc of Greater Boone County partnering with The Zionsville Chamber of Commerce/Rise Foundation in Boone County.

What We Expect if We Achieve our Vision

Expected short-term and long-term outcomes; and positive impacts on individuals if your project successfully carries out these actions.

Successful employment outcomes for persons with disabilities and employers.

Fewer community misconceptions about hiring persons with disabilities.

A model that providers of Employment Services and Community Partners can implement in designing partnerships in their own communities for seeking grant or other supports to fund a similar initiative.

More employers wanting to do this that we can manage!

More creative work opportunities for those we support.

Additional relationships between provider organizations and private businesses in our communities.

Data on the costs per person and impact on the employment decision.

Data on job satisfaction for both the employee and employer

A guidebook that can be used by others (using the model described).

What We Will Do

Specific actions your agency will take to carry out pilot project.

We will be piloting a program designed to reduce barriers for small businesses in the hiring of persons with disabilities.

How We Will Do It

Plan and implementation

Survey area small businesses for misconceptions and interest in learning more about the program with our pilot partner.

Directly recruit persons referred for services and potential employers for participation.

Provide stipends for the following as needed for each participant:
1) internship stipend to offset wage investment for the business for a period of time
2) reasonable accommodations or equipment needs not funded by Vocational Rehabilitation
3) transportation assistance

What Will Result

Long-term goals to transform services and/or better support individuals.

Successful employment of persons with disabilities in small businesses for 6 months or longer.

Small business education about the potential about workers with disabilities.

Local data on attitudes of small businesses related to hiring persons with disabilities, both positive and negative.

Positive experiences of both workers and their employers.

A model guidebook that can be replicated.

What We Want to Avoid

Outcomes that may take away from the vision and will serve as "red flags" to consider course correction.

- People served holding incorrect ideas about earnings limitations and not wanting to participate
- Employers not wanting to participate
- Trial employment periods not resulting in long-term hires
- Poor job matches
- Inability to arrange effective transportation

