



## DRC Spotlight Series



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**Colorado (Adult) DEI Project**  
**Arapahoe/Douglas Works!**

### **A little bit about me...**

**When I was little I wanted to be a** professional athlete.  
**My favorite childhood memory is** when I went to Disney World in Orlando, Florida for the first time. I was 8 years old. There was an active hurricane going on at the time which meant there were no lines to get on any of the rides!  
**People would be surprised that I** have a bulldog that weighs 120 lbs. named Niner.  
**My favorite hobby is** collecting stickers from the many breweries all over Colorado.

### **What this work means to me...**

**The best thing about being a DRC is that I** get to educate and spread awareness to not only within my agency, but also our surrounding community in order to better serve individuals with disabilities seeking employment.

**I enjoy supporting the mission of the DEI because** it allows me to impact the lives of an underserved population of individuals who deserve equal opportunities in finding gainful employment.

**My frequent go-to resource to support my work as a DRC is** the group I worked with at Arapahoe/Douglas Works! It takes a true team effort to expand resources in order for our American Job Center to reach a wider audience. I can't say enough about how instrumental the employees have been in helping me with the goals of our DEI project.

### **Making an Impact / Systems Change**

Of all the customers I have assisted during my time as DRC, I am most proud of the work to assist an Air Force Veteran named Mark (name modified for this piece) to get reemployed. Mark has multiple physical disabilities that created significant barriers in finding employment on his own. Mark was referred to the DEI through our local Veterans Administration. I first developed an Integrated Resource Team (IRT) that began assisting him with exploring training opportunities related to project management in the construction field. After being out of the project management field for over six months, we knew that in order for Mark to be competitive and marketable in his field again, he would need his skills to be updated. I enrolled him into the WIOA-Adult program and used DEI funds for Mark to complete a short-term training program. In April of 2019, Mark successfully completed a two-week CAPM/PMP (Certified Associate in Project Management) training and certification. From there, members of Mark's IRT worked closely with him on the job search front to include resume preparation, job lead sharing, and holding multiple mock interviews to help him improve his confidence during the interview process. Our teamwork approach was a success that resulted in Mark to go to new heights in his career. At the beginning of June 2019, he accepted a position as a Senior Project Manager with a starting salary of \$120,000!