JUL-SEP 2023

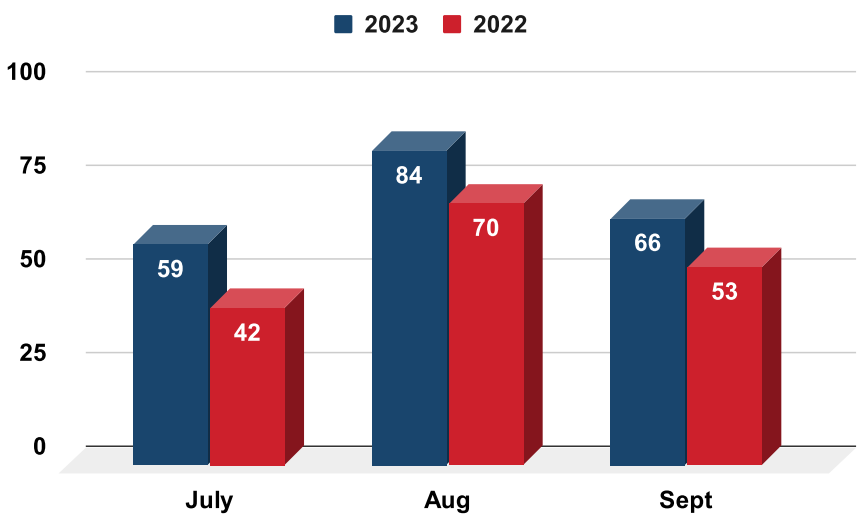
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Vocational Rehabilitation & Division of Developmental Disabilities

Quarterly Collaboration Fact Sheet

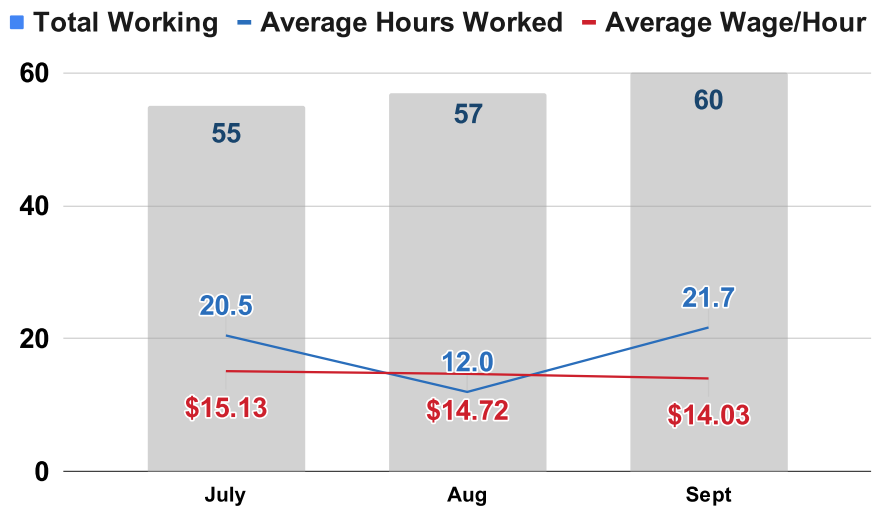
Monthly Progress for the Quarter

Comparison of 2022 and 2023 Referrals



The number of referrals from DDD to VR increased this quarter in comparison to the same quarter of 2022 with 59 during the month of July, 84 in August, and 66 in September of 2023 (in 2022 there were 42 in July, 70 in August, and 53 in September). Overall referrals continue to remain higher in 2023 than compared to those received for 2022.

Employment Data For July - September



The number of members working increased every month this quarter from 55 in July, to 57 in August, and 60 in September. For members who completed VR services successfully, the average hours worked a week was highest in September at 21.7 hours per week, followed by July at 20.5 hours, and the lowest in August at 12.0 hours. Average hourly pay for those members remained relatively stable averaging $14.63 per hour in the quarter.

HIGHLIGHTS

July

- The Safford VR team met with and presented to the local DDD support coordination team about about VR services and the VR/DDD collaboration.
- VR did outreach at the Autism Day of Learning hosted by the Arizona Autism Coalition.
- The VR DD Coordination team visited VR staff in Yuma, Lake Havasu, Kingman, and Bullhead City to get to know the teams and learn about/ discuss working with DDD clients in those areas.

August

- VR hosted the Quarterly VR/DDD meeting for VR staff who serve DDD members, where data and trends, important updates, were discussed and staff heard from DDD's Community Engagement Team on the Augmentative Communication 101 training for first responders.
- The VR Coordination teams and the DDD Employment Services team partnered in presentations about the collaboration between agencies, and upcoming HCBS updates to DDD employment services, at DDD Town hall meetings.

September

- The VR DD Coordination team visited VR staff in Safford, Douglas, Sierra Vista, Benson, and Nogales to get to know the teams and learn about/discuss working with DDD clients in those areas.
- The VR Coordination team and the DDD Employment Team attended the virtual White House Forum on Disability rights for the 50th Anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to stay up to date on the current national progress and challenges still facing people with disabilities in education and employment.
- The VR Coordination team updated and revised the procedures for VR staff receiving and requesting DDD referrals, further clarifying and streamlining the process.

QUARTER DATA

209
Referrals from DDD to VR

100
Mutual clients made eligible

27
Mutual clients placed in Competitive Integrated Employment

18.1
Average hours worked for mutual clients closed successfully employed

$ 14.63
Average hourly wage of Successful Closures for mutual clients

Junior's Success Story

DDD and VR services provided support to Junior while he was transitioning from high school into employment. The success story (see link below) highlights Junior's journey as he found employment that fit his goal. Additional highlights in the article include feedback and tips for parents from Junior's mother Rita, feedback from the job developer DeeDee at Educate Empower Succeed, and overall how Junior used DDD and VR services for support leading to his success.

https://des.az.gov/featured-story/ushering-new-stage-life

See reverse for EOE/ADA disclosures

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
Division of Employment & Rehabilitation Services

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