Education, Empowerment and Employment for Success

Grant awarded by California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Agencies

- Jay Nolan Community Services
- Easter Seals of Southern California

Service Areas

- Los Angeles
- San Diego

Service Provision

- Young Adults Ages 17-30
- 76 young adults served

Purpose of the Grant

*T*o explore what it will take for young adults with developmental disabilities (ages 17-30) ……

……**to have the same employment and other opportunities for their adult lives as others without disabilities.**

Outreach and Training

- **512 people attended Introduction to Customized Employment sessions** (people with disabilities, families, school personnel, regional centers, and others)
- **271 people received hands on training in how to do CE** with 53 completing ACRE certification in CE

Outreach and Training

- 15 formal presentations at local and national conferences

Collaboration

We collaborated with….

- **7 High Schools**
- **10 Colleges and Universities**
- **5 Adult Learning and Occupational Centers**

Collaboration

We collaborated with….

- 10 Generic community resource agencies
- 5 Regional Centers
- CA Department of Rehabilitation
- CA PASS Cadre

Individual Grant Outcomes

- 24 wage jobs
- 5 carved jobs
- 3 small businesses
- 1 resource ownership opportunity
- 1 approved PASS plan

Individual Grant Outcomes

- 22 people went to college
- 7 paid internships
- 5 people volunteered in their field of interest
- 24 people assisted to receive long term supports and services

How We Did It

- Discovery
  - Neighborhood Mapping
    - Informational Interviews
      - "3/20's"
  - Internships and volunteering
- Creative job development and negotiation

What We Learned

In order to be successful in our purpose, we have to….

- **Expand our vision and raise the bar on expectations**
- **Abandon the program mentality**
- **Start with "What will it take?" approach**

What We Learned

- Get to know the person and the circle well using a ***strength based process***
- Understand a person's community and their resources
- Create REAL opportunities in REAL environments

What We Learned

- Have all funders ***working together*** to make it happen
- Provide options for ***flexible*** funding– not putting people into boxes
- Be willing to fund an ***upfront investment*** in people's futures

Big Thanks to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities for funding and supporting our efforts

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