

Employment Call #3 Summary

October 8, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.

THEMES/CONCERNS

- Transition assistance from secondary education to work
- Transportation to job sites for those living in rural areas
- Funding for Phase 2 supported employment services
- Difficulty navigating the employment assistance paths via Social Security Administration (SSA)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide resources to assist students with disabilities in secondary education in tandem with natural supports and supports through Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO).
- APD needs to review other states' successful avenues for providing transportation to clients in rural areas.
- Interagency collaboration with Florida Development Disabilities Council (FDDC) and other disability rights organizations for legislation in support of employment needs
- Continue the collaboration with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) to solve the Phase 2 issues for follow along services.
- Work with employers to determine their desires for employing people with developmental disabilities and to increase pathways to competitive employment.
- Provide transition fairs, career education, and career days for students throughout the state.
- Work with SSA administrators regarding the difficulties navigating the assistance available through Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWEs) and Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS).

FACTORS TO CONSIDER

- FDDC's Rural Routes project
- Continuation of agencies' partnering in preparation for PROMISE Grant application