Empowering Texas Businesses: Discover the Beacons of Excellence

Seeking creative staffing solutions? Struggling to keep positions filled because of high turnover? Interested in diversifying your workforce and creating a more inclusive work environment?

There are many benefits to diversifying your workforce. Some of the leading companies with disability and inclusion initiatives are seeing the following results across their business:

- **higher revenue**
- **double the net income**
- **higher economic profit margins**

Getting to Equal: The Disability Inclusion Advantage (2018)

The Texas Beacons of Excellence is a federally-funded project to increase above minimum wage employment for people with disabilities. To learn more about this project, read the news release through the University of North Texas.

This project works directly with employers across the State of Texas to provide training and resources related to workforce diversification and inclusivity of people with disabilities.

**Training Topics**

- Benefits to Hiring People with Disabilities
- How to Best Support Individuals with Disabilities
- Accommodations & Assisted Technology
- Misperceptions Related to Disabilities
- Disability Etiquette
- Customized Trainings to Address Any Topics Related to Employment & Disability

Why it Matters?

Currently, Texas ranks higher in employment outcomes for people with disabilities compared to the nation. However, people with disabilities are still unemployed at an almost 30% higher rate than people without disabilities.

Texas employers are uniquely positioned to join a federal initiative that can positively impact employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities. If you are interested in becoming a part of this initiative and diversifying your workforce please contact the Program Director, Ryan Cole, with UNT WISE.

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### Project Resources

This project is helping businesses develop talent pipelines by connecting employers with qualified individuals with disabilities. We can provide the following resources to assist employers to hire individuals with disabilities:

- Technical Assistance for Questions & Concerns
- Access to Accommodations Resources
- Creative Solutions to Resolve Staffing Issues
- On-the-Job Supports for Hired Project Participants
- Any Additional Resources or Supports Identified Through Collaboration

All of the trainings and resources are at no cost to interested employers. This project is working to positively impact employment for people with disabilities in the State of Texas.

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**National Employment Outcomes vs. Texas Employment Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>Texas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>with disabilities employed</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
<td>46.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>without disabilities employed</td>
<td>76.6%</td>
<td>75.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual Disability Statistics Compendium (2023)