

A Pillar of the Community Set to Retire

Tanya Baker- McCue



Tanya is the Director of the Family and Community Partnerships Division at UNM/CDD, which is where the Partners for Employment program is housed.

Tanya has nearly 40 years of experience developing and managing programs that support individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and the communities they live in.

She was instrumental in developing the Partners for Employment program in 2013. Her contributions to the CDD and the disability community cannot be overstated. The PFE team will miss Tanya dearly.

[CLICK HERE](#) to help us wish Tanya a virtual farewell!

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT LOCAL LEADERS

YOU ARE INVITED!

Supported Employment Local Leaders (SELL) teams are changing their format for Fiscal Year 2022. Rather than meeting regionally, Partners for Employment will be hosting four online statewide meetings via Zoom. We invite you to attend these meetings.

- September 16, 2021 – 10:00 – 11:30AM
- December 9, 2021 – 10:00 – 11:30AM
- March 10, 2022 – 10:00 – 11:30AM
- June 9, 2022 – 10:00 – 11:30AM

Who Should Attend?

The meetings are open to anyone who is interested in learning how to connect people with disabilities to community activities and supported employment.

Why Should I Attend?

- A free training will be provided at every meeting.
- It is an opportunity to network with peers.
- You ask questions and problem-solve with DVR, DDSD and UNM/CDD.

All three partners will be at each meeting!

To be added to our mailing list for these meetings, please email CDD-PFEinfo@salud.unm.edu. We hope to see you there!

Wise Returns to New Mexico

2021-2022 Training Series



Join PFE and Wise

09/17/21 at 1 PM MST
for

[Discovery: Tools to Use Today, Tomorrow and Beyond](#)

[Click here](#) to learn more about this event!

Be sure to visit our [Event Calendar](#) for additional training dates and times.

School-to-Work Transition Teams (SWTT)

New Developments

We're excited to announce the expansion of some of our New Mexico School-to-Work Transition Teams. We hope the expanded districts will increase access to participation in these meetings. Beginning this year, our seven SWTT districts across New Mexico will include:

- Northcentral – Taos, Rio Arriba, Los Alamos, Santa Fe, Mora, Colfax, Guadalupe, and San Miguel Counties
- Northwest – McKinley, San Juan Counties
- East – Curry, Roosevelt, Quay Counties
- Central – Valencia, Socorro, Sierra Counties
- Southcentral -- Otero, Lincoln Counties
- Southeast– Chaves, Eddy, Lea Counties
- Southwest -- Grant, Luna, Catron Counties

New to SWTT? Here's some of the feedback offered by SWTT participants in the last fiscal year:

"This is a fairly new role for me, so this group has introduced me to many

organizations and people throughout the state.”

“As new agencies partner with or attend SWTT meetings, I have learned their area of expertise in Transition, what resources/services they provide, and how to access them.”

“SWTT met a need for organizing and offering a transition fair. It is much needed and much appreciated!”

Watch your email and this newsletter for information about meetings in your region!

3rd Annual Reaching New Heights Conference 2022



Save the Dates

3rd Annual

Reaching New Heights in Supported Employment Conference 2022

May 4 - 6

Join the [Partners for Employment Mailing List](#) for Updates

College of Employment Services Enrollment is Open!

Partners for Employment, in collaboration with our Funding Partners, Department of Health/Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DOH/DDSD), and the New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), is pleased to announce the return of the College of Employment Services Professional Development training.

What is College of Employment Services (CES)?

- ACRE Certified Online Training designed by University of Massachusetts's Institute for Community Inclusion
- This training covers 39 ACRE competencies that promote effective employment best practices
- Duration: 15 weeks
- 100% Online
 - 11 Online Modules = 26.4 hours
 - 4 Zoom Meetings
- Further Professional Development Opportunities
 - ACRE
 - CESP



[CLICK HERE](#) to view details and to register today!

What's new in government benefits?

Policy, case law, and legislation around government benefits is an ever-changing reality that can significantly affect individuals that receive them. Once per quarter the PFE newsletter will cover the most impactful changes to keep professionals up-to-date so the information they provide is accurate and supports individuals in the most current way possible.

Policy

Changes to SSI and Stimulus Check Rule

The Social Security Administration previously ruled that the stimulus checks, also known as Economic Impact Payments (EIP), during the pandemic would not be counted against a beneficiary's \$2,000 resource limit for twelve months. In a significant change as of August 1st, the stimulus checks in addition to unemployment insurance and other financial assistance programs will not count against the resource limit. SSA has updated their [Coronavirus webpage](#) that outlines and answers questions you may have.

Case Law

The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) is hearing a case on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for residents of Puerto Rico. This case involves an individual from Puerto Rico, but also would set precedent for other individuals in other U.S. territories including Guam, the American Virgin Islands, and the American Samoa Islands that also pay taxes for SSI, yet are ineligible for receiving SSI. [An overview of the case can be found here.](#)

Legislation

House Resolution 3824 (H.R. 3824) known as the Supplemental Security Income Restoration Act of 2021 is proposed legislation to make changes to the SSI program. These changes include eligibility, benefits amounts, repealing the marriage penalty, removing in-kind support and maintenance, exclusion of retirement accounts, and many other aspects of the legislation and policy that deny individuals benefits and require that individuals have significantly limited income and resources to receive government support for financial and healthcare support. [To read more about the proposed legislation, you can review the full bill here.](#)

[Join our mailing list](#) to receive future government benefit updates.