**Advancing Employment in Georgia**

*Georgia’s Technical Assistance Center for Best Practices in Employment Supports for Individuals with Disabilities*

# Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Assistance

**Shift from Subminimum Wage and Facility-Based Employment to Competitive, Integrated Employment**

**Eligible applicants must meet each of the following:**

1. Have an active 14 (c) USDOL subminimum wage certificate and currently providing services to Georgians with disabilities.

1. Have contracts and/or agreements with both the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency and the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities or are in the application process.

1. Have the capacity to commit to receiving structured assistance in support of provider transformation consistent with the Employment First framework.

**If your organization is selected, you will receive:**

* Individualized Technical Assistance

Following the development of a provider transformation plan that is based on identified strengths and needs of the provider, selected organization(s) will receive individualized technical assistance beginning August 19, 2024.

* Access to the virtual Community of Practice and Learning Community

Participating providers will have access to customized webinars, online trainings, and multiple resources related to best practices and research in employment for individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities.

**If selected, your agency will commit to and be responsible for:**

1. Ensuring all relevant team members actively participate in the development of the provider transformation plan.

1. Active participation in evaluation activities throughout the project that will include measures of professional development, measures of satisfaction, as well as outcome data.
2. Participation in Advancing Employment’s National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) programming and activities. October 2024. <https://www.advancingemployment.com/ndeam>
3. Participation in Advancing Employment’s monthly CoP zoom meetings on the first Thursday of each month from 10 to 11 a.m.
4. Work with two to three jobseekers throughout the technical assistance period.

**How to apply:**

1. Complete the following application in detail and submit no later than July 16, 2024. Only one application per organization is necessary.

1. Submit electronically to advancingemployment@uga.edu

**Selection Process:**

The selection process will be based on an evaluation of each application, which will be scored according to points awarded for each section. The rubric that is used is attached at the end of this application.

## Application Deadline: July 16, 2024

Advancing Employment in Georgia www.advancingemployment.com

Is located at the Institute on Human Development and Disability (IHDD), University of Georgia, and funded by the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD).

Key project team members include:

Doug Crandell, MFA, Project Director

Dr. Tracy Rackensperger, Manager of Resources and Outreach

Dr. Hamida Jinnah, Evaluation Director

Katrina Goudelock, M.A. Social Work, Program Coordinator

Amy Price, MS, Consultant

# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION

**NAME OF ORGANIZATION:**

**ADDRESS:**

**WEBSITE:**

**SERVICE AREA:**

**PRIMARY CONTACT:**

**POSITION/TITLE:**

**PHONE:**

**EMAIL:**

**PROVIDER ORGANIZATION TEAM MEMBERS**

**(INCLUDE ALL STAFF MEMBERS COMMITTING TO CONSISTENT PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT AND ON-SITE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE)**

Provide name, phone, and E-mail for each person, along with their role related to employment services. *5 points.*

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

1. Summarize your organization’s current capacity to provide community-based employment services to individuals with ID/DD (include trainings, collaborations/partnerships, etc.). *20 points*

1. Describe the challenges your organization has faced related to moving from sheltered facility-based work under a 14 (c) certificate to jobs in the community. *35 points*

1. Considering your organization’s current capacity/structure and outcomes related to competitive, integrated employment, please choose the area (s) technical assistance is most needed: *15 points*

Discovery or other person-centered assessment strategies

Person-Centering Planning/Job Search Planning

Customized Job Development

Job Coaching/Instruction

Supported Employment & Post-Employment supports

Relationship Building /networking/ negotiating with Employers

Self-Employment/Micro-Enterprise

Working with partnering agencies/systems, to include service coordination

Benefits Counseling/Work Incentives

Disability-related issues

Transitioning from center-based services to community-based services

Identifying the required knowledge, skills and abilities that is needed by staff

4. Describe the specific goals your organization has committed to related to increasing competitive, integrated employment opportunities for the individuals you serve, and how would technical assistance from *Advancing Employment in Georgia* facilitate achieving those goals? *25 points*

Our organization fully understands that if selected, involvement with this project will require an investment of staff time.

Executive Director or Designee Date

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Provides name, phone, and E-mail for each person, along with their role related to employment  services.  0 - 5 points. | Summarizes organization’s current capacity to provide community-based employment services to  individuals with ID/DD (include trainings, collaborations/partnerships, etc.).  0 - 20 points | Describes the challenges organization has faced related to moving from facility-based  programming to jobs in the community.  0 - 35 points | Considers organization’s current capacity/structure and outcomes related to competitive,  integrated employment, please choose the area (s) technical assistance is most needed:  0 - 15 points | Describes the specific goals organization has committed to related to increasing competitive,  integrated employment opportunities for the individuals served, and how would technical  assistance from Advancing Employment in Georgia facilitate achieving those goals?  0 - 25 points |
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# Example Evaluation Rubric

Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_