



Inroads to Employment Year 2

3/1/2019 – 2/29/2020

System Gap Addressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Office of Disability Employment Policy indicates the employment rate for youth with disabilities is significantly less than youth without disabilities (60 - 70 % less). Work-based learning promotes problem solving and adult thinking. Young people with disabilities have limited access to many of the venues for teens such as sports, clubs or after school jobs that build employment skills.
Initiative Goals and Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish three registered apprenticeships. Expand Workforce options for youth ages 14-21 through Pre-Employment Transition Services through collaborative efforts between two local public-school systems and North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Improve employment prospects and job search skills for post-secondary students living with IDD through career mentorship program and the development of stronger linkages between career services and disability services offices. Demonstrate the impact of post-secondary career mentoring programs that connect local business professionals with current post-secondary students living with I/DD.
Description of Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding Register Apprenticeships as employment options for people living with I/DD in North Carolina. Leveraging Pre-Employment Transition Services funding through facilitation of local public school and Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services partnerships. Stronger collaborations between career and disability supports offices, and development of mentorship opportunities with business leaders to facilitate higher employment placement rates for postsecondary students living with IDD.
Achievements and Outcomes to Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August 2019 Established registered apprenticeships in agrotechnology through partnership with a hydroponic agribusiness, Your Local Greens in Burlington, NC July 2019 second registered apprenticeships established second registered feeding assistant apprenticeship at Well Spring Retirement Center, in Greensboro NC Initial discussions underway for third registered apprenticeship automotive accessories area in partnership with Central Piedmont and Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Colleges. Technical Assistance aided in the development of the Pre-Employment Transition Services Contract with Chapel Hill Carrboro Schools which initiated in January 2018. Technical Assistance provided to Cleveland County Schools for their submission of Pre-ETS proposal to NCVR completed April 2018. CCS's Pre-ETS READY program initiated in Jan 2019. Approx. 60 students receive Pre-ETS services through the READY Program in 2018-19; target for 2019-20 is 100 students. Leadership is currently being engaged, and business volunteers identified, for College Mentoring Program demonstration activities.
Expected Systems Change as Result of Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NC Council on Developmental Disabilities has a long history of exploring and supporting efforts to expand the range of employment choices for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD). This initiative aims to expand on, and create new paid apprenticeships for individuals with I/DD, leading to integrated, competitive employment and career opportunities.