



EMPLOYMENT FIRST UPDATE 2/26/18

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1. **JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE DISABILITIES IN WAUKEGAN, IL AND AN ESSENTIAL RESOURCE FOR EMPLOYERS SEEKING TO HIRE AND RETAIN MORE QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WHO HAVE DISABILITIES.**

Medline Industries is looking to hire **47 people** to fill line assembler and packing roles within their Waukegan, IL facility.

Medline is both a manufacturer and distributor of medical devices and supplies, and are made up of problem solvers. Risk-takers. Big thinkers and doers. They are looking for team members to help drive the healthcare solutions needed for today and tomorrow.

In partnership with Elmhurst College's Master in Supply Chain, a group of students are working with Medline as part of a capstone project seeking to replicate the HOPE Handbook: A Guide for Disability Hiring. The HOPE Handbook is a *free* tool that details the highly effective recruitment, hiring and retention process created at LA-CO Industries. A video highlighting the success of LA-CO employees who have disabilities and showcasing the positive impact of the process outlined in the HOPE Handbook can be viewed here:

<https://youtu.be/7b8XTbeD7yc>

The [HOPE HANDBOOK: A GUIDE FOR DISABILITY HIRING](#) has been made available as a free resource to those who want to learn more about highly effective disability diversity employment initiatives. The complete Hope Handbook can be found here:

<https://www.elmhurst.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/HOPE-Disability-Hiring-Handbook.pdf>

Please read the following information regarding the 47 available positions. If you or individuals who have disabilities and are served by your vocational/educational program are interested in the positions please contact **Tim R Engstrom** at Engstromt@elmhurst.edu



Full-Time Employment Opportunities Below for PWD

Job Descriptions

Types of Jobs

- Line Assemblers: 30 first shift and 13 second shift
- Packers 2 first shift and 2 second shift

Typical hours of operations:

Monday - Friday

- 1st shift: 7:00 am -3:00 pm
- 2nd shift 3:00 pm – 11:30 pm

Overtime

- Saturday same hours if needed to work. At time only 6 hours per shift –

Additional work hours during the week:

- 1st shift will come an hour early
- 2nd shift will stay an hour later

Location: 1170 S. Northpoint Blvd. Waukegan, IL

2. NEW EFSLMP PROVIDER TRANSFORMATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITY

employment



EFSLMP Provider Transformation 2.0 Webinar Series

In March 2018, the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) will launch the **Provider Transformation 2.0 Webinar Series**, six (6) ninety-minute sessions led by national subject matter experts from the Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program (EFSLMP). The webinars are designed for community rehabilitation providers (CRPs) who have already begun to transform their service delivery model to one with an emphasis on competitive, integrated employment as the priority outcome for individuals served. Through this series, ODEP will gather more feedback to create the "Provider Transformation 2.0 Manual" as a supplemental resource for the field. This opportunity is open to all CRPs. The scheduled webinars will be held on Thursdays as follows:

- **Webinar #1: Redesigning Your Organization: Board, CEO, CFO, Middle Management, Front Line Staff, Employers & Stakeholders** [Leadership, Strategic Planning, Operations Focus]
Date / Time: March 15, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern)
Facilitators: Karen Lee; Thomas "Tom" Wilds
- **Webinar #2: Staff Development, Recruitment, and Restructuring: "How To" Examples of Effective Restructuring; Where to Focus Attention on Transformation** [Operations Focus, Workforce Focus]

Date / Time: March 29, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern)

Facilitators: Dale Versteegen; Gail Fanjoy

- **Webinar #3: Staff Training Specifics: Developing Internal Trainers, Meaningful Day Integration, Best Practices, Transportation Solutions, Sample Job Descriptions/Work Day Schedules** [Workforce Focus]

Date / Time: April 12, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern)

Facilitators: Genni Sasnett; Gail Fanjoy

- **Webinar #4: Stakeholder Engagement: How to Listen; Considering Real Choices; Working Effectively with Families, Self-Advocates, Employers, Policymakers, and Advocacy Organizations** [Customer Focus]

Date / Time: April 26, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern)

Facilitators: Sean Roy; Pat Rogan

- **Webinar #5: The Importance of Effective Advocacy for Better Policy: Collaboration, Coalitions, Communities of Practice, and Capacity Building at the Local Level** [Leadership, Strategic Planning]

Date / Time: May 10, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern)

Facilitators: Rachel Pollock; Karen Lee

- **Webinar #6: Funding Diversification: Local, State, Federal Examples + How to advocate for it; Phasing Out Reliance on Facility-Based Contracts** [Strategic Planning, Operations Focus]

Date / Time: May 31, 2018 @ 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern)

Facilitators: Rachel Pollock; Genni Sasnett

For detailed information regarding the webinar series click [here](#). Complete the [online application](#) and [Provider Commitment Form](#) by March 5th. Applicants will be notified by March 12th. Please share with your colleagues!

3. YOUNG ADULTS/TRANSITIONS AGED YOUTH (TIME SENSITIVE)

- **Lake County Summer Youth Program: Apply by February 28**

Do you serve youth who are 14-18 (or 14-22 with an IEP), are attending middle or high school, and meet low income guidelines? The Job Center of Lake County is accepting applications for their 2018 Lake County Summer Youth Employment Program. Participants will work at various sites in Lake County, including a mix of private employers and nonprofit organizations, local municipalities and community-based organizations throughout Lake County. If you know youth who are eligible and interested in this program, they must submit an [application](#) by February 28th.

- **Youth Employment Hearing: March 2**

The Alternative Schools Network is holding their 2018 Youth Employment Hearing "Help Build the Economy" at Malcolm X College on March 2nd from 9am-12pm. The program will feature dialogue with youth, elected officials, business, and non-profit leaders to discuss challenges contributing to youth unemployment. Contact [Jack Wuest](#) for more.

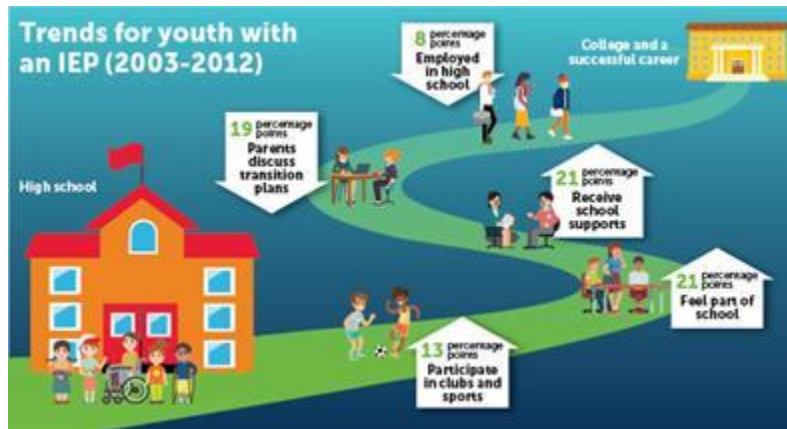


- **Updated Core Competencies for Transition Service Providers**

Building on work first published in 2010, the Pathways Transition Training Partnership (PTTP) has collaborated with partners to update and clarify the core competencies needed by service providers working in mental health services with young adults of transition age. This new resource defines each of the 15 core competencies along with the attitudes, knowledge and skills needed to demonstrate it, and an example of the competency in practice.

[Download the updated Core Competencies »](#)

- **New Report Examines Changes Over Time in the Characteristics and Experiences of Special Education Students in High School**



[Mathematica Report](#)

- **Join the Trauma-Sensitive School Movement**
 - Are you ready to change the temperature of your school’s behavioral climate?
 - Are you prepared to implement new strategies to help your staff connect with students and their families?
 - Are you looking to empower your team to effectively de-escalate classroom problems before they become crises?

Make your school a place all children can learn and thrive with the skills you develop through the National Council’s **Trauma-Sensitive Schools Learning Community**.

Connect with experts and professionals like you from schools across the nation and become part of a

one-of-a-kind Learning Community in a year-long journey dedicated to creating healthier schools with a trauma-sensitive approach.

The Learning Community will kick-off in Dallas this July at the first of two in-person meetings. This is just the beginning. As a member of the Learning Community, you'll benefit from a series of coaching calls and webinars, access to useful tools and resources, and join a listserv of peers and experts. You'll learn to:

- Build a trauma-sensitive school that supports integrating evidence-based principles, policies and practices into your school's cultural fabric.
- Create safe environments where all students can learn.
- Nourish community partnerships that support children and families within the schools.
- Integrate trauma screening and assessment into a multi-tiered system of assessment and intervention.
- Increase compassionate and restorative practices as you minimize exclusionary discipline.
- Equip your staff with the skills they need to stay emotionally healthy and address secondary traumatic stress/compassion fatigue.

Want to learn more about the Learning Community? Register today for our [informational webinar](#) on February 28, 2018 at 3 p.m. ET. You'll hear about how it works, expectations and commitments, and the benefits to you and your school and district. And find Trauma-Sensitive Schools Learning Community materials [here](#).

Applications to participate in the Learning Community are due by May 4, 2018: Apply [here](#). Not a school, but know one that might be interested? Pass this opportunity along!

- **Project CAREER STAR Internet Portal**
The NIDILRR-funded [Project CAREER: Development of an Interprofessional Demonstration to Support the Transition of Students with Traumatic Brain Injuries from Postsecondary Education to Employment](#) has created the [Student, Technology, Accommodations and Resources \(STAR\) internet portal](#). STAR serves as a platform to provide resources and support to college students with a traumatic brain injury (TBI) and their families and caregivers, college advisors, educators, employers, health and rehabilitation providers, military/veterans, and advocates. The portal includes information about readily-available technology and apps that support college students and other people with TBI.

4. 2017 DISABILITY STATISTICS COMPENDIUM RELEASE

The new 2017 Disability Statistics Compendium has been released! The Compendium is jam packed with information and statistics. The Illinois Employment First Community of Practice has been working hard to build capacity, expand stakeholder connections and connect job seekers who have disabilities to employment opportunities aligned with their interests and abilities. Employers are expanding diversity hiring programs and including people who have disabilities in a meaningful way (see the link to the HOPE Handbook and the job opportunities in section 1 for excellent examples of employer support).

We still have a long way to go but we have reason to celebrate the significant job gains in the State of Illinois for people who have disabilities. **The Compendium shows there were 9,550 job gains for persons with disabilities in Illinois.**

The Illinois IDHS Employment First team sincerely thanks you for your efforts! We look forward to continued collaboration, the development of new resources, and even MORE employment opportunities for people who have disabilities!

Please explore the Compendium to learn more! I have included some information but the Compendium is packed with data and statistics like the employment data that follows:
“In 2016, of the 20,761,092 individuals with disabilities ages 18 to 64 years **living in the community**, 7,461,001 individuals were **employed**—35.9 percent. In contrast, of the 176,005,194 individuals without disabilities ages 18 to 64 years **living in the community**, 135,089,199 individuals were **employed**—76.8 percent. The percentage of people with disabilities **employed** was highest in North Dakota (54.0 percent) and lowest in West Virginia (27.4 percent).”

I pulled out the IL rate=35.7%



The 2017 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Supplement, and Annual Report are now available for download and online use!

You can also download videos from the 2017 Annual Compendium Release Event.

Thank you again for your support and if you have any questions, please contact us at disability.statistics@unh.edu or by calling 1.866.538.6521.

[Download the 2017 Compendium](#)

[Download the 2017 Supplement](#)

[Download the 2016 Annual Report](#)

[Access HTML Versions of the Documents](#)

[View the Event Recordings](#)

[Request Copies by Mail](#)

[Download Presentations](#)

[View Archived Events](#)

Questions?

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or by calling
1.866.538.6521.



Institute on Disability/UCED



Disability Statistics & Demographics
Rehabilitation Research & Training Center

5. WEBINARS

▪ **VR Counselor Transition Practices in "High Performing" States**

The NIDILRR-funded [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Vocational Rehabilitation \(VR\) Practices for Youth and Young Adults](#) will host a webinar, [VR Counselor Transition Practices in "High Performing" States, February 27th, 2-3pm ET](#). Presenters will summarize the results of a study soliciting feedback from VR counselors in 13 state VR agencies which produced the highest success rates for youths with disabilities between 16 and 24 years old. Presenters will also offer recommendations and implications for transition-related policy and practice and will describe some next steps in improving transition-related practices of VR counselors. Registration is free and required.

▪ **Virtual Learning Series: Peer Navigators Support People with Serious Mental Illness**

Session 1: Peer Navigators To Address Health Disparities of People From Latino and African American Communities Living With Serious Mental Illness

Thursday, March 1, 2018 | 12:30–1:30 p.m. Eastern Time

SAMHSA's Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS TACS) is pleased to announce a three-part virtual learning series. Peer navigators are people with lived experience who help individuals receiving services meet their health needs in an often fragmented health care system. Peer navigators build professional relationships to assist with arranging or getting to doctor's appointments, lab tests, office procedures, clinic visits, counselor meetings, pharmacies, and support services. The National Institutes of Health and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute developed and evaluated peer navigator programs in three federally funded projects. These projects focus on individuals living with a diagnosis of schizophrenia and/or bipolar disorder, individuals who have experienced homelessness, and the use of peer navigators in integrated health care. BRSS TACS will present this work in this series of webinars. You may attend individual sessions or register for all three.

[Register for the Webinar](#)

Save the Dates:

Thursday, March 8: Principles and Practices of Peer Navigators (Part 2 of 3)

Thursday, March 15: Implementation of Peer Navigator Programs (Part 3 of 3)

▪ **LEAD CENTER WEBINAR SERIES**

AJC Certification & Section 188: A Window of Opportunity to Impact Equal Opportunity Policy & Practice for People with Disabilities

This training series will consist of **three live webinars** jointly facilitated by Technical Assistance teams from the LEAD Center and the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI).

By attending this series, participants will:

1. Increase foundational knowledge of the intersection between WIOA disability-related provisions, Section 188 Equal Opportunity regulations and AJC Certification, especially in programmatic accessibility
2. Identify their need to update State/local Section 188 compliance procedures and AJC Certification processes to reflect the expanded role of AJC Core Partners under WIOA
3. Learn replicable strategies and action steps from multiple States to implement effective AJC Certification processes, with Section 188 as the framework
4. Identify key components in their State/local regions for effective Section 188 and AJC Certification implementation, including roles of cross-system partners, Equal Opportunity Officers and Vocational Rehabilitation

You can register for all three webinars in this series now.

March 7, 2018
3:00-4:00 p.m. ET

[REGISTER](#)

**WIOA from a Disability
Perspective & Section 188:
A Powerful Foundation for
Access**

March 21, 2018
3:00-4:30 p.m. ET

[REGISTER](#)

**State Workforce Systems
that Are Making Equal
Opportunity a Priority:
Missouri, Virginia,
California**

April 4, 2018
3:00-4:00 p.m. ET

[REGISTER](#)

**Achieving 188 Compliance
& AJC Certification: Key
Strategies & Actions from
Policy to Procedures**

- **Creating a Culture of Excellence in Your Organization**
Join us on Monday, March 12, 2018 at 2pm EST.

Diversity Partners is an innovative, employer-driven, national initiative that offers an array of no-cost, web-based learning modules for employment service professionals looking to build stronger relationships with employers. This webinar will focus on the importance of “doing it right” when engaging with employers, and offers an introduction to our *Leadership Toolbox*. The *Leadership Toolbox* contains resources, tools, and planning guides to help organizations create an environment that emphasizes and supports frontline personnel in their efforts to develop effective business engagement strategies. This session is for anyone interested in playing a role in creating a culture of excellence in employment. Organizational leaders and frontline employment staff welcome. Note: This webinar is offered in Eastern Standard Time from 2:00pm-3:30pm EST.

[REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR](#)

- **Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program**
Community of Practice Monthly Webinar
March 14, 2018, 3:00-4:00 ET
<http://www.econsys.com/eflsm/copwebinar/>

Topic: Self-Employment: Taking Strategic Action Despite Risks

This webinar focuses on a small business owner who utilizes self-determination, social justice, and progressive business practices to start and grow his small business. During the webinar you will also hear from our guest speakers about the evolution of an organization to best practices, including self-employment as a career option. Too often we get lost in the hard work of system change and lose sight of the compelling stories that develop between employment specialists and job seekers. Our guest speakers will give a tell what is possible when we see the humanity in each other and add compassion as a value in the work we do.

Webinar Objectives

- Cultivating a support team
- Utilizing and building social capital
- Assessing passion as critical for self-employment
- Mandating flexibility
- Planning for success
- Continual strategic planning and marketing to remain relevant
- Ensuring the human/social services system stays out of the way

Special Guests: Christopher Coleman and Nancy Brooks-Lane



Christopher Coleman, B.S., is known as America’s Unconfined Life Coach, Motivational Speaker, Author, D&I Expert, and Confidence Builder. At birth, after miraculously being brought back to life, doctors initially told Christopher Coleman’s parents he would live his life confined to a bed, a wheelchair, and his own body. He was initially diagnosed mentally and physically disabled. Forty years later, Christopher has defied the odds. He has a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Technical and Professional Communications, a Certification in Human Behavior along with a Certification in Life Coaching. He is the founder and CEO of Unconfined Life

Institute, a nonprofit dedicated to leading the world ‘out of the box.’ In 2013, Christopher published his first book 'Solitary Refinement', a 31-day journey to personal freedom. In 2015, he released his autobiography, ‘No Longer Confined,’ detailing his personal journey towards freedom. In 2017, Christopher completed his third book, ‘D+I= EI: The Science Behind Relational DNA.’ For over 15 years, as an author, life coach, speaker, and D&I Icon, he has presented to many colleges, universities, corporations, Christian organizations, and civic groups around the world. Currently, Christopher works to challenge others to live their best life, ‘An Unconfined Life!’ To learn more, click [here](#) to visit his website.

Nancy Brooks-Lane, M.S., L.M.F.T., L.P.C., is a Senior Consultant at Griffin-Hammis Associates, Inc. Her diverse skills include: training, technical assistance and side by side mentoring in best practices; organizational and system change strategic planning; and aligning policy, funding, and change. She has assisted persons with disabilities obtain customized employment or start their own business and has mentored, trained and provided technical assistance to self-advocates, families, providers, citizen advocates, funders and social and political leaders in the processes of best practices and system change. She is a mentor collaborator for START-UP / USA providing technical assistance and resource dissemination nationally to individuals interested in pursuing self-employment (www.start-up-usa.biz). Nancy is a national EFSLMP Subject Matter Expert (SME) to provide training to states across the country.



Action Required: Seeking Input in Advance

We want to ensure that our speakers address your concerns. This is your opportunity to submit input in advance. Submit your questions or comments [here](#) no later than February 28, 2018.

Webinar Procedures

1. In advance of the webinar, we strongly recommend you test your connection and review the [Adobe Connect Instructions and Troubleshooting Tips](#).
2. On the day of the webinar, enter room here: <http://www.econsys.com/eflsmp/copwebinar/>.
3. In the GUEST field, enter your **first and last name followed by state abbreviation (i.e., Jeff, Smith, DC)**.
4. To connect your audio, follow the prompts to enter your phone number (direct line), and the system will immediately call you back (see [step-by-step instructions](#)).
5. If you are unfamiliar with Adobe Connect, please review these [tips](#) before participating.

- **[Fair & Equitable Infrastructure: Investing in Communities & Workers](#)**
Wednesday, March 7, 2018
1:00 PM CST to 2:30 PM CST (2:00 PM EST to 3:30 PM EST)

The Administration recently released its long-awaited federal infrastructure proposal. Today, low-income communities and communities of color live in the shadow of America's crumbling infrastructure. Residents in these communities also disproportionately experience chronic unemployment and have limited access to economic opportunity. Federal infrastructure investments can and should advance equity by promoting thriving, healthy communities and creating pathways to quality jobs for people facing barriers to employment. This webinar will discuss why federal infrastructure investments matter and how these investments can advance equity and economic opportunity; lift up examples of infrastructure projects already underway that are improving communities and investing in workers who face barriers to employment; and share guiding principles for fair and equitable federal infrastructure investments.

[Register Today!](#)

- **[Realizing Full Employment: Bold Policy Solutions to Advance Economic Opportunity for All](#)**
Wednesday, March 14, 2018
1:00 PM to 2:30 PM CDT (2:00 PM to 3:30 PM CDT)

America is strongest when all people who want to work can find quality jobs that allow them to support themselves and their families. During periods of economic decline and growth, the reality is that millions of jobseekers are left out of the labor market every day through no fault of their own. Now is the time for bold national policy solutions to address this issue head on. From coast to coast, leaders have proposed a number of ideas in the last year—and one of the most recent is to establish a federal subsidized employment program that would create pathways to economic opportunity for everyone who wants to work. This webinar will explore this new policy proposal, give an overview of the current subsidized employment landscape, lift up lessons learned from implementing these strategies in communities, and start to build momentum for a national subsidized employment program and similar policy solutions that can help reduce poverty by ensuring that all people can access and succeed in work.

[Register Today!](#)

6. RESOURCES

- **NEW!! Moving Along to Employment: 30-second Training**



These short [30-Second Training slide shows](#) offer an introduction about employment of persons with mental health conditions for four target audiences: Individuals in recovery, family members, and providers of services. After each informational slide, there is a quiz, followed by resources for additional information.

[View the 30-Second Training slide shows.](#)

7. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Illinois Community College Board Grant Opportunity: March 15**

Are you a CBO, public or private nonprofit, local education agency, or higher education institution? You may be eligible for the Illinois Community College Board's Innovative Bridge and Transition Program Grant! This funding aims to support new or existing bridge programs for adults which prepares them for post-secondary education or training, leads to employment in high-demand industries, and can be used for transition programming to and through postsecondary education and employment. Click the link [here](#) to learn more.