

PARTNERS in EMPLOYMENT SUMMIT AGENDA

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019

9:00-10:00AM

Concurrent Sessions

1. Navigating the “Socialness” of Employment

PattiAnn LaVeglia, Director of Staff Development, Greystone Programs

Come join this speaker and discuss the key ways school districts can begin to develop social knowledge and self-regulation for experiences that address the nuances of the work setting. Key take-away is a self-reflection guide offering a step by step process for analyzing and implementing literacy based instructional methods.

2. Creative Funding for a Creative Approach: Putting Customized Employment to Work

Steve Towler, VP of Programs & Business Development, AHRC NYC

Lucas Hanson, Program Director, AHRC NYC

Jaclyn Tocco, Social Worker, AHRC NYC

Celina M. Cavalluzzi, Director of Day Services, Goodwill Industries of Greater NY & Northern NJ

Franceska Anilus, Program Manager, Goodwill Industries of Greater NY & Northern NJ

As the Customized Employment Learning Institute (CELI) begins its second year, the focus for the 11 participating NYC agencies has shifted from learning the philosophy of the customized employment to the practical ways to make the employment strategy work. Please join us for a conversation about how employment services funding can be used creatively in every aspect of Customized and other employment supports.

Participating CELI agencies, AHRC NYC and Goodwill Industries NYNJ, will lead the conversation and share best practices for funding. Presenters will leave time for a questions and answer session make sure you get the most from this valuable interaction.

3. Transition Supports for Students and Young Adults Living with Behavioral Health Disabilities

Evelyn Frankford, Frankford Consulting, LLC

Transition age youth and young adults ages 16 to 25 with serious mental health conditions (TAYYA) face multiple challenges and risk factors with the largest one not graduating from high school. This session will share how important it is to keep TAYYA engaged in school so they can live a satisfying life in the community, something all young adults want.

4. Non-Profit Partnerships for Business Success

Corey Heritage, Director of Marketing, NYSID

NYSID will share what the process for products and services that government buys is and how people with disabilities are getting better jobs through business partnership with for-profit companies. Jobs are developed, small manufacturing contracts and companies grow and the area economy is supported too!

10:00-10:15AM

Break

10:15-11:15AM

Concurrent Sessions

5. Closing the Gap: Creating Person Centered Bridges to Careers

Pamela Curtiss, Director of Employment, Life's WORC

Antha Flood, Senior Coordinator of Person Centered Supports, Life's WORC

Imagine increased confidence, work and personal skill development and a recognition of importance that paid employment offers – these are just some of the graduation results from “Launch Pad.” Come learn how it was designed to assist people through experiential discovery about what a future that includes employment could look like. Video testimonials plus recent program enhancements to the curriculum will be shared.

6. New York Integrated Network - Developing Jobs with Meaning

Michele Quigley, Executive Director, New York Integrated Network

Join the team from “Cleaning with a Meaning” (CWM) to learn how it was built, what its mission is and how it is thriving after 5 years to broker jobs for people with disabilities throughout New York City.

7. School Business Partnership - Connections for Students and the Business Community

Lori Rosado-Mayer, Director of Program Services, Career & Employment Options, Inc.

Brian Levine, Administrator of Vocational and Evaluation Services, Career & Employment Options, Inc.

Ever wonder how integral to student transition success the connections between schools and businesses are that your organization builds and maintains? Join this session to learn how to build School-Business Partnerships that lead to workforce development tools like internship and job fairs, career and shadow days and business mentoring programs for all.

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8. Families as Partners in the Job Search

NYS Transition Partners: Tonia Weichmann, Transition Coordinator, Parent Network of WNY

Julia Duerr, Employment Specialist, Erie / BOCES

Who helped you get your first job? Most often it is someone in your family. Families can provide numerous opportunities to network and open doors for both their own children and other individuals with disabilities. Families are an amazing resource, learn strategies and tips on building your relationship with families. This session will provide strategies for Vocational Rehab providers to better partner with families in the job search.



11:30AM-12:45PM

Lunch: Raising Expectations of People with Disabilities Helps Us All Move Forward

Carol Glazer, President,
National Organization on Disability

THOUGHT for CONTEMPLATION

Have people with disabilities failed to exceed the low bar set for them? Or has society failed to set the bar high enough? It's time for us all to look closer at our beliefs, expectations, and yes, our stereotypes.

12:45-1:45PM

Concurrent Sessions

9. Understanding Individual Differences

Michelle Austin, Educator/Psychologist

Each of us expresses ourselves in our own ways. Recognizing the existence of communication differences this session will have its audience embark on an adventure to explore how it might feel to be "different" – understanding the how and why that things are different and how we can offer support as we work towards acceptance of full inclusion for all.

10. IEP to IPE - Barriers, Myths and Strategies to Transition Success

NYS Transition Partners: Susan Barlow, Executive Director, Parent Network of WNY
Panelists TBD

This panel discussion made up of families of young adults, will highlight life lessons about the barriers, myths and strategies in understanding the differences between the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and the Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) as they transition from high school to employment. The panel will also discuss the roles they have played in

collaborating with their vocational rehabilitation providers in supporting their child to become a self-advocate and find a job.

11. Apprenticeships - An Inclusive Process for Workforce Development in Manufacturing

Martha Ponge, Director of Apprenticeship, MACNY

In New York, manufacturing companies are looking for employees every day. One of the ways they choose to do this is to offer apprenticeships. Come discover how to develop a career path for people with disabilities who seek employment in the manufacturing industry through apprenticeship!

12. The Hedgehog Concept for Business Engagement and Diversifying Employment Opportunities

Shauna Lozada, Director of Marketing & Business Development, AHRC NYC

Steve Towler, VP of Programs & Business Development, AHRC NYC

Michele Shapiro, Asst. Director of Employment & Business Services, AHRC NYC

Salvador Moran, Associate Director of Employment & Business Services, AHRC NYC

An unique business engagement process, the "Hedgehog Concept for Business Engagement" will share the tools necessary to succeed. Highlight of this presentation will be the stories shared describing the many stereotype-defying, "outside-the-box" positions in which participants in employment programs have found success based on their unique interests and abilities. BONUS - the group will share how two innovative social enterprise companies were developed.

1:45-2:00PM

Break

2:00-3:00PM

Concurrent Sessions

13. Youth Services Under WIOA - Make It Work!

Andrew Karhan, M.P.A., M.A., Senior Extension Associate, Program Director, Workforce Development, K. Lisa Yang and Hock E. Tan Institute on Employment and Disability, ILR School / Cornell University

Session will explore the world of Youth Services under WIOA and how services to youth and young adults 16-24 with disabilities does not need to be only funded and provided through a VR contract. Learn how to braid

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funding by understanding the intent of WIOA. The newest Technical assistance resource Collaboration Opportunities: WIOA Youth and Vocational Rehabilitation Programs will be showcased, and discussions about how New York's Employment First efforts have positioned the state to thrive.

14. Social Enterprise - A Business Model with SOUL

Kevin Crosley, President/CEO, Herkimer Industries
Jack Campbell, Executive Director, Alternative Industries
Russ Hahn, COO, Intandem Solutions

Learn from a panel of Agency leadership what it means to operate a Social Enterprise. These leaders will share the strengths of adding this business model yet the challenges to sustaining it. They will tell us what opportunities can and do exist but what also must be considered to prevent the threat to the operation. A true business with a SOUL!

15. CDOS - What's New and Necessary for Students?

Jeanne Ricigliano, District Work Based Learning Coordinator, Career Pathways & College & Business Partnerships, Rochester City School District
Rhonda Neal, Executive Director, Career Pathways & College & Business Partnerships, Rochester City School District

Students in school today living with challenges and opportunities of a disability seek the same involvement in their community as any other student – join this session to learn how work-based learning can be a key to initial career path discovery and planning for students in school with IEP's and or 504 Plans.

16. Disability Employment Initiatives - Understanding the Resources DOL Offers Businesses and Job Seekers Alike

Alan Gallagher, Workforce Programs Specialist 3 - Supervisor, Program Development Unit, Special Populations Team, NYS Department of Labor
Kerry Wiley, Workforce Program Specialist, Round 8 NYS Disability Employment Initiative, NYS Department of Labor
Geri Walsh, Disability Resource Coordinator, NYS Department of Labor
Kathy DeAngelo, Disability Resource Coordinator, NYS Department of Labor
Alan Sessions, Disability Resource Coordinator, NYS Department of Labor

Come listen and learn about the effective practices, tools, resources and expertise that exist as a result of the past and present Disability Employment Initiatives, rounds 1,4,6 & 8 through the NYS DOL One Stop Centers. Designed to improve education, training and employment opportunities and outcomes for youth and adults with disabilities attendees will gain insight on

strategies including financial capability, cross-systems collaboration, integrated resource teams, and systems change strategies. Any job seeker with or without a disability may access supports through a One Stop Career Center and if a Disability Resource Coordinator is available the sky is the limit!

3:00-3:15PM

Break

3:15-4:15PM

Concurrent Sessions

17. Boundless Connections - The Virtues Project

Christina Lopez, Founder/CEO, Boundless Connections, LLC
Mike Marvin, Exec, Strength Solutions, Inc, Boundless Connections

The foundation for their tech program is called "The Virtues Project" and by participating in this session you will learn how to use the 5 strategies that are strength focused to accomplish personal goals and overcome personal challenges. To be discussed are the concepts of embracing diversity of thought, respecting individual needs, and maintaining a cooperative atmosphere bringing out the best while facing the complexities in school, the workplace and the community.

18. ABLE Accounts - A Down Payment on Financial Freedom

Miranda Kennedy, MPP, Director, ABLE National Resource Center
Laurie Schaller, Manager, Financial Empowerment with National Disability Institute
Anne Del Plato, Director, 529 Savings Programs, NYS Office of the State Comptroller

This session will provide an understanding of the history and importance of the ABLE Act in the context of civil rights and financial capability for people with disabilities. Participants will gain knowledge of the basic components of the ABLE program including eligibility criteria, what ABLE funds can be spent on, tax characteristics of ABLE accounts, and current status of ABLE account development. This will include information on how funds in an ABLE account may interact with/or effect people with disabilities means-tested public benefits, and how to access and utilize the supports and resources provided by the ABLE National Resource Center.

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19. Employer Engagement - Chamber Style

Cathy Kukan, Director of Vocational Habilitation, Saratoga Bridges

Katie Page, Program Director of Employment Services, AIM Services

Bridget Kennedy, Workforce Development Specialist, Wildwood Programs

Colleagues will share the unique techniques for creating business connections that lead to identifying job opportunities for the people your agency works with. Collaborating with the local Chamber of Commerce, learn how to develop a reverse job fair and much more!

20. GameU - ACCELERATE

Michael Kawas, Founder & CEO, GameU

Brad Cohen, Director of GameU's Accelerate Program

Anthony D'Agostino, Brand Ambassador

Nick D'Agostino, Brand Ambassador

Students of all ages and abilities are learning how to design and build their own video games and robots, just like the Pros do. GameU will share with participants how experienced instructors know what it takes to develop beginners into masters! Our goal is to ensure that all students, with and without disabilities, learn and retain the skills and knowledge to become truly independent software developers. Our Accelerate 360 program offers hardworking students, like Nick and Anthony D'Agostino, GameU Brand Ambassadors, a chance to use their newly developed skills for employment, kickstarting their careers in areas such as computer assembly and repair, social media and marketing, instruction and curriculum development, and even game asset creation for real game projects!

5:00-6:00PM

Networking Reception

Enjoy cocktails with vendors during a reception sponsored by Saratoga Bridges & AIM Services, Inc.



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2019

8:30-9:30AM

Networking Breakfast

9:30-10:45AM

LEARN and DO!

21. Successful Business Modelling of Employment Supports

Jim Scutt, Associate Vice President, People, Inc.

Aaron Shmueli, Associate Vice President, Goodwill Industries of Greater NY

Learn the effective business modelling techniques to offer individual job seekers quality career discovery, job development and retention services. Learn from colleagues how to successfully manage the costs against delivery plus the funding and staffing strategies for success.

22. Vocational Engagement Model (VEM) - PART 2

Nick Villani, Founder/CEO, Career & Employment Options, Inc.

Nick Villani will present an innovative approach to expedite, monitor and measure activities for quality job placement outcomes when offering career supports to people with disabilities. Participants will learn how set the stage for a different approach with forms, assessment instruments, training scripts and the overall format of a model that will enhance and even increase the quality of placement outcomes for whom the people your organizations offer job supports.

11:00AM-12:30PM

Closing Presentation:

Self-Direction and Expectations for Equity in Life Outcomes

Dr. Tammy Ellis Robinson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor co-appointed in the Division of Special Education and Educational Psychology and Methodology, Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology at the University at Albany

Students who identify as having a disability, today and regularly are telling their family, friends, teachers and others they interact with that their disability does not define who they are and or who they will be in their future. Dr. Tammi Ellis Robinson will help us explore definitions of self-determination and equity through an intersectional lens. How do we as family and or providers consider the multiple aspects of a student's identity? Do we discuss their abilities, where they fit in their community's socio-economic status or immigrant status? What and or how do the people we work with identify themselves by race, gender, sexuality and faith? Dr. Robinson will challenge us to examine frameworks of service to promote high expectations and goal setting. Ultimately our focus must be on individual rights and identities as self-defined and engaging family values.



12:30PM

Adjournment