Upskilling Adult Learners with Disabilities: How State Policy Can Support Collaboration between Adult Education, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Workforce Development Partners

Webinar
February 12, 2019
Today’s conversation

✓ Understanding the landscape
✓ Zeroing in: How has one Texas community tackled this issue?
✓ Implications for other states and localities
✓ Your questions!

Amanda Bergson-Shilcock
Director of Upskilling Policy
The big picture

✓ Adult learners and jobseekers with disabilities need high-quality services

✓ Three systems set up to serve those individuals are not always well aligned

✓ Better policy can help!

See our new policy brief: https://tinyurl.com/RuralCapital
The WIOA puzzle pieces

✓ **Title I:** Workforce services (~$3 billion; administered through DOL and workforce boards)

✓ **Title II:** Adult education (~$600 million; administered through ED and a wide variety of education agencies/providers)

✓ **Title IV:** Vocational rehabilitation (~$3 billion; administered through ED and state agencies)
People are multi-dimensional...

...but systems sometimes aren’t.
Zeroing in: An example from Texas
Workforce Development Areas

1 Panhandle
2 South Plains
3 North Texas
4 North Central
5 Tarrant Co.
6 Greater Dallas
7 Northeast Texas
8 East Texas
9 West Central
10 Borderplex
11 Permian Basin
12 Concho Valley
13 Heart of Texas
14 Capital Area
15 Rural Capital
16 Brazos Valley
17 Deep East Texas
18 Southeast Texas
19 Golden Crescent
20 Alamo
21 South Texas
22 Coastal Bend
23 Lower Rio Grande Valley
24 Cameron
25 Texoma
26 Central Texas
27 Middle Rio Grande
28 Gulf Coast

4/10/2018
**Workforce Solutions**

**Rural Capital Area**

- **Board Office** – Cedar Park, Williamson County

- **One Stop Centers**
  - Bastrop – Bastrop County
  - Lockhart – Caldwell County
  - Round Rock – Williamson County
  - San Marcos – Hays County

- **Child Care Services** – Cedar Park, Williamson County

- **Satellite Offices**
  - Burnet – Burnet County
  - Giddings – Lee County
  - LaGrange – Fayette County
  - Llano – Llano County

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**National Skills Coalition**

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.
Rural Capital: Workforce partners

Montie May, Program Manager

Chris Caballero, WIOA Youth Program Operations Manager
Rural Capital: VR partners

Robert Alexander, Vocational Rehabilitation Manager

Robyn Farris, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor IV
Rural Capital: Adult Ed partners

Doug Mudd, Adult Ed Director

Francesca Ramirez, Career Counselor and College Prep Coordinator

Community Action, Inc. of Central Texas
At the state level

Anson Green
Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) Director

Texas Workforce Commission
Recommendations for other states

• Provide technical assistance
• Support cross-system professional development
• Implement shared data systems *(or at least common data standards)*
• Capitalize on Spring 2020 WIOA planning process to spark alignment
Time for your questions!

✓ Please submit using the chat box on your screen
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