



DRC Spotlight Series



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A little bit about me...

People would be surprised that I spent the first 10 years of my career as a corporate trainer before becoming a DRC in February 2017.

My favorite quote is "She is clothed with strength and dignity and laughs without fear of the future" -- Proverbs 31:25

The three words to best describe me are

Confident, Positive and Understanding

My favorite toy as a kid was Barbie.

My favorite hobby is hobby hopping. Some of my favorites include crochet, scrapbooking, jewelry making, sign making, using my Cricut, and reading.

What this work means to me...

I feel the greatest impact I have made as a DRC is being a part of a team that helps young people with disabilities realize their potential, find out what they are passionate about, and see them pursue a meaningful and successful future career.

My proudest accomplishment as a DRC has been establishing our workforce as an Employment Network and seeing beneficiaries gain financial success. I am also proud about becoming a certified Work Incentives Practitioner.

The greatest barrier I face as a DRC is misconceptions about what disability is and how it affects people.

A recent example of how I helped provide accommodations to someone using workforce services is adapting a Youth Action Plan to include Guideposts for Success, workforce elements and Pre-Employment Training Services. This provides one framework for career counselors to use across all youth programs and provides youth with a consistent enrollment process.

Using an Integrated Resource Team approach has enabled individuals to bring important partners to the table to help everyone understand how we will work together to help that individual meet their goals.

Making an Impact / Systems Change

I believe my role as a DRC has made an impact by increasing the financial wellness of each customer with a disability I serve in my region. I knew that in order to make that happen, my American Job Center (AJC) would need to be a place that could serve customers based on where they were in life. By receiving specialized training through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), I became a SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) Advocate. This allows me to help customers with disabilities apply for needed Social Security disability benefits. With each person I assist, revenue is generated for my local AJC. I am also certified as a Community Work Incentive Practitioner and provide Ticket to Work services through my region's Workforce Employment Network (EN). Successful outcomes from this EN also brings in revenue for my region's AJC. I am proud of the work I do to help so many customers with disabilities design a path out of poverty.