

## **Show-Me-Careers: Missouri's Transition to Employment Collaborative** *Project Director Position Announcement*

**Background:** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Developmental Disabilities has awarded grants to consortiums in six states under the Projects of National Significance: Partnerships in Employment Systems Change grants. These funds will be used to support consortiums aimed at improving existing state systems to increase competitive employment outcomes for youth and young adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities. These grants will support partnerships in States that promote change efforts leading to the development of policies and practices that support competitive employment in integrated settings for youth and adults with developmental disabilities (DD).

A Missouri Consortium has been awarded a \$2.19 million five year grant under this initiative to fund the Show-Me-Careers project. The overall goal of the Show-Me-Careers is ***“to scale up and sustain evidence-based practices in Missouri that support seamless transitions to integrated employment.”*** The project will scale up practices within communities across Missouri that demonstrate effective approaches to supporting transitions from secondary and post-secondary settings to community employment for youth and young adults with DD. A Leadership Consortium will support a statewide structure through which to demonstrate evidence-based practices, revise and develop needed policies and practices, and enhance statewide collaborations.

This initiative will be lead by a consortium that includes the following lead partners:

- **University of Missouri Kansas City Institute for Human Development**
- **Missouri Division of Developmental Disabilities**
- **Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities**
- **Missouri Office of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services**
- **Missouri Office of Special Education**
- **Missouri People First**

**Responsibilities:** The Show-Me-Careers Consortium is seeking a dynamic Project Director who will lead all planned state and community scaling up and systems change efforts. This individual will work closely with consortium members in this effort and will be employed by the UMKC Institute for Human Development who is serving as the fiscal agent for the Consortium. Primary responsibilities include:

- Facilitation and coordination of state and community partnerships and collaborations
- Working with community teams to scale up effective transition to employment practices within their communities
- Leading a review funding options, policies, and practices on the state and community level that support transitions to employment
- Providing training, coaching, and dissemination of information to stakeholders across Missouri related to transition to employment
- Coordinating evaluation of outcomes and supporting sustainability

**Key Competencies:** The ideal candidate would bring the following required and preferred key competencies and qualifications to the position:

- 1. An understanding of the business perspective and business case for hiring individuals with disabilities.** Experience as an employer (e.g. human resource manager, business owner, marketing manager) is required. Preference is given to individuals working for businesses with a track record of hiring people with disabilities.
- 2. Ability to form and support partnerships and build consensus among diverse groups.** Experience and expertise in community development and coalition building with diverse groups is required.
- 3. Ability to manage complex multi-level tasks and initiatives.** Experience and a successful track record in project management is required. Preference given to those with experience in planning and implementing large scale statewide projects and initiatives.
- 4. Ability to communicate effectively in writing and verbally.** Individuals must have past experience and demonstrated skills as presenters and group facilitators as well as have demonstrated skills in writing proficiency.
- 5. An understanding of a research to practice framework and state systems, especially related to employment and transition.** Preference will be given to individuals who have experience in the implementation of practices that have been shown to be effective in creating employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

**Education, Salary, Benefits, and Special Considerations:** A minimum of a Bachelors degree, or equivalent experience, in relevant field is required. Preference will be given to those with a Masters degree. Salary will be commensurate with experience and fall within a range of \$50,000 - \$60,000 annually. The individual will be eligible for the full benefit package offered by the University of Missouri Kansas City. This position is funded by a five year federal grant which will end as of September 30, 2016.

**To Apply:** Please email a cover letter and resume by **Friday December 16<sup>th</sup>** to:

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