



# Nevada

Vocational Rehabilitation

*A Proud Partner of American Job Center of Nevada*

At Work for Disability Inclusion



2023

Nevada State  
Rehabilitation Council

**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**



[www.VRNevada.nv.gov](http://www.VRNevada.nv.gov)

Administration Office  
751 Basque Way, Carson City, Nevada 89706  
(775) 687-6860

Vocational Rehabilitation is an Equal Employment Opportunity program/service.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request during consultations with counselors and service providers.

## YOU CAN ALSO FIND US ON:



THE SERVICES AND/OR GOODS DESCRIBED HEREIN ARE FUNDED, IN PART, WITH FEDERAL FUNDS AWARDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UNDER THE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (VR), SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, AND/OR THE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND (OIB) PROGRAMS. FOR PURPOSES OF THE VR PROGRAM IN NEVADA, THE FEDERAL VR GRANT PAID 78.7 PERCENT OF THE RELATED COSTS. IN FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2021, NEVADA VR RECEIVED \$14,304,861 IN FEDERAL VR FUNDS. FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THE STATE OF NEVADA AND/OR ACQUIRED FROM OTHER NON-FEDERAL SOURCES PAID 21.3 PERCENT OF THE RELATED COSTS (\$3,968,910). FOR PURPOSES OF THE SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM, FEDERAL FUNDS PAID 95 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL

COSTS. IN FFY 2021, NEVADA'S VR PROGRAM RECEIVED \$112,748 IN FEDERAL SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT FUNDS. STATE APPROPRIATED FUNDS PAID 5 PERCENT (\$4,329) OF THE TOTAL COSTS UNDER THE SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

FOR PURPOSES OF THE OIB PROGRAM, FEDERAL FUNDS PAID 90 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL COSTS INCURRED UNDER THE PROGRAM. IN FFY 2021, REHABILITATION DIVISION RECEIVED \$268,776 IN FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS FOR THIS PROGRAM. FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THE STATE PAID 10 PERCENT (\$29,864) OF THE TOTAL COSTS INCURRED UNDER THE OIB PROGRAM.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS













<i>About NSRC</i>	04
<i>Roles and Responsibilities</i>	05
<i>Statistics</i>	06
<i>Pre-Employment Transition Services</i>	12
<i>Team Spotlight</i>	13
<i>Success Stories</i>	14
<i>Collaborations and Partners</i>	16
<i>Letter from Chair/Board Members</i>	18
<i>Letter from Administrator/Board Members</i>	19
<i>Legislative Summary</i>	20
<i>Employee Spotlight</i>	21
<i>VR Nevada Map and Facts</i>	22
<i>Office Locations</i>	23

# ABOUT NEVADA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL

## COUNCIL COMPOSITION

The Council has a minimum of 16 members as required by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. We value all the positions and would like to fill the vacancies. The category and current members follow. Applications for Gubernatorial appointment to the Council may be found at

[https://hal.nv.gov/form/Governor/Boards\\_and\\_Commissions\\_Application](https://hal.nv.gov/form/Governor/Boards_and_Commissions_Application).

 <b>1</b> State Independent Living Council Representative	 <b>1</b> Parents Training & Info Center Representative	 <b>1</b> Client Assistance Program Representative	 <b>0</b> VR Counselor Representative	 <b>1</b> Community Rehabilitation Program Representative	 <b>1</b> Business, Industry and Labor Representative
 <b>2</b> Individuals with Disabilities, Advocate Representatives	 <b>0</b> Current or Former Applicants or Recipients of VR	 <b>0</b> Native American, Section 121 VR Program	 <b>1</b> State Educational Agency Representative	 <b>0</b> State Workforce Investment Board Representative	 <b>1</b> Designated State Unit Administrator (ex officio)

# NEVADA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL

## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Nevada State Rehabilitation Council (NSRC) is a citizen advisory council appointed by the Governor to serve both as a partner and to provide guidance to the state's Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program.

The Council includes people with disabilities, community rehabilitation program staff, vocational rehabilitation counselors, advocates, VR clients and business leaders.



### PROGRAM PLANNING

Members engage in strategic planning and provide guidance to promote competitive and integrated employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.



### ASSISTANCE

The Council assists in shaping policy, by guiding and assisting in making thoughtful, participant-focused decisions through needs assessments, consumer satisfaction surveys, and ongoing program evaluations.



## BECOME A NSRC COUNCIL MEMBER

*For more information on becoming a council member, contact the Rehabilitation Division Administration office at 775-687-6860.*

*Applications for Gubernatorial appointment to the Council may be found at [https://hal.nv.gov/form/Governor/Boards\\_and\\_Commissions\\_Application](https://hal.nv.gov/form/Governor/Boards_and_Commissions_Application)*

**Apply Here:**



# STATISTICS FOR 2022-2023

## KEY SUCCESSES



507+  
Clients Achieved Employment



\$16.98+  
Average Wage

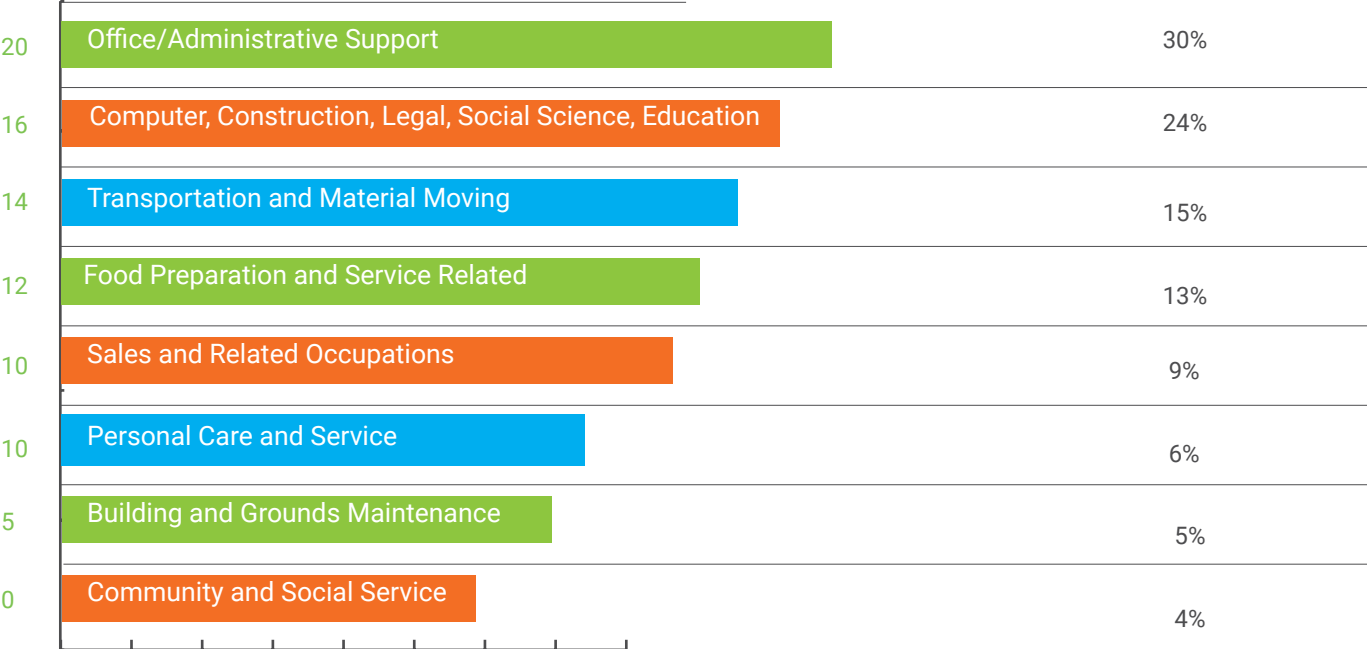


6084+  
Clients Served



756 days  
Average Length of Cases

### TOP 8 JOB TITLES OF SUCCESSFULLY EMPLOYED CLIENTS

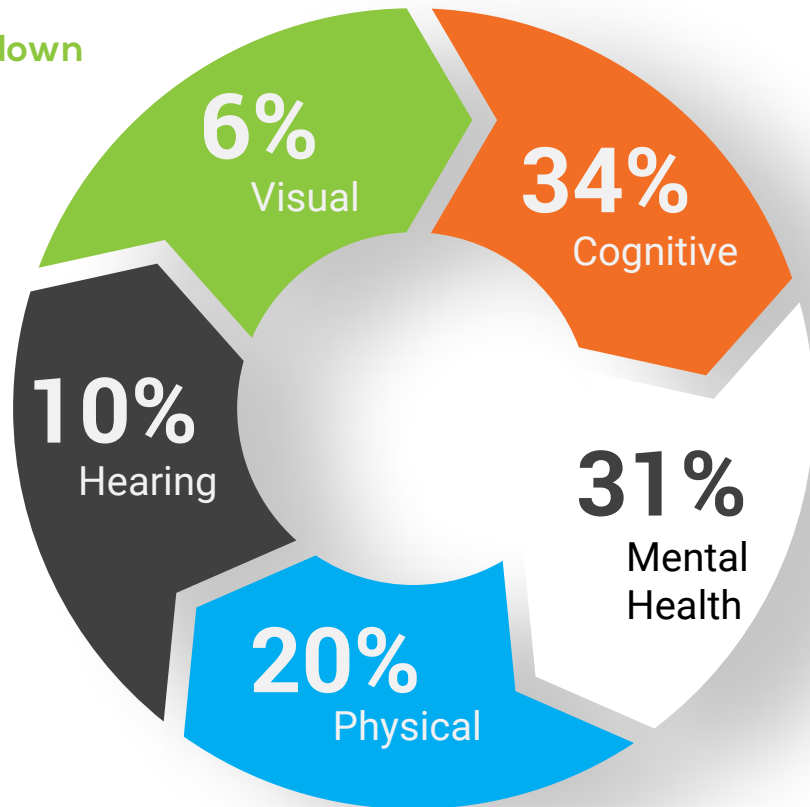




# STATISTICS FOR 2022-2023

## SERVED AND EMPLOYED CLIENTS

Primary Disability Breakdown of Served Clients



### CLIENT SATISFACTION WITH VR COUNSELOR EXPERIENCE IN %

In this report, we describe the association between average satisfaction and survey response rate across different services surveys, and model the association between satisfaction and propensity to respond for individual clients.



*Easy to Contact*



*Understanding of Needs*



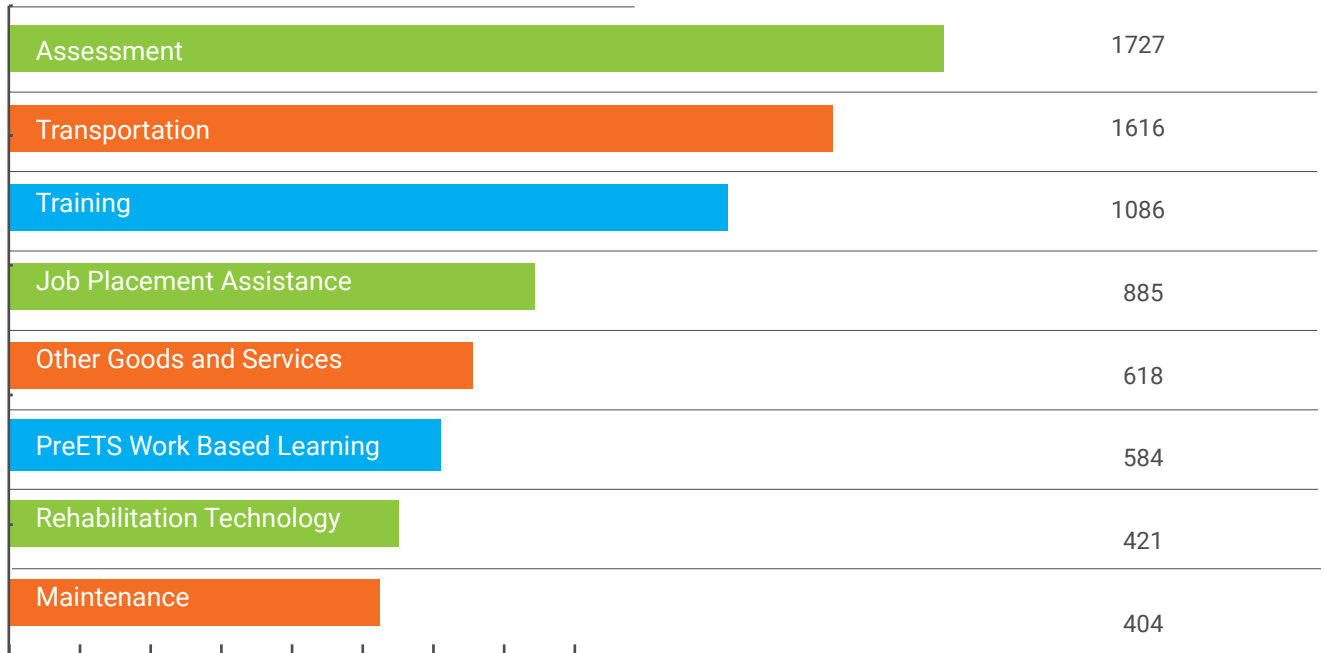
*Would Recommend*



*Treated Me with Dignity & Respect*

# STATISTICS FOR 2022-2023

## TOP 8 SERVICES PROVIDED



### Program Year 2022



42.2%  
MSG Rate



38.1%  
Credential Rate

### Average Cost per closed case in FFY 2023



\$4,265  
Vocational Rehabilitation




\$5,420  
Supported Employment



# STATISTICS FOR 2022-2023

## TOP 8 SERVICES PROVIDED

	<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	Services provided, and activities performed to determine eligibility for VR services and scope of VR services to be included on the IPE. For example – situational work assessments, community-based assessments.
	<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	Travel and related expenses that are necessary to enable an individual to participate in VR services. Examples include bus and Paratransit passes, fuel assistance and travel (bus) training.
	<b>JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE</b>	Working with an internal or external job developer to apply for jobs.
	<b>OTHER GOODS &amp; SERVICES</b>	Services not recorded anywhere else. Includes occupational licenses, tools and equipment and initial stocks and supplies for self-employment.
	<b>PRE - ETS</b>	The earliest set of Vocational Rehabilitation services provided to potentially eligible or VR eligible students with a disability. Includes the five required activities – job exploration counseling, work-based learning experiences, counseling on post-secondary education or comprehensive transition programs (CTP), instruction in self-advocacy and workplace readiness training.
	<b>TRAINING</b>	Training services are programs or services that provide instruction or work based experiential learning to prepare individuals for gainful employment. Examples of training services include academic training above the secondary school level (associate, bachelor, post-graduate), occupational, vocational or other job skill training, on-the-job training, registered apprenticeship programs, literacy training, job readiness training, disability related skills training, customized training, among others.
	<b>ON THE JOB SUPPORT</b>	Support services provided to an individual who has been placed in employment to stabilize the placement and enhance job retention. Includes short term or initial job coaching.
	<b>MAINTENANCE/ SHORT TERM EXPENSES</b>	Monetary support provided for living expenses such as food, shelter and clothing that are in excess of the normal expenses of the individual. Clothing for interviews, uniforms and work shoes are all examples of maintenance services.
	<b>REHABILITATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	Systematic application of technologies, engineering methodologies, or scientific principles to meet the needs of, and address the barriers confronted by, individuals with disabilities. Examples include CCTVs, screen reader software, and hearing aids.

# SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

Competitive integrated employment, including customized employment; or employment in an integrated work setting in which an individual with a most significant disability is working on a short-term basis toward competitive integrated employment; and

Employment that is individualized and customized, consistent with the individual's unique strengths, abilities, interests, and informed choice, including with ongoing support services for individuals with the most significant disabilities.

(Section 7(38) of the Act and §363.1(b) of the regulations)



SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT (SE) OUTCOMES		2021	2022	2023
1.	SE Clients Served	754	752	833
2.	SE Successful Closures	95	117	130



# BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OUTREACH EVENTS AND TOURS

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



## Event

## Employer

- US Vets Job Fair
- Salvation Army Job and Resource Fair
- EmployNV Business Hub Fall Job Fair
- Vegas Chamber of Commerce After-Hours Networking Event
- Spring Job Fair
- EmployNV Business Hub Job Fair
- Northern NV Healthcare Job Fair
- Veterans Job Fair
- Small Business Resource Fair
- BlindConnect Flipped Job Fair

- Spector & Co.
- Sunshine Minting Inc.
- Sage Electronics
- Sofidel America
- Sherwin Williams
- FirstMed Call Center

## FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2023 TOP 2 EMPLOYERS



**31**  
*Employments*



**26**  
*Employments*

# STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



## What are pre-employment transition services?

Significant changes in the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 2014 now provide vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies across the nation with the opportunity to provide expanded services in five specific focus areas to students with Individualized Education Programs (IEP) or 504 plans, whether or not they have applied or been found eligible for VR services.

These services can be provided to groups of students who are eligible or potentially eligible for VR services, and also to students with higher needs who have open cases with VR. Individualized services are carefully planned in coordination with a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). The services can be provided to students in Nevada starting at age 14, if they have school-based IEP or 504 plans.



### Pre-employment transition services focus areas include:

1. Job exploration
2. Work-based learning experiences
3. Exploring opportunities for enrollment in comprehensive or post-secondary educational programs
4. Workplace readiness training to develop social skills and independent living
5. Instruction in self-advocacy, which may include peer mentoring



**1173 Students**



**16 School Districts**



**84 Schools Served**

Students with Disabilities (SWD) Who Received Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) FFY24

*\$2,376,313 Total Spent on Services Provided*



# TEAM SPOTLIGHT

## PRE-ETS

VR Nevada can help you transition to higher education and/or employment.

Vocational Rehabilitation counselors are available to provide transition assistance to students as young as age 14 in middle school and those in high schools and alternative schools in Nevada. The transition program is completely confidential and is a team effort involving students, parents/guardians, school staff, and Vocational Rehabilitation counselors and transition coordinators.

VR NEVADA PROVIDES FREE PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES TO STUDENTS WHO ARE:

- Between the ages of 14 and 21 or (22 per NRS 388.5223)
- Enrolled in traditional or alternative secondary or post-secondary programs
- Eligible for special-education-related services under IDEA (e.g. have an individualized education program [IEP] or 504 plan) or are considered an individual with a disability under Section 504



# CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

## FULL STORIES ONLINE

<https://vrnevada.nv.gov/success-stories/>



### CYNTHIA HOFF

#### *BlindConnect Residential Training Program*

Cyndee, has experienced recent vision loss causing her to step away from her successful career in public service. Now Cyndee is successfully rehabilitating with Nevada Bureau of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired in partnership with Blindconnect to obtain the skills and confidence she needs to rejoin the workforce. She feels this process would have saved her the heartache of having to retire early.



Blindconnect, a Southern Nevada nonprofit established in 1998, has a mission to enhance opportunities for Nevadans affected by vision loss. Blindness is frightening. It is isolating. It is life-altering. But, the visually impaired don't have to face those challenges alone.



### EUGENIO CHAVEZ

#### *BEN Program Trainee*

Eugenio is a young individual who has been gradually losing his vision due to Early Onset Retinal Degeneration. With the assistance from VR Nevada, Eugenio completed residential training successfully at Blind Connect Las Vegas. He learned the full aspects of blind skills and how to function independently as a blind person in home management, mobility, AT and braille.



The Business Enterprises of Nevada (BEN) program provides entrepreneurial opportunities for individuals who are blind to own and operate vending facilities in public buildings and properties. When there is a client of the Bureau who desires to be an entrepreneur, and who demonstrates that aptitude, he/she may be referred to the BEN program. If accepted, the BEN program provides intensive training to that individual, in varied areas including budgeting, payroll, operations, inventory control, management practices, merchandising and safety.



### DEVIN BELCHER

#### *Employed at Sephora*

Devin applied for services from VR Nevada in May 2021. Through counseling and guidance, Devin was encouraged to participate in a soft skills class and later in a work experience. Devin and his BVR counselor worked hard and after successfully meeting productivity rate in all the stations at Sephora, Devin was offered a full-time employment with benefits. Devin continues to be employed at Sephora and reported he is being offered the opportunity to be certified as a forklift operator.

## SEPHORA

The Sephora Training program is a collaborative training program between VR, Capability Health and Human Services, and the Sephora Distribution Center in North Las Vegas. The training lasts 9 weeks, and clients learn soft skills as well as rotate between 3 warehouse/stocking positions in the warehouse. Once successful, the clients become permanent employees of Sephora. This collaborative program has served 21 clients in the state fiscal year (SFY 23).

# CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

FULL STORIES ONLINE

<https://vrnevada.nv.gov/success-stories/>



## ADOLPHO RIVERA

*Employed at  
Clark County School District*



Adolpho Rivera was born in Santa Fe, New Mexico and raised in Las Vegas. He came to BVR in April 2004, looking for services that could help him find employment.

Adolpho sustained an L-1 spinal cord injury which left him Paraplegic. With the aid of his wheelchair and his own vehicle, Adolpho manages to get his daily tasks done. He has always found a way to conquer classes and successfully move on. He has now graduated earning his Bachelor of Science in secondary education/social studies and a bachelor's in liberal arts and history.

Adolpho has successfully secured employment with CCSD (Family Support Center); working with children to help them with any computer or internet needs they may have. Adolpho considers working CCSD his dream job. This has been accomplished through persistence, hard work, and believing in himself.



## CHRISTIANNA FAITH

*Starbucks Inclusion Academy*

Faith was a senior at Douglas High School when she learned about VR services through VR outreach programs offered at her high school. Her learning disability had made high school something of a challenge, so she and her VR Counselor, decided to enroll in the Inclusion Academy program at Starbucks' Roasting Facility in Minden, Nevada. Faith blossomed as an employee at Starbucks, and upon completing the Inclusion Academy, hit the ground running. In her time with Starbucks, she has been promoted and is now operating her own forklift and is a highly valued part of the Starbucks team!



The Starbucks Roasting Plant "Inclusion Academy" started in October 2015 by our Business Services Manager. Selected VR clients are given the opportunity to join a customized pre-employment training program in the Starbucks Roasting Plant in Minden, NV. Clients learn in a classroom setting and hands-on in the workplace. Many are offered positions upon completion of the work-readiness training program. All who complete the program receive a certificate of completion of their bona fide training from this recognized industry leader. Over 40 individuals with disabilities have been hired out of this program, for a 77% success rate.



# COLLABORATIONS

*"Simply, we are just better together."*

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Nevada VR's ongoing partnership with the Lyon County School District braids funding to improve post- secondary outcomes for students with disabilities in Lyon County by providing them with support, PAES labs, transition coordinators, resources and access to college and career pathways.



TheNextStep, is a collaboration with the Carson City School District and VR. The Next Step serves students from 18-22 who are interested in exploring work, having work-based learning experiences and developing their vocational skills in preparation for employment.



Project SEARCH is a collaboration with the Clark County School District (CCSD), BVR and local businesses such as Sunrise and Mountain View Hospitals and the Greer Center at CCSD. In the year long program high school students are assigned to worksites at locations where they can gain work experience by completing several work rotations with support from their teachers and BVR work-based trainers.

## SEPHORA

The Sephora Training program is a collaborative training program between VR, Capability Health and Human Services and the Sephora Distribution Center in North Las Vegas. The training lasts 9 weeks, and clients learn soft skills as well as rotate between 3 warehouse/ stocking positions in the warehouse. Once successful, the clients become permanent employees of Sephora. This collaborative program has served 21 clients in the last state fiscal year (SFY 23).



VR has embraced the legislatively-enhanced 700 - Hour Program, which creates employment pathways for individuals with disabilities. These employment opportunities are with state agencies, and afford the employer and employee 700 hours to determine if the individual is a good fit for the job. This program has been highly successful, having placed over 100 individuals in the last year and a half.

# COLLABORATORS AND PARTNERS

*In appreciation, we acknowledge our other partners and collaborations:*

- ◇ American Council for the Blind
- ◇ Amplify Life
- ◇ Assistive Technology Council (AT Council)
- ◇ Blind Center
- ◇ BlindConnect
- ◇ Bloom Consulting
- ◇ Capability Health & Human Services
- ◇ CART- Churchill Area Regional Transportation
- ◇ Colorado Center for the Blind Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities (CSPD)
- ◇ Community Services Agency
- ◇ Desert, Sierra and Rural Regional Centers (ADSD)
- ◇ EmployNV Career & Business Services Hubs/DETR
- ◇ Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe
- ◇ Fort Mojave Tribe
- ◇ Goodwill of Southern Nevada
- ◇ Helen Keller National Center for Deaf- Blind Youths and Adults
- ◇ Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Nevada
- ◇ JOIN Inc.
- ◇ Marshall B. Ketchum University (dba Southern California College of
- ◇ National Federation of the Blind
- ◇ National Technical Assistance Center for Transition (NTACT)
- ◇ Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD)
- ◇ Nevada Blind Children's Foundation
- ◇ Nevada Department of Education, Career and Technical Education
- ◇ Nevada Department of Education, Office of Inclusive Education
- ◇ Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center (NDALC)
- ◇ Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD)
- ◇ Nevada PEP
- ◇ Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) member colleges and universities
- ◇ Nevada Youth Training Center (NYTC) NevadaWorks
- ◇ Opportunity Village
- ◇ Path 2 Independence at UNR
- ◇ Project FOCUS at UNLV
- ◇ Regional Transportation Commission (RTC)
- ◇ Shoshone Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley
- ◇ School Districts Statewide
- ◇ Starbucks Roasting Plant
- ◇ Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)
- ◇ TAI-Talent Assessment, Inc. (PAES Labs)
- ◇ The Sho-Pi Tribe in Owyhee
- ◇ University of Nevada, Reno, Center for Excellence in Disabilities
- ◇ The Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center for Quality Management (VRTAC-QM)
- ◇ The Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center for Quality Employment (VRTAC-QE)

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

## RAQUEL O'NEILL



**Raquel O'Neill**  
*Chair of NSRC*

Each year it is an increasing honor to work along side the leadership and counselors of Bureau Vocational Rehabilitation and Bureau Services to the Blind as they endeavor to reach their set goals. In many instances exceeding their goals to meet the needs of Nevadans who fear they will never be able to rejoin the work force.

As you will read in the success stories here, the services and supports can turn this fear into realization that life is not over even after disability. It is a privilege to be a part of a team who collectively demonstrate in this report that they empower Nevadans everyday to see past limitations to recognize possibilities.

*Respectfully,  
Raquel O'Neill*

## OUR COUNCIL MEMBERS



**ALEX GOFF**  
*Vice Chair*

Business, Industry & Labor



**DAVID NUESTRO**  
*Disability Advocate*

Redhead Supports



**REBECCA ROGERS**  
*Disability Advocate*

Business, Industry & Labor



**JACK MAYES**  
*Member*

Nevada Disability & Law Center  
Client Assistance Program



**AUSTIN OLSON**  
*Member*

Department of Education  
Office of Special Ed/IDEA



**JUDITH SWAIN**  
*Member*

Rehabilitation Program Rep.  
Opportunity Village

# LETTER FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

## DRAZEN ELEZ



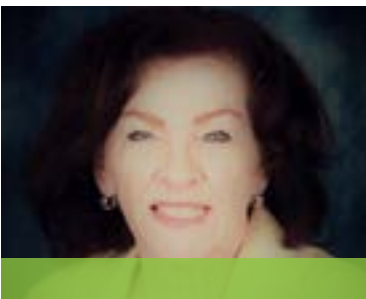
This was truly an exciting, productive, and creative year for VR Nevada! Nevada Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation and Bureau of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired continues its positive trajectory to improve the quality of services it provides to persons with disabilities in our state. We expanded remote services for those that need them while we increased the availability and variety of in-person services.

As part of our goal to improve awareness and accessibility of our agency VR Nevada has launched [vrnevada.nv.gov](http://vrnevada.nv.gov). This is a stand-alone website that encompasses information for VR, Blind Services, Business Enterprises of Nevada, Older Blind and Student Transition programs. We translated the website into four additional languages (Spanish, Tagalog, Korean, and Mandarin) and added a link for real-time ASL interpretation assistance. The site is fully ADA-compliant and adds new features to improve the user experience while adding transparency and accountability. VR also launched a new branding campaign to involve intensive social media and search-engine placement to enhance the usability, visibility and responsiveness of VR programs. As a result of these efforts we have seen an unprecedented demand for our services reflected in more than three hundred new applications per month. This is a twofold increase compared to previous years.

This year we also launched a campaign to highlight the work of Nevada businesses in hiring and retaining talented individuals with disabilities. In September of 2023, VR held its inaugural awards ceremony to recognize the two top employers in Nevada for hiring people with disabilities. The top employer of people with disabilities in full-time positions is the State of Nevada itself. Sephora took the award for the number two employer of people with disabilities.

We are proud to share that more than 6,084 clients received our services over the past program year, with 855 clients achieving and maintaining employment 6 months after exiting our program. This is up 26% from the previous year. These clients earned a median quarterly income of \$6,008, a 16% increase from last year. Additionally, we provided pre-employment transition services to over 1,100 students with disabilities to help them explore career options and prepare for the transition from high school to adult life.

I would like to highlight that these data elements are not only numbers. They represent lives that we have positively impacted, and it confirms we are making strides in our goal to assure that people with disabilities have the supports they need to achieve their employment goals and self-sufficiency. We were able to achieve great results this year through the hard-work, creativity and dedication of our incredible VR Nevada team. With the progress we are making, I am looking forward to seeing what new avenues our team will create to enhance support services in the year ahead.



**SANDRA SINICROPE**  
*Member*

Business, Industry & Labor



**DAVID FISHER**  
*Member*

VR Counselor, Non-voting



**ROBIN KINCAID**  
*Member*

Parent Training & Info Rep

# LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

## 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION



**Troy Jordan**

*Deputy Director of Programs, DETR*

The 2023 Legislative Session (82nd General Session) was an exciting time with over 1,000 bills submitted for consideration. After some long hours and numerous hearings doing the people's work, the following bills having direct impact on Vocational Rehabilitation in Nevada passed both houses of the legislature and were signed by Governor Lombardo.

### **I. Assembly Bills:**

AB 206: This bill changed the composition of the Nevada Commission for Persons Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The bill passed and was approved by the Governor on May 25, 2023.

AB 252: This bill requires the Administrator of the Division of Museums and History of the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs to develop and maintain an Internet website related to institutions of the Division and ensure that the Internet website is accessible to persons with disabilities. It also changed the composition of the Board of Museums and History to include a person with a

disability. The bill passed and was approved by the Governor on June 15, 2023.

AB 259: This bill requires a provider of jobs and day training services to develop a plan to transition persons earning less than the state minimum wage to earning at least the state minimum wage or pursuing other services and assisting such persons to participate in certain activities; requiring a provider of jobs and day training services to submit a report relating to such a plan to the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services; authorizing a recipient of jobs and day training services to have an advocate present at certain meetings; prohibiting any person from paying less than the state minimum wage to a person with an intellectual disability or developmental disability after January 1, 2028. The bill passed and was approved by the Governor on June 15, 2023.

AB 422: This bill starts a pilot program for children diagnosed with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. The bill was passed and signed by the Governor on June 15, 2023.

### **II. Senate Bills:**

SB 43: This bill changed the composition of the Nevada Commission of Aging. The bill passed and was approved by the Governor on May 31, 2023.

SB 279: This bill creates a Model Employer Program for people with disabilities in the Nevada State Executive Branch. The bill passed and was approved by the Governor on June 13, 2023.

SB 315: This bill creates a Disabled Person's Bill of Rights. The bill passed and was approved by the Governor on June 12, 2023.

SB 475: This bill makes a general fund appropriation to the Vocational Rehabilitation for computer hardware and software. The bill passed and was approved by the Governor on June 12, 2023.

*Written by Troy Jordan, Deputy Director of Programs for the State of Nevada,  
Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation.*



# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

## Chris Jarvis

*Bureau of Services to the  
Blind and Visually Impaired*

Chris began his career as a Special Education paraprofessional while still in college. It was in this role that he was introduced to the field of Assistive Technology. After completing his degree in history, along with over 30 credit hours in education, from Western Connecticut State University, Chris worked full time as a Special Education teacher. Meanwhile, with his passion for supporting individuals with special needs ignited, he continued his education in this discipline and in 2018 he graduated from the University of Louisville with a master's degree in special education with a concentration in Assistive Technology.

Upon graduation, Chris accepted a position as an Assistive Technology Specialist at Easterseals in Las Vegas. In this role, Chris supported numerous local businesses, casinos, and community organizations, including Nevada Department of Employment and Rehabilitation (DETR), in both Las Vegas and Reno.

Following the dissolution of Easterseals' assistive technology department in 2019, Chris returned to the East Coast where he provided assistive technology services to children with traumatic brain injuries and other brain-based disorders in New York City. With the onset of the Covid pandemic, Chris transferred to Connecticut, working for the past 3 years at Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES), an agency supporting over 25 school districts with their assistive technology needs.

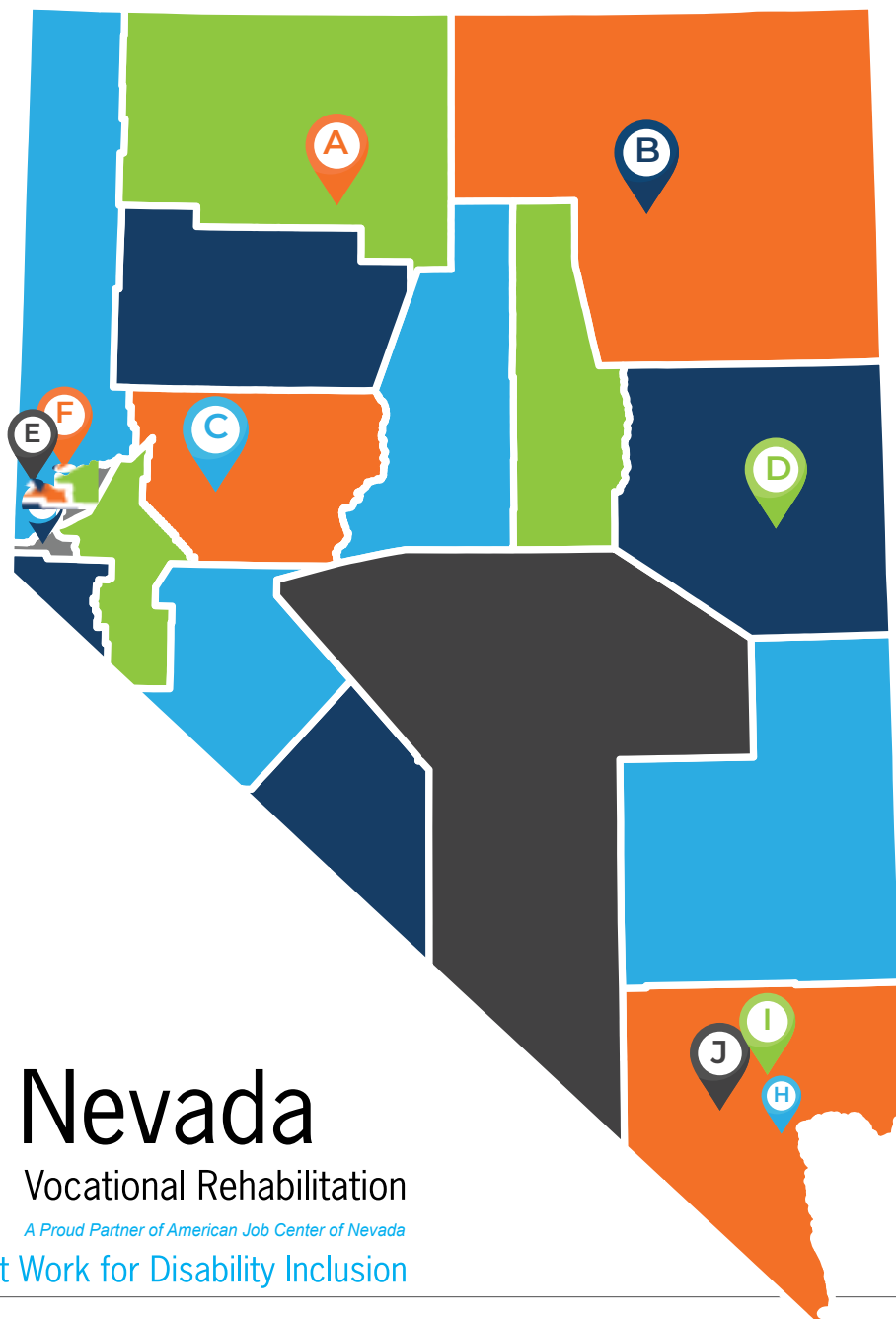
In May of 2023, Chris eagerly accepted a position with the DETR working in the Bureau of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired (BSBVI). He is excited to be back in Las Vegas and serving this community once again. Chris is passionate about breaking down barriers and helping people achieve their full potential. His zeal for his work is contagious and we are grateful to have Chris join the team and continue making a meaningful impact in the lives of Nevadans with special needs.



# NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED

## BUREAU OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

■ CARSON - 216	■ EUREKA - 5	■ NYE - 25
■ CHURCHILL - 121	■ HUMBOLDT - 56	■ PERSHING - 12
■ CLARK - 3608	■ LANDER - 11	■ STOREY - 5
■ DOUGLAS - 72	■ LINCOLN - 4	■ WASHOE - 1593
■ ELKO - 125	■ LYON - 179	■ WHITE PINE - 27
■ ESMERALDA - 0	■ MINERAL - 9	■ OUT OF STATE - 16



**V**  
**R** Nevada  
Vocational Rehabilitation  
*A Proud Partner of American Job Center of Nevada*  
At Work for Disability Inclusion



# OFFICE LOCATIONS

## BUREAU OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

**A**

### WINNEMUCCA

475 W Haskell Street, Suite 2  
Winnemucca, NV 89445  
775-623-6544

**F**

### SPARKS

2281 Pyramid Way  
Sparks, NV 89431  
775-284-9520

**B**

### ELKO

172 6th Street  
Elko, NV 89801  
775-753-1931

**G**

### CARSON CITY

1933 N. Carson St.  
Carson City, NV 89701  
775-684-0400

**C**

### FALLON

121 Industrial Way  
Fallon, NV 89406  
775-426-6568

**H**

### HENDERSON

4500 E. Sunset Rd., Suite 40  
Henderson, NV 89014  
702-486-0300

**D**

### ELY

1500 Avenue F, Suite 1  
Ely, NV 89801  
775-289-1675

**I**

### NORTH LAS VEGAS

2827 Las Vegas Blvd North  
North Las Vegas, NV 89030  
702-486-0200

**E**

### RENO

4001 S. Virginia St. Suite H-1  
Reno, NV 89509  
775-284-9600  
  
1325 Corporate Blvd.  
Reno, NV 89502  
775-823-8100

**J**

### LAS VEGAS

3405 South Maryland Pkwy  
Las Vegas, NV 89169  
702-486-0100  
  
3016 W Charleston, Suite 200  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
702-486-5230  
  
6330 W. Charleston, Suite 190  
Las Vegas, NV 89146  
702-822-4214



VR Nevada provides vocational rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities to obtain and maintain jobs.



VR Nevada administers the Supported Employment Program to expand employment options for individuals with the most significant disabilities through intensive training, supervision, and other vocational rehabilitation services.

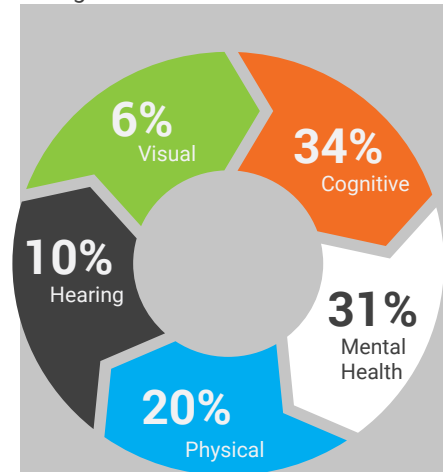


VR Nevada works closely with Nevada's businesses to fulfill their needs for trained and skilled employees in any area of commerce.



VR Nevada helps students with disabilities to successfully transition from secondary school to work or higher education.

## TOP 5 JOB TITLES OF SUCCESSFULLY EMPLOYED CLIENTS



## PRIMARY DISABILITY BREAKDOWN OF SERVED CLIENTS

### VR NEVADA SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Counseling and Guidance
- Assistive Technology
- Occupational and Vocational Training
- Job placement and development

### FACTS FOR FFY22

- 6,084 participants served
- 507 individuals achieved employment
- \$16.98 average hourly wage
- 1,173 students served pre-employment transition services



751 Basque Way  
Carson City, NV 89706



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