

PARTNERS FOR EMPLOYMENT
2026 REACHING NEW HEIGHTS
IN SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE
Beyond Barriers: Building Community Through Best Practices



DAY 1 – Thursday, April 9

	8:15-9:15	Registration Open & Breakfast	
JOINT SESSIONS	9:15-10:00	Welcome Dr. Stephon Scott , Director, New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Jennifer Zwally , Division Director, New Mexico Health Care Authority	Vista Grande Ballroom
	10:00-11:00	Keynote Speaker: Tiffany Yu, Founder of Diversability	
	11:00-1:00	Visit Resources Tables & Networking Opportunities	
	11:30-1:00	Lunch	
BREAKOUT SESSIONS	1:00-2:00	Seeds of Change: A Movement for Inclusion & Employment in Rural NM Arlean Murillo, Love of Rose 2026 New Mexico Training Associate (NMTA)	Sierra Blanca
		Designing Competitive Employment for Non-Apparent Disabilities Tammy Sexton, The Sexton Standard 2026 NMTA	Sacramento West
		DDSD Community Inclusion & Informed Choice about Employment Orlinda Charleston & Jaclyn Sanchez NMHCA/DDSD	Sacramento East
	2:00-2:15	Break	
BREAKOUT SESSIONS	2:15-3:15	Customized Employment & Disability Advocacy Amelia-Ann Dickey, Telos Community Inclusion 2026 NMTA	Sierra Blanca
		Graduation Pathways and Updates Office of Special Education New Mexico Public Education Department	Sacramento West
		Connecting the Community to Create Quality Employment Plans Benjamin Vigil, Rio Rancho Public Schools 2026 NMTA	Sacramento East
	3:15-3:30	Break	
JOINT SESSION	3:30-4:30	Success in Supported Employment & Transition: A Panel Discussion Featuring Providers, Employers, Self-Advocates, Students, Educators & NMDVR Representatives - Transitions Unit NMDVR	Vista Grande Ballroom

DAY 2 – Friday, April 10

	8:15-9:15	Registration Open & Breakfast	
JOINT SESSIONS	9:15-10:30	Featured Speaker: Adam Shand, NMHCA/DDSD Changing the Game of Employment Through Advocacy	Vista Grande Ballroom
	10:30-10:45	Break	
BREAKOUT SESSIONS	10:45-11:45	Think Outside the Cubicle: Harnessing Creativity for Career Success Onecimo Mirabal, Free Indeed LLC 2026 NMTA	Sierra Blanca
		Find Your Future: Lessons Learned from Coordinating Career Exploration Events for 8th Graders - Arge Flores United Way of North Central NM	Sacramento West
		From Experience to Opportunity: Identifying Transferable Skills in Rural Communities - Norma Amador & Maddie Carrell NMDVR	Sacramento East
	11:45-1:15	Lunch & New Mexico ACRE Activity	
BREAKOUT SESSIONS	1:15-2:15	When Supports Fade and a Roadblock Arises: What's Next? Evicta L. Harvey, 21 Century Care LLC 2026 NMTA	Sierra Blanca
		Reasonable Accommodations: Navigating the Process for Employees & Job Seekers - Business Outreach Unit NMDVR	Sacramento West
		Redefining Public Transit through Inclusion Andrew Baca, Transportation Services City of Santa Fe	Sacramento East
	2:15-2:30	Break	
JOINT SESSIONS	2:30-3:30	What's New from PFE	Vista Grande Ballroom
	3:30	Raffle & Conference Closing	

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Tiffany Yu is the CEO & Founder of Diversability, a 3x TEDx speaker, and the author of *The Anti-Ableist Manifesto: Smashing Stereotypes, Forging Change, and Building a Disability-Inclusive World*. She started her career at Goldman Sachs and was named to the 2025 Forbes Accessibility 100 List. At the age of 9, Tiffany became disabled as a result of a car accident that also took the life of her father.

FEATURED SPEAKER



Adam Shand is the Advocacy Trainer in the Training Knowledge & Management Unit (TKMU) for the Health Care Authority of New Mexico with the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division, bringing lived experience as a self-advocate with Cerebral Palsy. Adam always accredits his success to those who help make it possible like parents, family, friends, and circle of supports. Adams' biggest motivation to do the work he does has come from his family and friends.

2026 NEW MEXICO TRAINING ASSOCIATES (NMTA)

Amelia-Ann Dickey is a self-advocate and disability leader from Los Ranchos, New Mexico, who is passionate about empowering people with disabilities to use their voices and focus on their abilities. She serves in leadership roles with New Mexico Allies for Advocacy, Albuquerque People First, and the New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Council, and is an active trainer and advocate across the state.

Arlean Murillo is a bilingual educator and community leader dedicated to expanding opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities through education, advocacy, and employment services. She serves as Executive Director of Love of Rose LLC and founder of Love in Advocacy: Education and Employment Services, Inc., while also holding leadership roles with the Gadsden Independent School District Board of Education and several state and national organizations.

Benjamin Vigil is a veteran special education educator with 25 years of experience and currently serves as the Project SEARCH Instructor at Presbyterian Rust Medical Center, where he helps young adults with disabilities gain real-world work skills. A National Board Certified Teacher with a master's degree in education, he is also active in community service through leadership with Special Olympics New Mexico, youth athletics, and local nonprofit initiatives in Rio Rancho.

Evicta L. Harvey is a seasoned professional whose career spans military and federal service, private industry, nonprofits, social services, and academia, with a focus on supporting youth, seniors, individuals experiencing homelessness, and people with disabilities. Based in Las Cruces, New Mexico, she brings a global perspective and lifelong commitment to community impact, informed by extensive travel and diverse professional experience.

Onecimo Mirabal is a seasoned leader and community advocate from Los Lunas, New Mexico, with more than two decades of experience in developmental disabilities services, healthcare supervision, and nonprofit leadership. As CEO and Co-Founder of Free Indeed LLC and Lead Pastor of Freedom Worship Center, he is dedicated to strengthening his community through service, faith, and program development.

Tammy Sexton is a rehabilitation counselor, Army veteran, and founder of The Sexton Standard, a consulting practice focused on disability access, federal compliance, and trauma-informed reform across Texas and New Mexico. A Certified Rehabilitation Counselor with a master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Texas at El Paso, she brings extensive experience in ADA coordination, employment support, and mental health response to advance equitable and accessible systems.