

GEORGIA VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCY
EMPLOYMENT AND INDEPENDENCE FOR GEORGIANS WITH DISABILITIES



Business Enterprise Program



What is the Problem?

- Drop-out rate 2X that of students without disabilities in Georgia. – GaDOE
- ➤ The Unemployment rate of individuals with disabilities is significantly higher than those without as well.
- Increasing numbers of students with disabilities have a goal of post secondary education, but statistics show they are not enrolling or completing post secondary at a rate approaching that of their peers.
- ➤ 68% of Americans with disabilities are striving to work as indicated by actively looking for work, taking steps to prepare for work, or seeking more hours. - Kessler Foundation



What is the Solution?

Georgia's Career Pathways to Work: Explore, Engage and Employ (E3)

- > \$4.7 Million over 5 years
- Awarded by US Department of Education
- ➤ Is a partnership with Georgia Department of Education, Poses Family Foundation, Georgia State University Center for Leadership in Disability, Burton Blatt Institute at Syracuse University, Parent to Parent of Georgia and Georgia Workforce Development.
- ➤ Will focus on both in and out of school youth ages 14-24
- Will transform the way that GVRA is engaging students and youth with disabilities in transitioning to careers



Meet the Team

- Director of Transition Services
- Assistant Director of Transition Services
- ➤ Employer Engagement Liaison
- Career Pathways Specialists
- Social Media Technologist
- ➤ E³ Core Team





Explore

- Provide resources in career interest areas.
- Using technology to better engage youth.
- Connect pathways to the world of work.
- Introduce soft skills training.
- > Further support system engagement.





Engage

- Continued Use of Technology.
- Work-Based Learning.
- > Internships and Apprenticeships.
- Money Management/ Benefits Navigation.
- Self- Advocacy Training.





Employ

Phase 1

- Pre-employment services
- > Resume support
- Educate employers
- > Employer incentives
- Introduction to different types of employment services

Phase 2

- Post-employment services
- Understand the benefits of continuing education
- Encourage Career Advancement
- Transportation planning and coordination
- > Follow-up support



Questions?