PROGRAM

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

AUGUST 2-3, 2017 | HYATT REGENCY • BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Meeting Employer Demand in a Job-Driven Economy: Diversity, Inclusion, and VR's



Vocational Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Demand-Side Strategies (Demand-Side RRTC)



The JD-VRTAC and Demand-Side VR-RRTC have partnered to host this National Conference. The JD-VRTAC is funded by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) within the US Department of Education under grant #H264A140002. The Vocational Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Demand-Side Strategies (Demand-Side RRTC) is funded by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) Grant # H133B120002. The JD-VRTAC and the Demand-RRTC are national centers housed at the Institute

for Community Inclusion (ICI) at the University of Massachusetts Boston. The centers are part of ExploreVR, the data hub for a group of vocational rehabilitation research projects at ICI.





WELCOME

Greetings!

Welcome to our conference: *Meeting Employer Demand in a Job-Driven Economy: Diversity, Inclusion, and VR's Evolving Role.* I'm looking forward to the two days we'll be spending together.

During the conference, we'll highlight the achievements of two national centers housed at the Institute for Community Inclusion: the Job-Driven Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center (JD-VRTAC), and the Demand-Side Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (Demand-Side RRTC). We'll also look at successful job-driven research and practices from a variety of state VR and partner agencies in the field.



The ICI and our partners are dedicated to advancing the full inclusion of people with disabilities in their communities. As such, the JD-VRTAC and Demand-Side RRTC are key players in our mission. Over the next two days, you'll be learning more about what these two projects do, and how they fit in with your work in this field.

Thank you for joining us at this conference. I look forward to meeting you, and chatting about how we can work together to help shape the future of VR.

Tom Sannicandro
Director, Institute for Community Inclusion
University of Massachusetts Boston



#EvolvingVR17

Let's continue our conversation about business and client needs in VR!

Share interesting information, new ideas, and helpful hints you learn on social media. Don't forget to include #EvolvingVR and #ExploreVR with your tweets, photos and posts. And remember to follow us and like us!

@ICInclusion Facebook.com/





	9:00-9:20am				
	Welcome				
	9:20–10:20am				
	Opening Panel - How VR meets employer demand and clients' employment needs				
	SESSION 1: BUSINESS AS A CUSTOMER				
	10:25–11:05am				
	Research, Policy, and Practice				
	11:15am-12:00pm Business Engagement at the National, State, and Local Levels				
	12:00–1:15pm Lunch (on your own)				
	1:15–2:05pm				
Breakout Sessions: Labor Market Information, Sector Strategies, and Community Rehabilitation Providers (CRPs)					
	How can VR use LMI in to engage business?				
	Sector Strategies				
	2:15-3:00pm Business Panel - Business perspective on working relationships with VR				
	3:00–3:45pm Work-based Learning Experiences – Starbucks in Maryland				
	3:55-4:20pm				
	Poster Session 1				
	Apprenticeships				
	Internships and Business Partnerships				
	Customized Training Programs and Partnerships				
	Vermont Progressive Employment Model from the ICI Research Team				
	Vermont Progressive Employment Model – State Practices				
	4:30-5:00pm				
	Poster Session 2 Regency Ballroom				
	Career Pathways Projects Assistive Technology Strategies with Business and Work-Based Learning				
4	Account formation of character than back and their back back beauting				
	8:45-9:00am				
	Welcome				
	SESSION 2: ADVANCING THE HUMAN CAPITAL				
	9:00–9:35am				
	Job-Driven Training for VR ConsumersRegency Ballroom				
	9:40–10:25am				
	Demand-Side Research Findings on Business Relations				
	SESSION 3: YOUTH AND EARLY CAREER				
	10:40–11:20am				
	Business Engagement Strategies for Working with Youth				
	11:25am-12:15pm				
	Breakout Room Roundtables on Work-Based Learning for Youth Roundtable 1: Youth-focused Apprenticeships				
	Roundtable 1: Youth-focused Apprenuceships				
	Poundtable 2: Youth focused Customized Training Programs				

SCHEDULE • WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2 -

WELCOME	REGENCY BALLROOM
Tom Sannicandro, Julisa Cully, and Cecilia Gandolfo, JD-VRTAC	
:20–10:20am	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
OPENING PANEL: HOW VR MEETS THE NEEDS OF BUSINESS AND CLIENTS	REGENCY BALLROON
Moderator: DeBrittany Mitchell, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC	
Dr. Susan Foley, Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI)	
Mark Schultz, Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation	
 Daniel Frye, New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired 	
Emily Malsch, United States Business Leadership Network (USBLN)	
ESSION 1: BUSINESS AS A CUSTOMER	
0.05 11.05 am	
0:25–11:05am	• • • • • • • • • • • • •
GENERAL SESSION PANEL: RESEARCH, POLICY, AND PRACTICE	REGENCY BALLROOM
Moderator: Dr. Dana Jefferson, JD-VRTAC	
 Moderator: Dr. Dana Jefferson, JD-VRTAC Research: Dr. Susan Foley, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC 	
•	litation (CSAVR)
 Research: Dr. Susan Foley, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC Policy: Mary Wright, Jobs for the Future Practice: Kathy West-Evans, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabit 	, ,
 Research: Dr. Susan Foley, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC Policy: Mary Wright, Jobs for the Future Practice: Kathy West-Evans, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabi National Employment Team (NET), JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC 1:05–11:15am 	, ,
 Research: Dr. Susan Foley, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC Policy: Mary Wright, Jobs for the Future Practice: Kathy West-Evans, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabit National Employment Team (NET), JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC 1:05–11:15am BREAK	••••••
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 Research: Dr. Susan Foley, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC Policy: Mary Wright, Jobs for the Future Practice: Kathy West-Evans, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabit National Employment Team (NET), JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC 1:05—11:15am BREAK 1:15am—12:00pm GENERAL SESSION PANEL: BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT AT THE NATIONAL, STATE, & LOCAL LEVELS Moderator: Linda Mock, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC 	
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1:15-2:05pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS: LABOR MARKET INFORMATION, SECTOR STRATEGIES, AND COMMUNITY REHABILITATION PROVIDERS (CRPS)

BREAKOUT ROOM: HOW CAN VR USE LMI TO ENGAGE BUSINESS?.......SUSQUEHANNA/SEVERN

Moderator: Paula Pottenger, JD-VRTAC

- Amanda Gerson, New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired: Labor Market Information Training and Implementation
- Michael Quinn & Milton Moats, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services; Susan Foley, Demand-Side RRTC:

The Creation, Implementation, and Challenges of Rolling Out an LMI Dashboard in Alabama and Preliminary Perspectives of Users

BREAKOUT ROOM: SECTOR STRATEGIESDIPLOMAT/AMBASSADOR

Moderator: Russ Thelin, JD-VRTAC

- Kartik Trivedi, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC; Mark Schultz & Janet Drudik, Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation: "On the Origin of Species": Evolution of Middle Skills Training by Natural Selection
- Steve Marshall, South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department: How South Carolina VR uses sector strategies to serve the dual customer
- Jennifer Scilacci, Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: How Colorado VR uses sector strategies to serve the dual customer

BREAKOUT ROOM: CRPS AND BUSINESS ENGAGEMENTPOTOMAC/PATUYENT

Moderator: Laurie Ford, JD-VRTAC

- Betsy Hopkins, Maine Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: How Maine DVR partners with CRPs to engage business
- Shannon Myers: Iowa Department for the Blind: How lowa Dept. for the Blind partners with CRPs to engage business

2:15-3:00pm

GENERAL SESSION PANEL: BUSINESS PANEL - BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE ON WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH VR...... REGENCY BALLROOM

Moderator: Kathy West-Evans, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) National Employment Team (NET), JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

- Kathy Burris, Workforce Initiatives Manager, Focus Group Lead Abilities and Abundance, CVSHealth
- TBD

3:05-3:50pm

GENERAL SESSION PANEL: WORK-BASED LEARNING EXPERIENCES – STARBUCKS IN MARYLAND.......REGENCY BALLROOM

Moderator: Neil McNeil, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

Jim Evans and Jessica Hawes, Maryland Department of Rehabilitation Services; Melanie Hood-Wilson, Community College of Baltimore County; Starbucks; Maryland DORS consumer

SCHEDULE • WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

3:50-3:55pm

BREAK

3:55-4:20pm

LMI and the Demand Side RRTC Projects: Dashboards, Surveys, Interviews, and Sample Analysis

- Interactive demonstration of the ADRS LMI Dashboard
 Michael Quinn and Milton Moats, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
- Key survey findings from the Business Relations Survey
 May-Lorie Saint Laurent, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC
- Qualitative Interviews of VR counselors using LMI in Alabama
 Melissa Alford, Demand-Side RRTC
- LMI Catalog: Sample Analyses/ Data Visualizations
 Kartik Trivedi, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

Apprenticeships

- Apprenticeship programs with Arkansas VR
 Jonathan Bibb, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services
- Apprenticeship Programs and Disability
 Tom Hooper, Jobs for the Future, JD-VRTAC

Internships and Business Partnerships

- Internships and VR Business Partnerships
 Mary Otiato & Joey Buizon, Massachusetts Commission for the Blind
- USBLN Mentoring Program **Keri Gray, USBLN**
- Pennsylvania's Training Program with Starbucks
 Ralph Roach, Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

Customized Training Programs and Partnerships

- Customized Training Partnerships with Business and the technical college system
 Steve Marshall, South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department
- Customized Training Partnerships with Deltech
 Ashley Kavanagh, Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Partnership Training Programs with VR
 Melanie Hood-Wilson, Community College of Baltimore County
- Customized Training Partnerships with Business
 Jim Evans, Maryland Department of Rehabilitation Services

SCHEDULE • WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2



The Progressive Employment Model Learning Collaborative RRTC

 Progressive Employment Research Findings (Progressive Employment vs. Business as usual) Susan Foley & Dennis Moore, Demand-Side RRTC

- Progressive Employment Video Series DeBrittany Mitchell, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC
- Hugh Bradshaw, Vermont Vocational Rehabilitation
- Libby Stone-Sterling, Maine Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Morgan Rincon, Oregon Commission for the Blind
- Mark Shultz, Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation

4:20	0-4:	30	pm
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BREAK

4:30-5:00pm

Career Pathways

- Advanced Manufacturing Supplement Career Pathways Tish Harris, Virginia Department for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- UpSkill/Backfill Model Career Pathways Project Janet Drudik. Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation
- Job-Driven Career Lattices Project Ashley Kavanagh, Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Assistive Technology Strategies with Business and Work-Based Learning

- Mary Otiato & Joey Buizon, Massachusetts Commission for the Blind
- Amanda Gerson, New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Jonathan Richmond, Connecticut Bureau of Education and Blind Services
- Jason Clary, Oregon Commission for the Blind
- Kevin Markel. Texas Workforce Commission Blind Services Division

5:00pm

ADJOURN

SCHEDULE • THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

8:45-9:00am

WELCOME REGENCY BALLROON

Julisa Cully and Cecilia Gandolfo, JD-VRTAC

SESSION 2: ADVANCING THE HUMAN CAPITAL

9:00-9:35am

GENERAL SESSION PANEL: JOB-DRIVEN TRAINING REGENCY BALLROOM

Moderator: Cecilia Gandolfo, JD-VRTAC

- VR: Training from the VR Perspective
 - Joe Marrone, JD-VRTAC
- Business: Training from the Vendor & Business Perspective John Ficca, Hands on Education Services Lori Nairne, HR Director at Grand Hyatt Washington

9:40-10:25am

GENERAL SESSION PANEL: DEMAND-SIDE RESEARCH FINDINGS ON BUSINESS RELATIONS...... REGENCY BALLROOM

Moderator: Kartik Trivedi, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

- Vermont Progressive Employment: Model Replication and Evaluation:
 Susan Foley & Dennis Moore, Demand-Side RRTC; Hugh Bradshaw, Vermont Vocational Rehabilitation
- VR and Business Relations: National Survey
 Kathy West Evans & May-Lorie Saint Laurent, Demand-Side RRTC

10:25-10:40am

BREAK

SESSION 3: YOUTH AND EARLY CAREER

10:40-11:20am

GENERAL SESSION PANEL: BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR WORKING WITH YOUTH...... REGENCY BALLROOM

Moderator: Joe Marrone, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

- Betsy Hopkins, Maine Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: Progressive Employment and Work-Based Learning with Jobs for Maine's Graduates
- Ralph Roach, Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation: Engaging business to Hire Minors

11:25am-12:15pm

BREAKOUT ROOM ROUNDTABLES ON WORK-BASED LEARNING FOR YOUTH

ROUNDTABLE 1: YOUTH-FOCUSED APPRENTICESHIPS......DIPLOMAT/AMBASSADOR

Facilitator: Jeanne Miller, JD-VRTAC

- Steve Marshall, South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department
- Kim Osmani, Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

Facilitator: Vito DeSantis, JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

· Joey Buizon & Mary Otiato, Massachusetts Commission for the Blind

ROUNDTABLE 3: YOUTH-FOCUSED CUSTOMIZED TRAINING PROGRAMSPOTOMAC/PATUYENT

Facilitator: Mary Ann Bedick, JD-VRTAC

• Stacey Bragg & Ashley Kavanagh, Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

12:20-12:40pm

FINAL REMARKS AND ADJOURN REGENCY BALLROOM

PRESENTERS

MELISSA ALFORD

Research Study Coordinator Institute for Community Inclusion Demand-Side RRTC

JONATHAN BIBB

Director of Arkansas Career and Training Institute

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services

HUGH BRADSHAW

Employment Services Manager Vermont Vocational Rehabilitation Demand-Side RRTC

JOEY BUIZON

Supervisor of Employment Services Massachusetts Commission for the Blind

KATHY BURRIS

Workforce Initiatives Manager Focus Group Lead Abilities and Abundance CVSHealth

JASON CLARY

Director of Orientation and Career Center Oregon Commission for the Blind

JANET DRUDIK

Program Director Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation

JIM EVANS

Assistant Director at the Workforce & Technology Center Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services

JOHN FICCA

Director

Hands on Education

DR. SUSAN FOLEY

Senior Research Fellow Institute for Community Inclusion Demand-Side RRTC

DANIEL FRYE

Executive Director
New Jersey Commission for the Blind and
Visually Impaired

AMANDA GERSON

Coordinator of Vocational Rehabilitation and Transition Services New Jersey Commission for the Blind and

Visually Impaired

KERI GRAY

Program Manager Rising Leaders Initiatives United States Business Leadership Network

TISH HARRIS

Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities Project Coordinator Virginia Department for the Blind and Visually Impaired

JESSICA HAWES

Employment Specialist Supervisor Maryland Department of Rehabilitation Services Workforce and Technology Center

MELANIE HOOD-WILSON

Program Director
Community College of Baltimore County

TOM HOOPER

Associate Vice President Jobs for the Future JD-VRTAC

BETSY HOPKINS

Director

Maine Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

ASHLEY KAVANAGH

Social Services Administrator Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

JOCELYN LANGREHR

Deputy Director Delaware Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

EMILY MALSCH

Sourcing and Community Outreach Consultant Going for the Gold Program United States Business Leadership Network

JOHN MARCHIORO

Director of Training
Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services

KEVIN MARKEL

Transition Program Specialist Texas Workforce Commission - Blind Services Division

JOE MARRONE

Senior Program Manager of Public Policy Institute for Community Inclusion JD-VRTAC

STEVE MARSHALL

Business Services Coordinator South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department

JEANNE MILLER

University of Arkansas CURRENTS JD-VRTAC

DEBRITTANY MITCHELL

Knowledge Translation Associate Institute for Community Inclusion JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

MILTON MOATS

Rehabilitation Specialist Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services Demand-Side RRTC

LINDA MOCK

Senior Policy Fellow and Program Specialist Institute for Community Inclusion JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

DR. DENNIS MOORE

Professor Emeritus Population & Public Health Wright State University Consultant, Demand-Side RRTC

SHANNON MYERS

Employment Specialist lowa Department for the Blind

KIM OSMANI

Transition Coordinator Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

MARY OTIATO

Chief of Staff and Director of Policy Massachusetts Commission for the Blind

MICHAEL QUINN

Program Evaluation Coordinator and Functional Business Intelligence Lead Alabama Dept of Rehabilitation Services Demand-Side RRTC

JONATHAN RICHMOND

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Coordinator CTBureau of Education and Blind Services

MORGAN RINCON

Business Relations Coordinator Oregon Commission for the Blind

RALPH ROACH

Rehabilitation

Business Services and Outreach Division Chief Pennsylvania Office of Vocational

MAY-LORIE SAINT LAURENT

Research Study Coordinator Institute for Community Inclusion JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

MARK SCHULTZ

Deputy Commissioner Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation Demand-Side RRTC

JENNIFER SCILACCI

Business Outreach Team and Self-Employment and Supported Employment Programs Manager Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

LIBBY STONE-STERLING

Assistant Director Maine Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

KARTIK TRIVEDI

Research Associate Institute for Community Inclusion JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTC

KATHY WEST-EVANS

Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) National Employment Team (NET), JD-VRTAC & Demand-Side RRTCC

MARY WRIGHT

Director, Employer Alliances Jobs for the Future JD-VRTAC

YVONNE WRIGHT

Director of Workforce Development and Business Outreach

Lou Adams

WINTAC - NDI

Katie Allen

ICI, UMass Boston

Zach Arter

Nebraska VR

Jonathan Barad

Maryland Workforce & Technology Center

Mary Ann Bedick

JDVRTAC Project ICI/UMB

Terry Brigance

UA CURRENTS

William Brownlee

Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services

Susanne Bruyere

Yang-Tan Institute on Employment and Disability, ILR School, Cornell University

Jaidith Cajigas

Vocational Rehabilitation Administration – Puerto Rico

Leslie Caplan HHS / ACL

Gwendolyn Carley

LCO Vocational Rehabilitation

Karen Carruthers

Tennessee DHS VR

Rodney Chandler

ACE/Arkansas Rehabilitation Services

Janice Chory

Virginia DARS

Jameson Collins

Pa Dept. of Labor & Industry Office of

Vocational Rehabilitation

Ashley Cross

Arkansas Rehabilitation Service

Julisa Cully

ICI, UMass Boston

Kathy Davis

Florida Department of Education / Division of

Vocational Rehabilitation

Donald Dees

Michigan Rehabilitation Services

Vito DeSantis

ICI, UMass Boston

Jerry Elliott

Rehabilitation Services Administration

Lara Enein-Donovan

ICI, UMass Boston

Muttasim Fadl

Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services

Alice Farrar

NCDVR

Janice Fishbein

NJ DVRS

Laurie Ford

University Of Washington - CCER

Rebecca Foster, Ed.D

The DC Public Charter School Cooperative

Robin Freeman

UA CURRENTS

Tracey Frye

NH Vocational Rehabilitation

Cecilia Gandolfo

ICI, UMass Boston

Judy Garrett

University of Arkansas CURRENTS

Peggy Hale

UA CURRENTS

Stephanie Hanes

North Carolina DHHS - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Loni Hanka

Idaho VR

Megan Hess

Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services

Lisa Hinson-Hatz

NHVR

7era Hoosier

Rehabilitation Service Administration

Jason Hunter

Rehabilitation Services Administration

Andrew Imparato

AUCD

Anne Iriel

SC Vocational Rehabilitation Department

Denise Jameson

Starbucks

Marci Jasper

State of Minnesota - Vocational

Rehabilitation Services

Dana Jefferson

ICI, UMass Boston

Mary Kemp

Maryland DORS

Paula Kohler

Florida Center for Students with Unique

Abilities

Rick Kugler

ICI, UMass Boston

Karma Marshall

South Carolina Commission for the Blind

Tyler Matney

New Editions Consulting, Inc.

Maureen McGuire-Kuletz

GW CRCRE

Crystal McKay

Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services

Neil McNeil

ICI, UMass Boston

Karen Miceli

Washington DSHS/DVR

Karen Morgret

The Treatment and Learning Centers (TLC)/

The Outcomes Service

Dustin Morrow

LCO Vocational Rehabilitation

Wanda Peele

Maryland DORS

Darlene Peregoy

Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services

Parvati Potru

NC DHHS/DVRS

Paula Pottenger

UA CURRENTS

Kristen Rhinehart-Fernandez

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Rehabilitation Services

Administration

Allysha Roth

Jobs for the Future

Yvonne Rowland

Arkansas Rehabilitation Service

Kevan Rutledge

Missouri Voc. Rehab

Rosilyn Sanders

Friendship Community Care, Inc- Job Path

Tom Sannicandro

ICI, UMass Boston

Marion Shields Maryland DORS

Tiffany Smith

Jobs for the Future

Jennifer Sosdorf NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Services

Cherie Takemoto

New Editions Consulting Michael Tashjian

ICI, UMass Boston

Allison Taylor

ICI, UMass Boston

Russ Thelin

ICI, UMass Boston

Aaron Thompson

Starbucks

Aaron Topping WV Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

April Trice

U.S. Department of Education/RSA

Jennifer Veneziani

NJ DVRS

David Wachter

DOED-OSEP-RSA

Felicia Williams Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision

Impaired

Evie Wold

State of MN - Vocational Rehabilitation

Services

