

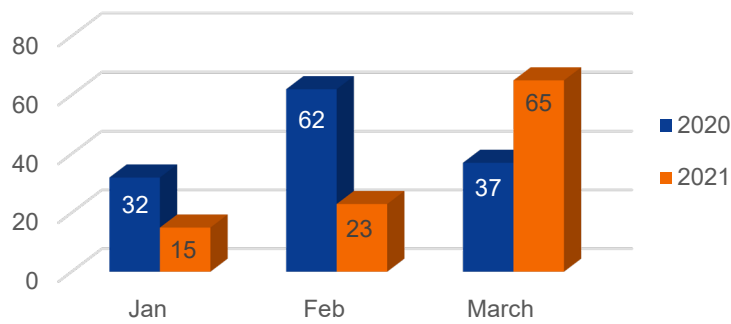
# Vocational Rehabilitation & Division of Developmental Disabilities

## Quarterly Collaboration Fact Sheet

Jan-Mar  
2021

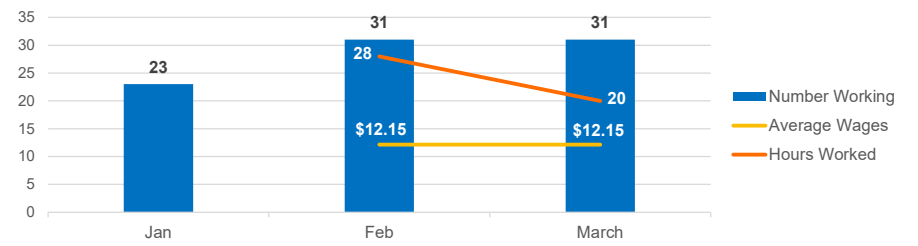
### Monthly Progress for the Quarter

DDD Referrals to VR



After a very low number of referrals in January and February 2021 (15 referrals in January and 23 in February, compared to 32 in January of 2020 and 62 in February of 2020), DDD referrals to VR more than doubled that in March 2021, with a total of 66 referrals. Notably, March 2021 was the first time since before the pandemic (February of 2020), that the number of monthly referrals exceeded 40.

EMPLOYMENT DATA



There were between 23-31 members working each month between January-March 2021, which includes both members who were working and members who were closed as successfully employed after completion of VR services. Average hourly earnings of members who were closed successfully stayed consistent at \$12.15 per hour in both February and March. Members closed successfully worked the most hours per week in February, averaging 28 hours per week, while the average hours worked decreased to 20 hours in March. (Wage and hour data provided only for members who were closed successfully. There were no members closed successfully in January).

## HIGHLIGHTS

### JANUARY

- DDD & VR continued collaboration with the Department of Child Safety and other stakeholders to discuss best practices for coordinating services for DDD members in the foster care system.
- DDD hired a new Employment Services Specialist for District East: Sheri Rizo.
- VR partnered with AT Arizona to provide training to VR staff on Ergonomic Assistive Technology, with special focus on individuals with developmental disabilities.

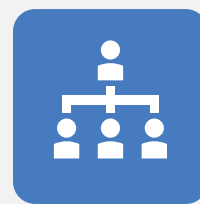
### FEBRUARY

- VR began developing training for staff on Supported Employment, an important service for many people with developmental disabilities which provides on-the-job support to assist with learning and maintaining employment.
- VR hosted the quarterly meeting for staff who specialize in serving DDD members. Staff shared updates and tips for collaborating with DDD to best serve mutual clients.
- VR and DDD began collaborating to develop a joint presentation aimed at education of both agencies and increased collaboration between local offices.
- VR partnered with AT Arizona to provide training to VR staff on General Disability and ADA Considerations, with special focus on individuals with developmental disabilities.
- VR met with national Project Search leaders to discuss Project Search programs in Arizona and how to increase their effectiveness.
- VR and DDD met with the Crisis Response Network to discuss challenges that mutual members experience.

### MARCH

- With guidance from the national State Employment Leadership Network, VR and DDD began discussing potential revisions to the existing Memorandum of Understanding, with the intent to further improve member experiences and agency collaboration.
- VR continued participation in a national community of practice on supported employment services.
- VR partnered with AT Arizona to provide training to VR staff on Learning Disabilities and Cognitive Disabilities, with special focus on individuals with developmental disabilities.
- DDD and VR both contributed to the 17th Annual American Indian Disability Summit.

## QUARTER DATA



104

Referrals from DDD to VR



30

Mutual clients made eligible



17

Mutual clients placed in Competitive Integrated Employment



23.8

Average hours worked by mutual clients who successfully completed VR services



\$12.15

Average hourly wage of successful closures for mutual clients

## PARTNERSHIPS & ALLIANCES

VR & DDD participate in work groups and collaborate with a number of organizations including:

- Arizona Employment First
- Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC)
- Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)
- Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE)
- State Employment Leadership Network (SELN)
- Pima County Community of Practice on Transition



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY  
Division of Employment & Rehabilitation Services