



CCD 2024 Employment and Training Task Force Annual Report

1. Brief Task Force Description or Mission Statement

The Employment and Training Task Force deals with issues related to federal employment programs and policies affecting economic self-sufficiency and opportunity for people with disabilities.

2. Three Issues the Task Force Worked on in 2024

- a. 2024 Priority One - Continued engagement with DOL around their “comprehensive review” of 14c
 - Discussed impact of “Chevron Case” on potential NPRM to be issued by DOL; attended House Committee on Education and the Workforce (Subcommittee on Workforce Protections) hearing on the work of the Wage and Hour Division at DOL; provided input to ODEP prior to issuance of the NPRM
- b. 2024 Priority Two - In anticipation of there not being much opportunity to move legislation in the upcoming year, focus on expanding relationships with key administrative offices & career professionals (example: Engage with newly confirmed Commissioner of RSA)
 - Established relationship with incoming RSA Commissioner Dante Allen
 - Engaged around Vocational Rehabilitation funding cuts; established a VR Funding Workgroup which continues to meet; this work is ongoing
- c. 2024 Priority Three - Enhanced engagement with Congressional Committees of jurisdiction (related to disability employment)
 - Engaged primarily with Senate HELP and House Education & Workforce around the following legislation: Transition to Competitive Integrated Employment Act, WIOA reauthorization
- d. Other topics discussed/worked on:

- In collaboration with LTSS TF: Expansion of Medicaid Buy-In
- Artificial intelligence and potential impact (good and bad) on employment for people with disabilities
- In collaboration with the Social Security TF: Social Security related barriers to employment

3. Three Issues the Task Force Anticipates Working on in 2025

- a. 2025 Priority One – Expanded Workforce Participation;
- b. 2025 Priority Two – Reducing Barriers to Employment (Impact on Federal employees with disabilities per DOGE recommendations to relocate federal employees and end remote/virtual work policy; transportation issues; SSDI/Asset limits, and other related employment barriers such as navigating potential new work requirements under Medicaid)
- c. 2025 Priority Three – Improved VR outcomes and adequate funding.

4. 2024 Task Force Co-Chairs

Alicia Epstein, SourceAmerica
Rick Webster, NIB
Mike Nagel, The Arc
Julie Christensen, APSE
Bart Devon, Eggleston (for part of the year)

Election of 2025 task force co-chairs will take place on January 23, 2025.

5. Task Force Meeting Day of the Month and Meeting Time (Eastern)

4th Thursday, 10am-Noon