



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

Celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month with Inclusion Works!

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, a time to honor the contributions of workers with disabilities and promote inclusive workplaces. In North Carolina, the Inclusion Works initiative is dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to achieve meaningful employment.



Join us for the events below celebrating the achievements of workers with I/DD and exploring ways to create more inclusive job opportunities.

DMHDDSUS October Side-by-Side: Disability Employment Awareness: Featuring a Panel of Individuals with Lived Experience

- Date: October 7, 2024
- Time: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET
- [Register Now](#)

Inclusion Works October Lunch and Learn: Empowering Employment for Individuals with I/DD through Benefits Counseling Part 1

- Date: October 23, 2024
- Time: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. ET
- [Register Now](#)

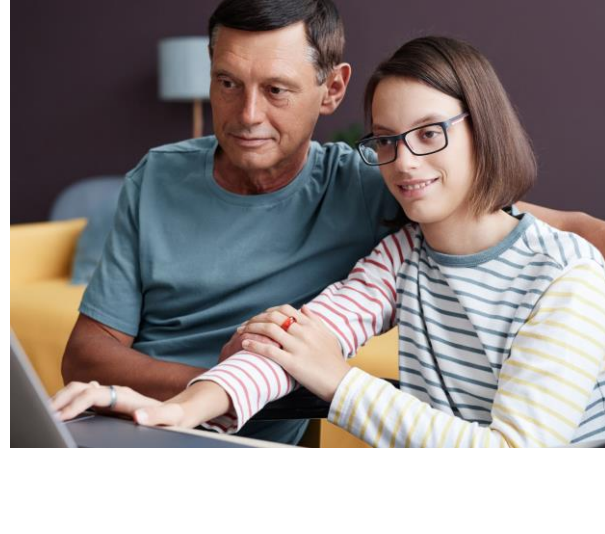
Inclusion Works October Lunch and Learn: Empowering Employment for Individuals with I/DD through Benefits Counseling Part 2

- Date: October 30, 2024
- Time: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. ET
- [Register Now](#)

KEY UPDATES

Inclusion Works Begins Implementing Employment Assessments across North Carolina Providers

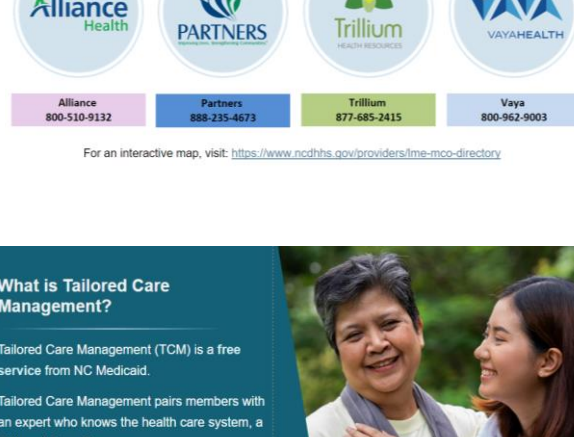
We're excited to announce that Inclusion Works along with expert partners, Work Together NC and TEACCH, will be visiting providers across North Carolina to provide new Employment Assessments and Career Development Plans for individuals with I/DD currently working in non - Competitive Integrated Employment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



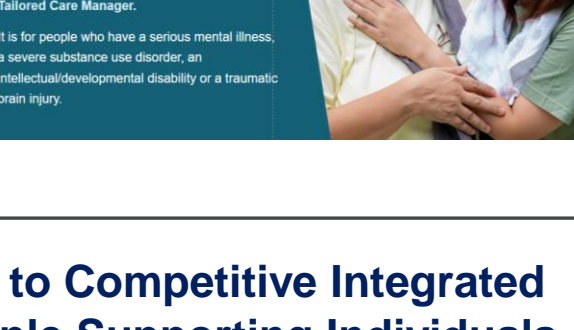
These tools will help individuals with I/DD share skills and interests and develop a personalized plan to reach their career goals. We will continue to provide resources and updates as we progress in these efforts.

Empowering Employment for Individuals with I/DD through Tailored Plans and Tailored Care Management

Join us in reviewing the August Lunch and Learn featuring Gwendolyn Sherrod, NC Medicaid Program Manager for Tailored Care Management. She provided valuable insights into Tailored Plans and Care Management, which are transforming healthcare opportunities for individuals with I/DD in North Carolina.



The presentation offered an overview of Tailored Plans' key features and shared firsthand experiences from a care manager about strategies for supporting individuals with I/DD in achieving their employment goals.



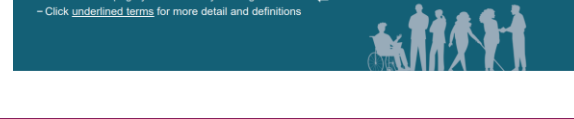
Missed the August Lunch and Learn? Review the [recording](#) and [presentation](#).

New Resource: Exploring Paths to Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) Guide for People Supporting Individuals with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD)

Inclusion Works released a free guide, *"Exploring Paths to CIE"* designed to assist care managers, providers, and families supporting individuals with I/DD in achieving and sustaining CIE. The guide explores key terms, processes, and available support options.



- Download the free [Paths to CIE Guide Now!](#)
- Watch the [video tutorial](#)
- Get answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#)



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Join Inclusion Works at the NCARF 2024 Fall Conference

Date: September 18 – 20th
Location: Hilton Asheville Biltmore Park

NC DHHS will present an overview of the Inclusion Works initiative and its strategic priorities at the upcoming North Carolina Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (NCARF) Fall Conference. Inclusion Works, Work Together NC and WISE will host a workshop for providers on Inclusion Works' objectives, such as Employment Assessments, Career Development Plans, and the Provider Innovation Initiative.



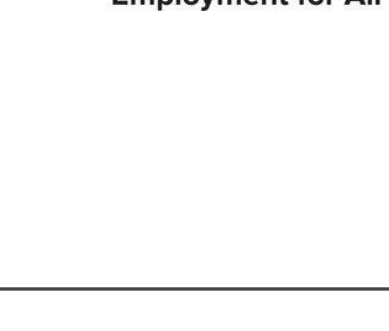
NCARF represents a range of disability-related programs, including community rehabilitation programs.

[Register Now](#)

Join Inclusion Works at the NCAPSE 2024 Fall Conference

Date: October 9 – 11th
Location: Meadowbrook Inn, 711 Main Street, Blowing Rock

NCDHHS will be presenting on Inclusion Works at the Fall North Carolina Association of People Support Employment First (NC APSE) Conference. This forum will provide an opportunity for NCDHHS to connect with Inclusion Works stakeholders, share progress on strategic priorities, and discuss future goals.



NCAPSE provides leadership, training, technical support, and advocacy concerning the benefits of hiring employees with disabilities in North Carolina.

[Register Now](#)

Join Inclusion Works and Inclusion Connects at the NC Benchmarks Destination

Date: October 15 – 18th
Location: The Cherokee Convention Center

NCDHHS will present on Inclusion Works and Inclusion Connects at the Benchmarks Destination 2024 Conference. This event will provide an opportunity to connect with stakeholders and learn more about the strategic priorities of these two initiatives.



Benchmarks is an alliance of agencies offering behavioral health, child welfare, education, developmental disabilities, and residential support services.

[Register Now](#)

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 Consultant for CIE, DMH/DD/SUS
- 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@dhhs.nc.gov • 984-236-5045