

Progressive Employment: Participating in a Learning Collaborative



In collaboration with the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) at UMass Boston and the VR-RRTC on Demand-Side Strategies, the Vermont Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is creating a learning collaborative. This is a method used in other fields (notably public health) to initiate a cross VR agency strategy to solve problems, identify and apply solutions, and evaluate outcomes.

Our learning collaborative is a chance for vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies to share knowledge, evaluate their practices, and document their successes. The collaborative will involve face-to-face meetings, on-site and distance consultation, self-assessment, and tailored evaluation. Benefits will include identifying practical solutions, space to innovate, meeting peers in other state VR agencies, using critical skills, professional development, and the opportunity to pilot an effort before going to scale.

PARTICIPATING STATE VR AGENCIES WILL:

- ▲ Identify a lead person and a team with designated roles.
- ▲ Participate in face-to-face meetings.
- ▲ Participate in on-site consultation and distance consultation.
- ▲ Complete a pre- and post- self-assessment.
- ▲ Identify, launch, and complete a progressive employment initiative.
- ▲ Participate in the design and conduct of evaluation activities.
- ▲ Act as peer consultants by suggesting solutions, identifying experts within the VR agencies and networks, and describing past and current experiences.
- ▲ Participate in telephone interviews 30 to 90 days after the learning collaborative ends on the value of the experience.

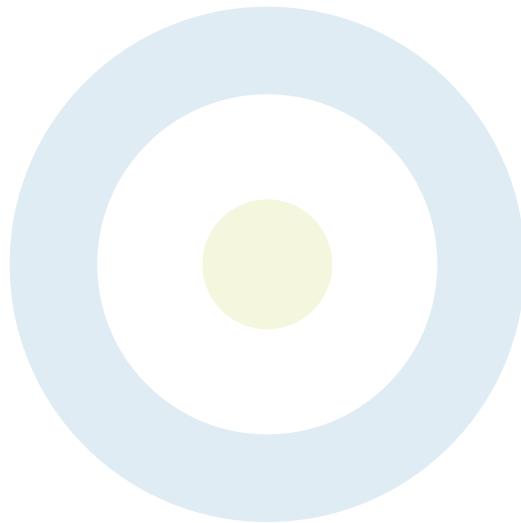
VERMONT DVR AND THE ICI WILL:

- ▲ Host, organize, and pay for learning collaborative meetings, webinars, and phone conferences.
- ▲ Become familiar with your agency's specific efforts, discuss your self-assessment, and consult with you about the plan for the year.
- ▲ Identify and pay for external consultants and experts on key topics identified by the learning collaborative members.
- ▲ Provide consultation on evaluation and sustainability components, and seek feedback on the learning collaborative experience.



VocRehabVermont





CONTACT INFORMATION

Hugh Bradshaw
Vermont Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
(802) 871-3054
hugh.bradshaw@state.vt.us
www.vr-rrtc.org/demandside

The VR-RRTC on Demand-Side Strategies is a project of the Institute for Community Inclusion at UMass Boston, funded by NIDRR grant #H133B120002

