

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT ALLIANCE

"Jobs Are the Way Out of this Recession"

Governor Chris Gregoire

KEEP PEOPLE WORKING IN OUR COMMUNITIES!

In support of individuals with disabilities currently working, and those transitioning into employment, the Community Employment Alliance asks our Washington State Legislators to:

Safeguard Supported Employment Services for People Currently Served and for Future Generations

- Preserve supported employment for the hundreds of workers who are currently being served with state only funding. Through extenuating personal or family circumstances, these able and hard working individuals simply do not qualify for Federal waivers.
- Employers have been promised the sustained delivery of support services as a critical component of their hiring decisions. Without ongoing job supports, employer's trust is broken and people will lose their jobs. Future new hires will also be in jeopardy.
- Allow for the continued process of movement to the Federal Medicaid waiver.
- Support for transition graduates, those students with developmental disabilities leaving school to find and maintain jobs, provides a return on the State's Special Education investment. During the 2011-2013 Biennium, 1,367 new transition graduates will be seeking employment opportunities.
- National research studies that analyzed the cost-efficiency of supported employment programs showed that for every \$1.00 invested there was a return to taxpayers of \$1.46. A King County study found their cost-benefit ratio to be \$1.74.

Stabilize Community-Based Vocational Services

- 9,328 Washington citizens with developmental disabilities rely on supported employment services for the training, guidance and follow-along support they need to stay employed.
- In spite of ranking 38th in the nation for its investment in funding, Washington State has consistently been in the top three States with regard to successful community employment. This outstanding performance record must not be jeopardized by further budget reductions.
- Considerable increases in cost for staff, health insurance, and utilities without any substantial increase in funding has left the vendor community at risk of de-stabilization.

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Mission

To ensure a future in which people with disabilities have the same community employment opportunities as all other citizens.

Members

ARC of Spokane	Spokane
AtWork!	Bellevue
Cares of Washington	Seattle
Cascade Vocational Services	Bellingham
CenterForce	Lakewood
CCER / U of W	Mountlake Terrace
Chinook Enterprises	Mount Vernon
Columbia Industries	Kennewick
Diversified Industrial Services	Mukilteo
Eastside Employment Services	Bellevue
ENSO	Tukwila
EnTrust Community Services	Yakima
Goodwill Industries of the Columbia	Kennewick
Highline College Employment Services	Des Moines
Holly Ridge Center	Bremerton
Life Works	Longview
Mainstay @ SCCC	Seattle
Morningside	Olympia
NISH Northwest	Seattle
Northwest Center	Seattle
Nova Services	Spokane
O'Neill & Associates	Seattle
ORION	Federal Way
Palouse Industries	Pullman
Peninsula Services	Bremerton
PROVAIL	Seattle
Puget Sound Personnel, Inc.	Bellevue
Reliable Enterprises	Centralia
Service Alternatives, Inc.	Everett
Sherwood Community Services	Lake Stevens
SKCAC Industries	Kent
Skills, Inc.	Auburn
SKILS'KIN	Spokane
Skookum	Bremerton
S. L. Start	Spokane
Tacoma Goodwill	Tacoma
Tahoma Associates	Tacoma
Tangible Systems	Milton
Trillium Employment Services	Auburn
Timberland Opportunities Association	Aberdeen
Vadis	Sumner
Washington Vocational Services	Mountlake Terrace
W.i.S.e.	Seattle
Work Opportunities	Lynnwood
Yakima Specialties	Yakima