



Welcome to the INCLUSION WORKS Community Update

We are excited to share new updates about Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) in the Inclusion Works Community Update!



Stay tuned to hear about all the great things happening in Inclusion Works! New updates every other month. [Join](#) our mailing list!



INCLUSION WORKS NEWS

Weathering the Storm Hurricane Helene Response Resources

In a disaster, there is no right or wrong way to feel. Having the resources to prepare, respond, and recover from a disaster is important. NCDHHS is connecting with communities and partners across the state to understand impacts and provide support, resources and care to North Carolinians in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene.



Find resources below related to Hurricane Helene recovery efforts. This information will continue to be updated as recovery moves forward.

- [Hurricane Helene Recovery Resources | NCDHHS](#)
- [Weathering the Storm | NCDHHS](#)
- [Hurricane Helene Resources for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf Blind | NCDHHS](#)
- [Disaster Recovery Health and Safety | NCDHHS](#)



KEY UPDATES

Inclusion Works Begins Implementing new Employment Assessment Process across North Carolina Providers

We're excited to announce that Inclusion Works along with expert partners, Work Together NC and UNC TEACCH, will be visiting providers across North Carolina to provide new Employment Assessments and Career Development Plans for individuals with I/DD currently working in non-Competitive Integrated Employment (non-CIE) settings if it is their choice.



These tools will help individuals with I/DD share skills and interests and develop a personalized plan to reach their career goals. We will continue to provide resources and updates as we progress in these efforts.

Inclusion Works Implements its CIE Incentive Plan for Providers to Support Eligible Members

Running from July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025, Inclusion Works is implementing its CIE Incentive Plan for providers to support eligible members employed in a non-CIE job to begin and sustain a job in CIE. After eligible members achieve a milestone, providers are issued incentive payments totaling up to \$5,000 from their Tailored Plan.



For more information regarding eligibility requirements, payment details, and answers to Frequently Asked Questions, visit the Inclusion Works Website and go to ["Information for Care Providers"](#).

NC Hosted Annual Assistive Technology Expo

NCDHHS hosted its [Annual Assistive Technology Expo](#), "Breaking Boundaries, Empowering Lives," on Oct. 3 at the McKimmon Conference and Training Center in Raleigh. The NCDHHS [Assistive Technology Program](#) is a state and federally funded program that provides assistive technology services statewide to people of all ages and abilities



More than 45 vendors attended this year's Annual Assistive Technology Expo's vendor hall

There are **10 NCATP Centers** located throughout North Carolina. [Click to find the one closest to you.](#)



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Join Inclusion Works at the i2i Winter Conference

Date: December 10-12
Location: Benton Convention Center, Winston Salem NC



Inclusion Works is happy to be presenting at the 2024 i2i Winter Conference: "Inclusion Works: Empowering North Carolinians with I/DD Through Competitive Integrated Employment". Follow this [link to Register](#).

Inclusion Works will be delving into accomplishments in 2024, showcasing the initiative's collaborative approach, progress achieved on its strategic plan, and what's on the horizon for the Inclusion Works community. For additional information on the agenda, pre-conference events, and other logistics, please visit the [2024 Winter Conference brochure](#).



Join Inclusion Works at the Benefits Counseling Lunch & Learn

The Inclusion Works Program is hosting two sessions of our Lunch & Learn Webinar to provide a deep-dive on Benefits Counseling and Work Incentives.

1st Session – Understanding Benefits and Employment

Wednesday, November 20th from 12:00 – 1:00pm

- Relationship between employment and benefits for individuals with I/DD
- Q&A with Benefits Counselor



2nd Session – Navigating Benefits and Employment: Real World Experiences

Wednesday, December 4th from 12:00 – 1:00pm

- Benefit Programs Eligibility and Info: Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, WIC/SNAP
- Individual testimonies/ Q&A

Register for [Lunch and Learns](#)



RESOURCES

Helpful Links and Resources for Inclusion Works

- [Inclusion Works Initiative](#)
- [Division of Employment and Independence for People with Disabilities \(EIPD\)](#)
- [EIPD Information Request Form](#)
- [Division of Health Benefits \(DHB/NC Medicaid\)](#)
- [NC LME/MCO Directory](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ's\) on CIE](#)

Meet the Inclusion Works Team

- Kelly Crosbie, Director of DMHDDSUS
- Renee Rader, Deputy Director and COO of DMHDDSUS
- Ginger Yarbrough, Director I/DD, TBI & Olmstead, DMHDDSUS
- Claire Colligan – I/DD Employment Lead -IDD/TBI/OLMSTEAD
- Tina Barrett – I/DD Team Lead, IDD, TBI, and Olmstead, DMHDDSUS
- Sandy Terrell, Chief Clinical Officer, NC Medicaid, DHB
- Pam Scott, Assistant General Counsel, OGC
- Chris Egan, Asst. Secretary for Employment & Inclusion
- Kathie Smith, Director of EIPD
- Kenneth Bausell, Sr. Dir. of Employment & Inclusion
- LaCosta Parker, I/DD Program Manager, DHB
- Tara Heasley – I/DD Policy Consultant, DHB
- Anita McMahan – Chief of Employment Services & Prog. Dev., EIPD
- Adrienne Kittle - Program Specialist for I/DD, EIPD
- Jeanna Cullinan – Comms & Special Proj., Employment & Inclusion
- Dina Reynolds – Communications Consultant, DMH/DD/SUS

If you have questions, email or call: dmhiddcontact@dhs.nc.gov • 984-236-5045



NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/about/department-initiatives/inclusion-works>

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